Degree Applicable

Glendale Community College
May 2013

COURSE OUTLINE

History 121
Armenian History

I. Catalog Statement

HIST 121 is a survey of the history of the Armenian people from ethnogenesis to the present. Topics include: The Artashesian, Arshaguni, Bagratid, and Cilician kingdoms; Armenia under the domination of Persian, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Mongol, Turkish, and Russian empires; the religious and cultural heritage of the Armenian people; the emergence of the Armenian Question in the 19th Century; World War I and the Armenian Genocide; the first Republic of Armenia and international treaties up to 1923; Soviet Armenia; the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict; re-establishment of an independent Armenian Republic in 1991 and its relations with the Armenian Diaspora, Russia, the Middle East, Europe, and the United States in the 21st century.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0
Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0
Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 120 or ESL 151.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 5, Writing 5, Listening/Speaking 5, Math 2.

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:
1. read at the 10-12th grade level;
2. write somewhat loosely organized short essays although language may reflect weaknesses in grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and punctuation;
3. learn material through class discussion and lecture;
4. take lecture notes;
5. follow extended and fairly complex oral directions;
6. participate in class or group discussion;
7. add, subtract, multiply, and divide using whole numbers, fractions, and decimals.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required course work, the student will be able to:
1. compare and contrast Armenian history in the ancient and medieval periods;

2. assess the impact of centuries of contact with surrounding Near Eastern peoples;
3. assess the historical role of the Armenian Church in the national life of the Armenian people;
4. discuss the ideological, cultural, and political dimensions of the national renaissance of the 19th century;
5. define genocide and analyze the reasons for the Armenian Genocide;
6. discuss ideological, economic, strategic, and diplomatic dimensions of the Armenian Question;
7. compare and contrast the three Armenian republics and relations with Armenians in the Diaspora.

IV. <u>Course Content</u> Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48 hours

A. Geography of the Armenian Plateau and the Origins of the Armenian People 1 hour
   1. Boundaries and geographical factors that shaped Armenian history
   2. The story of Haik and Bel
   3. Scholarly narratives and theories of the origins of the Indo-European Armenians

B. Armenia During the Urartuan, Median, Achaemenid Periods, 860 – 331 B.C. 1 hour
   1. Rise and fall of the Kingdom of Urartu
   2. The Yerevantian Dynasty and the Achaemenid Empire
   3. Alexander the Great's conquests

C. Armenia in the Seleucid Empire, 324 – 190 B.C. 1 hour
   1. Armenia Major and Armenia Minor as satraps
   2. Roman defeat of Seleucid Empire at Magnesia, 190 B.C.
   3. Armenia and the Roman Empire

D. The Artashesian Armenian Kingdom, 189 B.C. – 2 A.D. 2 hours
   1. The Artashesian Dynasty and consolidation of state power
   2. Empire of Tigran the Great, Pontus and war between Armenia and Rome
   3. Armenia between the Roman and Parthian empires
   4. Decline and loss of independence

E. The Arshaguni Armenian Kingdom, 54 A.D. – 429 A. D. 2 hours
   1. The Arshaguni Dynasty and the struggle for centralization
   2. Armenia between the Roman and Sassanid empires
   3. Reasons for the adoption of Christianity; the church-state conflict
   4. Invention of the Armenian alphabet; the Golden Age of Literature

F. Armenia under Arab, Byzantine, Persian Domination, 429 – 885 1 hour
   1. The Battle of Avarayr
   2. Armenians in the Byzantine Empire
   3. Ummayid and Abbasid Arab policies toward Armenia
   4. Feudalism in Armenia and socioeconomic relations

G. The Bagratuni Kingdom of Ani, 885 -1045 — 2 hours
1. Rise of the Bagratuni Dynasty
2. Armenia between the Byzantine and Arab empires
3. Ani, Kars, Vaspurakan, Taik: fragmentation of royal power
4. Church architecture

H. The Rubenid-Hetumid Kingdom of Cilicia, 1198-1375 — 2 hours
1. From principality to kingdom under Levon I
2. Rubenid-Hetumid merger; Nationalist and Latin factions
3. Relations with Byzantines, Crusaders, Mongols, & conquest by Egypt
4. Art and Architecture

I. The Armenian People After the Loss of Monarchies — 1 hour
1. Consequences of losing independence
2. Surviving remnants of the nobility
3. Spiritual and national roles of the church
4. Seljuk, Mongol, Turkish and Persian rulers

J. Armenian Liberation Struggles Until 1829 — 1 hour
1. Davit Beg, Mkhitar, and other early liberation attempts
2. The role of the Armenian Church
3. Russia's conquest of the Caucasus

K. Armenians in the Ottoman Empire — 3 hours
1. The Ottoman Empire and the Millet system
2. Armenian society: peasants, pashas, and patriarch
3. The impact of the French Revolution and Western ideologies
4. The Armenian National Constitution of 1860
5. The 19th Century Armenian Renaissance and reform movement

L. The Armenian Question in the 19th Century — 3 hours
1. Armenians between Turkish and Russian policies
2. Conflict between Western liberalism and ottoman autocracy
3. European imperialism; the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78
4. 1878: The Treaty of San Stefano and the Treaty of Berlin
5. Birth of the Armenian Question as an international issue

M. The Armenian Revolutionary Movement — 3 hours
1. Rise of Armenian populism and nationalism: The Armenakan Party
2. The Social Democrat Hunchakian Party
3. The Armenian Revolutionary Federation
4. Ideologies: liberalism, nationalism, socialism, Marxism
5. Tactics; supplication, protest demonstrations, political violence

N. The Armenian Question from 1878 – 1914 — 3 hours
1. Armenian revolutionaries and Sultan Abdul Hamid II

2. Armenian revolutionaries and the Tsarist government
3. 1890s massacres, seizure of the Ottoman Bank
4. Armenian/Turkish collaboration, the Young Turk Revolution, 1908
5. The Armenian Reform Plan of February 1914

O. The Armenian Genocide, 1914-1923 — 4 hours
1. World War I and Turkey's entry on the side of the Central Powers
2. Ideological, economic, and strategic reasons to eliminate the Armenians
3. April 24: arrest and execution of Armenian intellectuals and leaders
4. The deportations and massacres: organizational means and methods
5. Historiography of the Armenian Genocide

P. The Republic of Armenia, 1918-1920 — 4 hours
1. Russia's withdrawal from Transcaucasia
2. May 28 and the formation of a democratic coalition government
3. Domestic issues: refugees, hunger, disease and death,
4. International issues: territorial disputes, military aid, recognition
5. Armenian politics: Dashnaks, Hunchaks, Bolsheviks, Ramgavars

Q. The Armenian Question from Paris to Sevres to Lausanne — 4 hours
1. Armenia the "Little Ally" at the Paris Peace Conference, 1919
2. The two Armenian delegations: Aharonian and Nubar Pasha
3. Armenia, Europe, and America: "illusive hopes" and "isolationism"
4. The partition of the Republic by Kemal and Lenin
5. The Armenian Question buried, treaties of Sevres and Lausanne

R. The Armenian Soviet Socialism Republic, 1920-1991 — 3 hours
1. Sovietization and the February 1921 revolt
2. Socialist transformation of Armenia's economy
3. Soviet Armenian society: religion, education, art and culture
4. Relations with the Armenian Diaspora
5. Perestroika and Glasnost and the Karabakh Movement, 1985-1990

S. The Re-emergence of Independent Armenia, and the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict — 7 hours
1. Collapse of the Soviet Union and re-establishment of independence, 1991
2. War over Nagorno-Karabakh, 1991-1994
3. Transition from socialism to capitalism, totalitarianism to democracy
4. The Soviet legacy and the development of democracy and civil society
5. Relations with Russia, Turkey, Europe, the U.S., and the Armenian Diaspora

V. <u>Methods of Instruction</u>

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:
1. classroom lecture and discussion;

2. audio-visual presentation;
3. student presentations and discussions;
4. on-line communications as a supplement to in-class activity;
5. additional reading of reserve books and articles from scholarly journals;
6. field projects such as oral history interviews and attending events in the community.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

1. essay (e.g. critical analysis of major developments involving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict from 1988 to the present, focusing on the differences between the policies of Azerbaijan, Karabakh, and Armenia, and on the American, Russian, and French OSCE Co-Chairs' policies toward the opposing principles of self determination and territorial integrity);
2. field activity (e.g. attending a public event in the local Armenian community, such as a lecture, conference, or play, and writing a brief report).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

1. three to four one-hour in class examinations and a final examination requiring demonstration of course exit standards;
2. instructor evaluation of class discussion (e.g. class debate on the impact of the government of the USSR on the government of Armenia);
3. participation demonstrating course exit standards;
4. written assignment(s) demonstrating the application of concepts, use of sources, and the ability to critically analyze information and apply concepts in a collegiate manner.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Bournoutian, George A. *A Concise History of the Armenian People.* Costa Mesa: Mazda Publications, 2002. Print.
13th Textbook Grade Reading Level. ISBN: 1568591411

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework in Armenian History, the student will be able to :

1. write a factual narration of major events and developments in the history of Armenia and the people;
2. critically analyze the geopolitical, religious, economic, and national forces that have shaped the course of Armenian history during the periods of kingdoms, imperial subjugation, the first Republic, Soviet rule, and which are impacting the current Republic and its relations with the Diaspora.