

**The Career Center Program/Course Information**



**20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CIVIL RIGHTS  
HONORS**

**Description**

The course will accentuate the history, struggles, successes and similarities of diverse groups of Twentieth century groups (mostly Americans) who protested on behalf of civil liberties and civil rights. The course will begin with an understanding of America’s founding documents – *The Declaration of Independence* and *the United States Constitution* – and the conceptual and historical paradoxes of each. A foundation of the course will be an understanding of Jefferson’s creed that “...all men are created equal...,” as well as, the document’s interpretation and applicability over the course of the Twentieth Century. The course will also emphasize the flexibility of the U.S. Constitution, and specifically the impact of additional amendments over time and their varying interpretations on both civil liberties and civil rights during the Twentieth Century. The thrust of the course will be the historical narrative of a people who persevered to give greater meaning to our founding creed and those founding American documents. This story would include the Twentieth century social movements for greater freedom and equality led by and for various groups of Americans. Because of past and current global calls for universal human rights based on Jefferson’s ideals, this course should promote the interconnected civil liberties and civil rights narrative of a people, a nation, and a world.

**Special requirements**

**Student costs/Materials to be supplied by students**

**Other information**

**Civil Liberties is a good complement to students taking a rigorous course load. Homework is very limited and most of the work is done within class time.**

There is no state mandated test at the end of the course.

This is a very student-driven class. While basic information and history on major movements are part of the class, students, through projects, current events, class discussions help dictate what is emphasized.