

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: HIST 343, Democratizing America, 1815-1850

Date Submitted: 8/26/15

Proposed Effective Date: Immediately

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COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the “current” column, and only the information changing in the “proposed” column)

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)	HIST 343	
X	Formal Title	Democratizing America, 1815-1850	Democratizing America, 1763-1850
X	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Democratizing America, 1815-1850	Democratizing America, 1763-1850
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation	Any 100 level Social Science	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	None	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits	3	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	Yes X No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits	3	Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	X Reg (A-F) X Audit X Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the years between 1815 and 1850 - a period of great political and cultural change in American history. While it has typically been identified with the figure of Andrew Jackson, we will look beyond ways in which Americans of all races and classes experienced this turbulent time. Topics to be covered include the transportation and market revolutions, the rise of democratic politics, slavery and anti-slavery, the rise of women’s suffrage and other moral reform movements, westward expansion and its impact on Native Americans, and the emergence of sectionalism.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

This course explores America’s democratic experiment, from the American Revolution through the mid-19th century. The course covers political topics like voting rights and party politics, but also examines the social, cultural, and economic aspects of democracy in this turbulent era. Students will learn what men and women of all races and classes wanted from democracy, how they tried to have their voices heard, and assess how well the American political system worked for them.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

This history department recently redesigned its curriculum and moved more narrowly focused topical courses, like the American Revolution, to the 400 level and broadened the 300-level courses to encompass a wider chronological sweep. This course keeps the theme of democratizing America from the previous course while expanding the topics to include the American Revolution and so-called “birth of American democracy.”