



Course Description

LAH2023 | History of the Caribbean | 3.00 credits

This course introduces students to the economic, social, political, and cultural history of the Caribbean and its peoples. Students will learn of the changes and continuities that have affected Caribbean development.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate a knowledge of the geopolitical characteristics of the Caribbean region by:

1. Naming the different countries and territories that constitute the region.
2. Identifying the countries that colonized and ruled the different islands constituting the region.
3. Discussing the economic role played by this region in the development of Europe's overseas empire.
4. Examining the impact of natural resources and the environment on the region's history and culture.
5. Demonstrating the strategic military and economic importance of the region during the colonial period and in the modern era.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Cultural / Global Perspective
2. Critical Thinking
3. Social Responsibility

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the native peoples of the Caribbean by:

1. Identifying the diverse indigenous groups and examining their distinctive civilizations.
2. Comparing and contrasting their cultural, religious, social, political, and economic development.
3. Describing their contributions to modern Caribbean cultures.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Cultural / Global Perspective
3. Social Responsibility

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate a knowledge of the age of exploration, European imperialism, and the colonization of the Caribbean region by:

1. Identifying the reasons for European exploration from the 15th century.
2. Assessing how European rivalries impacted Caribbean development.
3. Comparing and contrasting the methods of conquest and colonization used by the principal colonizing nations against the indigenous inhabitants of the Caribbean.
4. Assessing the material benefits that accrued to European states and the church.
5. Evaluating the advantages and disadvantages of the Columbian exchange.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural / Global Perspective

Competency 4: The student will gain knowledge of the factors that contributed to the economic, social, and cultural development of the Caribbean by:

1. Identifying the forced labor systems introduced in the Americas.
2. Illustrating the relationship between the loss of native populations as a source of labor and the introduction of African slaves as a substitute labor force.
3. Examining the role played by the religious institutions in the enslavement of native and African peoples during the European conquest of the Indies.
4. Discussing how the cultivation of sugar and establishment of the plantation system shaped west Indian society.
5. Examining the influence of mining and plantation agriculture on the region's development.
6. Describing the maroon settlements in the Americas and their role in forming a unique African Caribbean identity and culture.
7. Examining the re-establishment of indentured servitude after emancipation in the 19th century.
8. Differentiating between the various cultural, social, and economic systems that are represented in the regions.
9. Examining the effect of culture on Caribbean identity and national solidarity.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural / Global Perspective

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the native and African people's response to slavery and the process of emancipation by:

1. Identifying their methods of resistance to enslavement.
2. Discussing the ideas and influence of leading abolitionists in the region.
3. Examining the relationship between abolitionism and national independence movements.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Cultural / Global Perspective
2. Ethical Issues
3. Social Responsibility

Competency 6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how colonial dependencies became independent or semi-independent by:

1. Analyzing the influence of the American, French, Haitian, and Cuban revolutions on revolutionary movements in the Caribbean.
2. Comparing and contrasting the diverse routes towards independence taken by the different colonial territories in the region.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking

Competency 7: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the colonial legacy of the region by:

1. Analyzing the relationship between the region's colonial past and its current state of economic development.
2. Examining the relationship between the region's history of agricultural dependency, European colonialism, and its failure to industrialize.

3. Analyzing how immigration led to the region's economic, social, and political problems.
4. Examining the historical and present influence of the United States on the economic, social, cultural, and political development of the Caribbean.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Social Responsibility
2. Cultural / Global Perspective

Competency 8: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the political systems that have emerged in the Caribbean region by:

1. Comparing and contrasting the diverse political structures that have evolved.
2. Examining why some Caribbean nations have developed democratic institutions while others established authoritarian regimes.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Critical Thinking