



Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. addresses the crowd at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on 28 August 1963, AFP.

HIU12038 US History: Power, Politics, People

Co-ordinator Gillian Frank

Credits 5 ECTS

Semester Hilary Term

Assessment: A 1,000-1,500-word review of a relevant podcast (40%), and a 2,000-word podcast script (60%).

Description This module provides an introduction to the diverse and dynamic history of the United States. Through a range of historical approaches—including political, social, cultural, and foreign policy perspectives - students will investigate the forces that have influenced the development of the United States. Themes such as popular culture, multiculturalism, the role of the state, sexuality, gender, race, religion, class, and varied identities might be explored, alongside foreign policy, the presidency, and the evolution of America as a global power. The module seeks to provide a broad yet nuanced understanding of how power, politics, and different groups of people have intersected across different eras, equipping students with the analytical tools to engage critically with historical narratives and debates. The module is team taught and introduces JF students to different ways of thinking about American history. It is designed to encourage students to think critically about the forces that shaped American politics and culture and empower them to engage with debates about its past, present and future.