**Syllabus LM-38 II**

**Thematic Units**

**1. Focus on Form Through Media (Linked to Culture and Society)**

**Form**

* Future forms (An overview and shades of meaning)
* Nouns with a special meaning in the plural
* Pronouns to replace the passive
* Participle clauses (present and past)
* Modals (Revision)
* Complex passive constructions

**Lexicon**

* Idioms
* Phrasal verbs
* Proverbs
* Colloquialisms
* Collocations
* Text organizers
* Words with subtle differences in meaning
* Newspaper language

**2. Culture & Society**

This unit introduces seminal topics for both the first and second part of the course. The topics will span from the civil rights movement of the 1960s in the United States and racism in the UK during the 1970s (Rock Against Racism) to the establishment of Equal Opportunity to the systemic racism of contemporary American culture, the violent protests of 2020 and the Black Lives Matter Movement of today, which has singularly impacted the United States in the depths of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The course will present and analyze a wide array of media including movies, television series, debates, interviews, live shows, news coverage and media reactions to major social events and upheavals over the arc of the past six decades. Focus on form is woven into the presentation of the **media** using the **PACE** model.

**3. Advanced Writing and Reporting (linked to Culture & Society)**

This unit focuses on honing advanced writing skills within the context of the media introduced in the unit on **Culture & Society**. Students will master the intricacies of journalistic writing and reporting, responding to, writing about and reporting on the crucial events that have shaped American racial tensions in this time period. They will use the media available for the given time periods to research and to:

* Summarize
* Transcribe
* Write a letter to the editor
* Write a news article
* Write an op-ed
* Conduct an interview with a native speaker on racial descrimination
* Write an interview article
* Report on a topical event based on their own research (live presentation)

**4. The American Legal System**

This unit introduces the American legal system through the famous case of O.J. Simpson, with all of its racial and social implications. The Netflix documentary entitled *The People vs O.J. Simpson* forges a link between the justice system in the United States and systemic racism explored in the first part of the course. Students will be asked to analyze how a murder case was turned into a case of racism and the effects it had on American culture. The social ramifications of this case shaped what has occurred in recent history. It will also be used to introduce the role of the courtroom interpreter.

**5. Mock Profession – Courtroom Interpreter**

This unit presents and explains the various steps in the American legal process using the documentary *The People vs O.J. Simpson*. It prepares the students to act as courtroom interpreters in the various steps of criminal proceedings. The students will be introduced to:

* Investigation
* Charging
* Initial Hearing/Arraignment
* Discovery
* Plea Bargaining
* Preliminary Hearing
* Pre-Trial Motions
* Trial
* Post-Trial Motions
* Sentencing
* Appeal

The original transcripts and TV coverage from the trial will be used in class in mock settings to allow students to engage in actual interpreting within the context of a criminal trial.

Students will be asked to:

* Summarize and present information about the trial;
* Prepare for debates on key issues and act as judges for their classmates’ debates;
* Prepare a PowerPoint presentation on one or more issues regarding the trial.

**6. Qualifying exams**

Students must pass a written qualifying exam in order to take the second-year translation exam. The qualifying exam question will follow the format proposed by Cambridge for their proficiency exam, level C2 and can be one of the following:

* Essay
* Reporting
* Review
* Article

 The exam will last an hour and a half.

The format of the oral qualifying exam will be decided upon in conjunction with the professor teaching the interpretation module.