

SOC-973: Ben Franklin's Philadelphia

Independent Study Online Course Syllabus

Instructor: Keith J. Reilly

Phone: (845) 592-0537 / (845) 891-4199

Email: keith.reilly@fresno.edu

Number of Graduate Semester Units: 3 units

Target Audience: K-14th grade teachers

Course Access: <https://connect.fresno.edu>

Course Description

This course examines the remarkable life of Benjamin Franklin with an emphasis upon his impact on the city of Philadelphia, PA. It is a Social Studies course that studies Franklin's relentless drive to improve both his life and the life of others. His intense curiosity, practicality, combined with humor continues to inspire all of us today. The course offers opportunities for participants to develop curriculum lessons, field trips and projects about Franklin. The course meets National and Common Core Standards and includes a travel option to the city of Philadelphia, PA. Required course materials must be purchased separately.

Note: Required book must be acquired separately.

Required Texts and Course Materials

Book: Isaacson, Walter. (2004). *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*. Simon & Schuster. New York, New York. ISBN 0-684-80761-0 <https://www.amazon.com/Benjamin-Franklin-American-Walter-Isaacson/dp/074325807X>

Canvas: This course will be delivered totally online. Canvas is a web-based learning management system (LMS) that provides students access to online resources, documents, videos, assignments, quizzes, forums, etc. Canvas is easy to learn and has a user-friendly interface.

Online Resources: Relevant online resources that support the course content and encourage further investigation will be available throughout the course assignments. Active hyperlinks are utilized throughout the course and will link to the appropriate information when clicked. These include videos, podcasts, worksheets, online activities, journal articles and other resources.

Course Dates

Self-paced; students may enroll at any time and take up to one year, from the date of registration, to complete assignments. Students may complete assignments in no less than three weeks for a 3-unit course (one week per unit).

National Standards Addressed in This Course

National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies / Common Core Standards

Course participants apply the standards to Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia through:

- **Culture** – Readings and activities that provide for the study of culture and cultural diversity through study of the life and times of Benjamin Franklin
- **Time, Continuity and Change** – Experiences that provide for the study of the ways people view themselves over time through examining the achievements of Franklin
- **People, Places and Environment** – Experiences that provide for the study the city of Philadelphia to participants
- **Individuals, Groups and Institutions** – Experiences that provide for the study of Franklin and the groups that he helped establish
- **Power, Authority and Governance** – Activities that show how Franklin's work as a statesman creates and changes structure of power, authority and governance
- **Civic Ideals and Practices** - Readings and activities that provide for the study of the ideals, principles and practices in the United States that Franklin helped to establish
- **Science, Technology and Society** – Activities and Readings that provide insight into the scientific achievements of Benjamin Franklin and its impact upon society

Continuing Education Student Learning Outcomes (CE-SLO)

CE-SLO 1	Demonstrate proficient written communication by articulating a clear focus, synthesizing arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to inform and persuade others, and present information applicable to targeted use.
CE-SLO 2	Demonstrate comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
CE-SLO 3	Reflect on their personal and professional growth and provide evidence of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and professional improvement.
CE-SLO 4	Apply critical thinking competencies by generating probing questions, recognizing underlying assumptions, interpreting and evaluating relevant information, and applying their understandings to the professional setting.
CE-SLO 5	Reflect on values that inspire high standards of professional and ethical behavior as they pursue excellence in applying new learning to their chosen field.
CE-SLO 6	Identify information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, organize that information, identify the best sources of information for a given enquiry, locate and critically evaluate sources, and accurately and effectively share that information.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (C-SLO)

Student Learning Outcomes for This Course By the end of this course the student will be able to:		National Standards Addressed*	CE-SLO Addressed**
C-SLO 1	Identify the achievements and contributions of Benjamin Franklin on American culture	Strand III – People, Places and their Environment	CE 2, 4
C-SLO 2	Develop an understanding of Benjamin Franklin's character and critically analyze the motivation behind his decisions	Strand IV – Individual Development and Identity	CE 3, 5
C-SLO 3	Construct a PowerPoint that illustrates major achievements in the life of Benjamin Franklin with an emphasis on his achievements while living in Philadelphia	Strand VIII – Science, Technology and Society	CE 1, 6
C-SLO 4	Select a primary source quote from Benjamin Franklin to discuss the value with other participants and relate to the present day	Strand X – Civic Ideas and Practices	CE 5
C-SLO 5	Propose and design a field trip to Philadelphia, PA that identifies learning standards and utilizes Google Earth	Strand VI – Power, Authority and Governance	CE 6
C-SLO 6	Gather information about sites in Philadelphia and apply it to interpret Ben Franklin's achievements as a Statesman	Strand VI – Power, Authority and Governance	CE 2, 6
C-SLO 7	Develop a class lesson for students that describes an important element of Benjamin Franklin life and validates his role in American history	Strand IV – Individual Development and Identity	CE 1, 6
C-SLO 8	Apply state and national history/social science (K-12) standards in the classroom to the lesson about Benjamin Franklin	Strand 1 - Culture	CE 6
C-SLO 9	Compile and organize a list of internet web sites that the teacher can recommend to students for gathering information	Strand II – Time, Continuity and Change	CE 6
C-SLO 10	Summarize and discuss the information gathered about the life of Benjamin Franklin and his impact on the city of Philadelphia and the United States	Strand III – People, Places and their Environment	CE 1, 2

* Please refer to the section on **National Standards Addressed in This Course**

** Please refer to the section on **Continuing Education Student Learning Outcomes**

Topics, Assignments, and Activities

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities	Points Possible
Home Page	- Welcome Video - Course Syllabus - Policies and Procedures - Introduce Yourself Forum	
Module 1 – Critical Thinking Book Review	1.1 Assignment: Book Review 1.2 Assignment Book Review Quiz	35 pts 10 pts
Module 2 - PowerPoint	2.1 Create a PowerPoint 2.2 Quizlet	15 pts 5 pts
Module 3 – Wit and Wisdom of Ben Franklin	3.1 Assignment Wit & Wisdom 3.2 Assignment: Survey	15 pts 5 pts
Module 4 – Video Review	4.1 Assignment: Video Review	15 pts
Module 5 –Franklin's Philadelphia: Statesman	5.1 Assignment: Franklin the Statesman	15 pts
Module 6 - Franklin's Philadelphia: Scientist and Inventor	6.1 Assignment: Franklin the Scientist	15 pts
Module 7 - Franklin's Philadelphia: Modern Citizen	7.1 Assignment: Franklin the Citizen 7.2 Survey Questions	15 pts 5 pts
Module 8 – Design a Field Trip	8.1 Assignment: Design a Field Trip 8.2 Assignment: Franklin's Philadelphia	15 pts 10 pts
Module 9 – Annotated Internet Bibliography	9.1 Assignment: Annotated Bibliography 9.2 Assignment: Discussion Forum	15 pts 5 pts
Module 10 – Develop a Teaching Lesson	10.1 Assignment: Develop a Lesson 10.2 Assignment: Discussion Forum	15 pts 5 pts
Module 11 – Franklin and his Connection to Today	11.1 Assignment: Franklin Today 11.2 Assignment: Discussion Forum	15 pts 5 pts
Module 12 – Summary and Reflection	12.1 Assignment: Final Reflection	15 pts
Course Wrap-up – Grading and Evaluation	- Final Reflection Forum - Course Evaluation - Course Completion Checklist - Grade Request / Transcript Request	
	TOTAL POINTS	250 points

Grading Policies, Rubrics, and Requirements for Assignments

Grading Policies

- Assignments will be graded per criteria presented in the course rubrics.
- A = 90-100% and B = 80-89%, (anything below 80% will not receive credit.)
- The discernment between an A or a B letter grade is at the discretion of the instructor based on

the quality of work submitted (see course rubrics).

- Coursework falling below a B grade will be returned with further instructions.
- All assignments must be completed to receive a grade and are expected to reflect the quality that teacher-training institutions require of professional educators. If completed assignments do not meet this standard, students will be notified with further instructions from the instructor.

Grading Rubrics

Grade	Percent	Description	Rubric
A	90-100%	Excellent	Meets all course / assignment requirements with significant evidence of subject mastery and demonstration of excellent graduate level professional development scholarship.
B	80-89%	Very Good	Adequately meets criteria for all course/assignment requirements - demonstrates subject competency with very good graduate level professional development scholarship.
NC	Below 80%	Unacceptable	Does not meet the minimum criteria for all course/assignment requirements and demonstrated little, if any, evidence of acceptable graduate level professional development scholarship.

Writing Requirements

- **Superior:** Writing is clear, succinct, and reflects graduate level expectations. Clearly addresses all parts of the writing task. Maintains a consistent point of view and organizational structure. Includes relevant facts, details, and explanations.
- **Standard:** Writing is acceptable with very few mistakes in grammar and spelling. Addresses most parts of the writing task. Maintains a mostly consistent point of view and organizational structure. Includes mostly relevant facts, details, and explanations.
- **Sub-standard:** Writing contains noticeable mistakes in grammar and spelling. Does not address all parts of the writing task. Lacks a consistent point of view and organizational structure. May include marginally relevant facts, details, and explanations.

Lesson Plan Requirements

- **Superior:** Instructional goals and objectives clearly stated. Instructional strategies appropriate for learning outcome(s). Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is clearly delineated and authentic. All materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson clearly listed.
- **Standard:** Instructional goals and objectives are stated but are not easy to understand. Some instructional strategies are appropriate for learning outcome(s). Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is present. Most materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson are listed.
- **Sub-standard:** Instructional goals and objectives are not stated. Learners cannot tell what is expected of them. Instructional strategies are missing or strategies used are inappropriate. Method for assessing student learning and evaluating instruction is missing. Materials necessary for student and teacher to complete lesson are missing.

Instructor/Student Contact Information

Throughout the course participants will be communicating with the instructor and their classmates on a regular basis using asynchronous discussion forums. Students are provided with instructor contact information in the event they want to make email or phone contact. In addition, students are encouraged to email or phone the instructor at any time. Students will also receive feedback on the required assignments as they are submitted.

Forums

Participation is an important expectation of this course and all online courses. Online discussions promote reflection and analysis while allowing students to appreciate and evaluate positions that others express. While students may not be engaging with the same students throughout this course, they will be expected to offer comments, questions, and replies to the discussion question whenever possible. The faculty role in the discussion forum is that of an observer and facilitator.

Coursework Hours

Based on the Carnegie Unit standard, a unit of graduate credit measures academic credit based on the number of hours the student is engaged in learning. This includes all time spent on the course: reading the textbook, watching videos, listening to audio lessons, researching topics, writing papers, creating projects, developing lesson plans, posting to discussion boards, etc. Coursework offered for FPU Continuing Education graduate credit adheres to 45 hours per semester unit for the 900-level courses. Therefore, a student will spend approximately 135 hours on a typical 3-unit course.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are eligible for reasonable accommodations in their academic work in all classes. In order to receive assistance, the student with a disability must provide the Academic Support Center with documentation, which describes the specific disability. The documentation must be from a qualified professional in the area of the disability (i.e. psychologist, physician or educational diagnostician). Once documentation is on file, arrangements for reasonable accommodations can be made. For more information and for downloadable forms, please go to <https://www.fresno.edu/departments/disability-access-education>.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

All people participating in the educational process at Fresno Pacific University are expected to pursue honesty and integrity in all aspects of their academic work. Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will be handled per the procedures set forth in the Fresno Pacific University Catalogue and Handbook - <https://handbook.fresno.edu/graduate/academic-policies>

Technology Requirements

To successfully complete the course requirements, course participants will need Internet access, can send and receive email, know how to manage simple files in a word processing program, and have a basic understanding of the Internet. Please remember that the instructor is not able to offer technical support. If you need technical support, please contact your Internet Service Provider.

Getting Help with Canvas: If you need help with Canvas, please contact the FPU Help Desk by phone: (559) 453-3410 or email: helpdesk@fresno.edu. Help is available Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Final Course Grade and Transcripts

When all work for the course has been completed, students will need to request their final grade by accessing the form at ce.fresno.edu/grade-request. Once the instructor receives the request and posts their final grade, students will receive an email communication from the University. Please allow at least two weeks for the final grade to be posted before you order your transcripts online.

University Policies and Procedures

Students are responsible for becoming familiar with the information presented in the Academic Catalog and for knowing and observing all policies and procedures related to their participation in the university community. A summary of university policies may be found on the university website at <https://www.fresno.edu/departments/registrars-office/academic-catalogs>.

Fresno Pacific University Student Learning Outcomes (FPU-SLO)

FPU-SLO 1	Oral Communication: Students will <i>exhibit</i> clear, engaging, and confident oral communication – in both individual and group settings – and will critically <i>evaluate</i> content and delivery components.
FPU-SLO 2	Written Communication: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> proficient written communication by <i>articulating</i> a clear focus, <i>synthesizing</i> arguments, and utilizing standard formats in order to <i>inform</i> and <i>persuade</i> others.
FPU-SLO 3	Content Knowledge: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> comprehension of content-specific knowledge and the ability to apply it in theoretical, personal, professional, or societal contexts.
FPU-SLO 4	Reflection: Students will <i>reflect</i> on their personal and professional growth and <i>provide evidence</i> of how such reflection is utilized to manage personal and vocational improvement.
FPU-SLO 5	Critical Thinking: Students will <i>apply</i> critical thinking competencies by <i>generating</i> probing questions, <i>recognizing</i> underlying assumptions, <i>interpreting</i> and <i>evaluating</i> relevant information, and <i>applying</i> their understandings to new situations.
FPU-SLO 6	Moral Reasoning: Students will <i>identify</i> and <i>apply</i> moral reasoning and ethical decision-making skills, and <i>articulate</i> the norms and principles underlying a Christian worldview.
FPU-SLO 7	Service: Students will <i>demonstrate</i> service and reconciliation as a way of leadership.
FPU-SLO 8	Cultural and Global Perspective: Students will <i>identify</i> personal, cultural, and global perspectives and will employ these perspectives to <i>evaluate</i> complex systems.
FPU-SLO 9	Quantitative Reasoning: Students will accurately <i>compute</i> calculations and symbolic operations and <i>explain</i> their use in a field of study.
FPU-SLO 10	Information Literacy: Students will <i>identify</i> information needed in order to fully understand a topic or task, <i>explain</i> how that information is organized, <i>identify</i> the best sources of information for a given enquiry, <i>locate</i> and

	critically <i>evaluate</i> sources, and accurately and effectively <i>share</i> that information.
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