J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HIS 127
Credits: 3

Course Title: Women in American History

Course Description: Studies the role of women and attitudes toward women in American society from colonial times to the present. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: This course provides a general survey on the role of women and gender in shaping American history. This course can be used to satisfy the social/behavioral science requirements of most AA and AS degrees offered by the college or any certificate programs that require a course in the social sciences.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

a. Identify and describe the role of women in shaping the cultural, economic, political, military, religious, social, intellectual, and institutional developments in American history;
b. Identify and describe the chronological context of such developments;
c. Identify and describe the values of other peoples and explain how they differ from the student’s own values in an objective manner;
d. Explain how the history in their textbook is assembled from the selected arguments and interpretations of its authors, and express the limitations inherent in its account;
e. Identify and select, from the materials offered in this course, the relevant information needed to support their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
f. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
g. Construct and present historical arguments based the available evidence in good written academic form;
h. Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; and
i. Compare and contrast historical concepts to the present day.

Major Topics to Be Included:

a. Native American Women
b. Women in the Colonies
c. Women in the Revolution/Republican Motherhood
d. Women and Work
e. Slavery
f. Reform Movements/First-Wave Feminism
g. Women in the West
h. Progressive Women/Suffrage
i. Women in the World Wars
j. Second Wave Feminism
k. The Sexual Revolution
l. Third-Wave Feminism/Post-Feminist World

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: October 21, 2015

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