



## Experiencing America Series

The South: Nashville-American Culture      EDU 590GI

### Part A

All materials in Part A are for informational purposes only and are not to be mailed with the completed assignments.

### Section A1 - Course Introduction

Welcome to the Experiencing America Series designed by the University of San Diego, Division of Continuing Education. The major focus of this Series is encouraging teachers to travel and experience our country by viewing, studying and reflecting on historical sites, museums, parks, and memorials. For complete information regarding the Experiencing America Series, please visit [www.usd-online.org](http://www.usd-online.org).

This section, The South, consists of 9 one semester unit courses: **Historic Atlanta EDU 590EC, Civil War Atlanta EDU 590ED, Entrepreneurial Atlanta EDU 590EE, Atlanta Author and Politician EDU590 EF, Atlanta and the Civil Rights Struggle EDU 590EG, Clinton Library and Museum EDU 590DA, Historic Little Rock EDU 590DC, Chattanooga: Public/Private Partnerships EDU 590GH and Nashville-American Culture EDU 590GI.**

The fee for this course covers only the cost of the one semester unit tuition and one official transcript. Any travel expenses or admission fees are your responsibility. You will receive an official transcript from the University within three to four weeks of submitting satisfactory coursework. After the grade is posted, additional transcripts can be ordered online for \$5.00 at [www.usd-online.org](http://www.usd-online.org) or by mail:

USD Continuing Education  
Attention: Transcripts  
5998 Alcalá Park  
San Diego, CA 92110-2492

After 3 to 4 weeks, questions regarding transcripts can be answered at (619)260-4585. USD Continuing Education does not fax or overnight transcripts, so please allow 3-4 weeks for evaluation and to receive your transcript by U.S. Mail.

Information about other USD Independent Study Courses is available at: [www.usd-online.org](http://www.usd-online.org).

**\*Please note that the written assignments must be typed if possible, double-spaced on 8 1/2 " x 11" standard copy paper using 12 pt. font. Hand-written papers must be legible and easy to read.**

## Section A2 - How to Proceed

- **Read the Course Objective – A3**
- **Read all Assignments**
- **Read Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – A4**
- **Visit** and investigate all required sites
- **Complete** all parts of **Assignments**
- **Make copies** of all course work for your records.  
*\*Your mailed assignments will not be returned to you.*
- **Complete and Sign Passport/Affidavit Form** and mail with all completed

Assignments to: **USD Continuing Education**  
**Attn: Experiencing America Grader**  
**210 Bordeaux Court**  
**El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**

***Coursework mailed requiring signature at receipt may be delayed.***

## Section A3 - Course Objective / Grading Rubric

### I. OBJECTIVE

After viewing, studying and reflecting on the required site(s) for this course, the participant will show that due to his/her participation he/she now has a greater understanding of the “American Experience.”

### II. GRADING RUBRIC

Exemplary: A+ to A-	Acceptable: B+ to B-	Unacceptable: Must be resubmitted
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated	Presents some relevant ideas and connections to the assignment	Ideas are not clear or relevant
Very well organized and assignments are well labeled	Is generally well organized and assignments are well labeled	Shows little or no organization and assignments are poorly labeled.
Reflective pieces cover numerous facts and specific details of the learning experience	Some facts and specific details of learning experiences are included	Few or no facts or specific details of the learning experience are included
Free of spelling and/or grammatical errors	Writing contains a few spelling and/or grammatical errors	Numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors Difficult to read

## Section A4 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Q. Whom do I contact if I have a question about the content of this course?  
A. You can e-mail questions to [amex@usd-online.org](mailto:amex@usd-online.org) or phone (916) 939-2449.
- Q. How much time do I have to complete this course?  
A. You have nine months from the time of registration to complete all coursework.
- Q. What if an emergency occurs and I need more than 9 months to complete my coursework?  
A. Please e-mail [sandiego@usd-online.org](mailto:sandiego@usd-online.org) or call (619) 260-4585 to request an extension. If one is granted, *it is final*.
- Q. What if I change my name or address during this time.  
A. If you change your name or mailing address, please call (619) 260-4585 as soon as possible to alert us so that we may update your records AND also update your website account information at [www.usd-online.org](http://www.usd-online.org).
- Q. Can I use both sides of the paper in completing the assignments?  
A. No. Although it may save paper, it makes your paper more difficult to read and may lead to a second side being missed in the grading process.
- Q. Can I send completed work via e-mail or on a disk?  
A. No. All work must be sent in as hard copies. For your own protection, please make sure to keep copies of ALL your work. Your mailed assignments will not be returned to you.
- Q. Can I send in each assignment as I complete it?  
A. No. All assignments must be sent in together upon completion of the entire course.
- Q. What do I do when I have completed all the required coursework?  
A. There is a list of required assignments on the Passport/Affidavit Form. Check to make sure you have completed all items listed and have placed responses on separate pages with appropriate label at the top of the page (example: B1 - Assignment Title). Fill out the Passport/Affidavit Form and sign and date the form. Arrange the Assignments in numerical order and place the Passport/Affidavit Form on top. Mail all Assignments, along with the signed Passport/Affidavit Form to:
- USD Continuing Education  
Attn: Experiencing America Grader  
210 Bordeaux Court  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**
- Q. Is there a required sequence for taking courses in the Experiencing America Series?  
A. No. Each course is independent.

## Part B - Assignments

All completed **Assignments** must be placed on separate pages with the appropriate label at the top (example B1 – Assignment title) and mailed together for grading. Please place **Passport/ Affidavit Form** on top of all **Assignments**.

### The South: Nashville-American Culture

Visit, explore, and study the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville (222 Fifth Avenue South), then respond to B1 through B4. Be sure to obtain a signature for the affidavit.

#### **B1 – Architecture**

How does the design of the building symbolize country music and its history? If it is not obvious by looking at both the outside and inside of the building, ask a staff member.

#### ***Label Assignment B1 – Architecture***

#### **B2 – The Painting**

Before beginning your tour of the museum, find Thomas Hart Benton's six by ten foot mural located in the rotunda of the Hall of Fame on the second floor. Study the painting then begin your exploration of the museum. After absorbing the effect of the music, lives, costumes and instruments displayed, return to the painting. Respond (at least one page) to how this American Master (Benton) celebrates the roots of country music and the pioneer history of America through his masterpiece.

#### ***Label Assignment B2 –The Painting***

#### **B3 – Relationships**

In the museum displays locate and listen to the following two songs: *The Wild Side of Life* (Hank Williams) and *Honky Tonk Angel* (Kitty Wells). How do these songs express American female and male struggles? You may (if you prefer) substitute other songs found in the museum that illustrate American relationship conflicts.

#### ***Label Assignment B3 – Relationships***

## **B4 – The Theme**

SING ME BACK HOME: A JOURNEY THROUGH COUNTRY MUSIC is the title of the museum. Select one aspect of the museum that spoke to you relating to this theme and explain how it did so.

### ***Label Assignment B4 – The Theme***

## **B5 – The Plaque**

Visit Centennial Park in Nashville located on West End Avenue across from Vanderbilt University. Walk on a path surrounding the park with the Parthenon in the center. Locate and study the plaques telling about the 1897 Centennial Exposition held at this location. Find the plaque that deals with race relations and the building of the Negro House. Take a picture of yourself in front of this plaque and attach it to B5. How does the information on this plaque explain an aspect of American Culture that differs from that found in the Country Western Hall of Fame and Museum?

### ***Label Assignment B5 – The Plaque***

## **B6 – Other Cultures**

Now concentrate on the Parthenon. Take a picture of yourself in front of it and attach to B6. Go inside and observe the displays and the giant statue of Athena on the second floor. Offer an explanation for a dichotomy of Nashville—home to not only one of the most authentic examples of American culture (The Country Western Hall of Fame and Museum) but in 1897 glorifying non American cultures (Middle Eastern Mediterranean, and South American).

### ***Label Assignment B6 – Other Cultures***



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### Passport/Affidavit Form

Ask a representative at each site to sign/stamp and date in the space below.

In addition, attach to this page any other evidence you have to document your experience. You can use items such as tickets (or photos of tickets) and photos of you in and around the required sites.

#### Instructions:

- Complete the Student Information section
- Sign and date the Passport/Affidavit Form
- Place the Passport/Affidavit Form on top of all Assignments and mail to:  
**USD Continuing Education**  
**Attention: Experiencing America Grader**  
**210 Bordeaux Court**  
**El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**

#### Student Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SS# (last 4 digits) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level/subject \_\_\_\_\_

- B1 – Architecture  
 B2 – The Painting  
 B3 – Relationships

- B4 – The Theme  
 B5 – The Plaque  
 B6 – Other Cultures

I \_\_\_\_\_ verify that I did visit **ALL REQUIRED SITES** for this course **EDU 590 GI** and **ALL WRITTEN RESPONSES** are my own original comments.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE USE:** Grade \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_