

Formular: Kurzbeschreibung zur Information der Schüler in der Jgst. 10

Lehrkraft: StRin Laura Schneider

Leitfach: Englisch

Rahmenthema: **California Dreaming – The Golden State**

Zielsetzung des Seminars:

“The setting sun burned the sky pink and orange in the same bright hues as surfers' bathing suits. It was beautiful deception, Bosch thought, as he drove north on the Hollywood Freeway to home. Sunsets did that here. Made you forget it was the smog that made their colors so brilliant that behind every pretty picture there could be an ugly story.”
Michael Connelly (creator of the TV series “Bosch”)

California – the Golden State captures everything the American Dream stands for: Gold Rush, Hollywood and Silicon Valley, to name a few. Books, songs and movies have dealt with California dreaming, both, in a positive way, as movie careers have been started, inventions have been made, dreams of a better life further North have come true. Yet hopes have been disappointed, too. Many came to California in order to live their dream and somehow failed.

Aside from making it “from rags to riches” or beginning a better life in the so-called promised land, this course will focus on California and its diversity in many aspects. Like no other state in the US, California stands for summer, sun and an easy-going style of life. Surfing is a popular sport and skateboarding has evolved here and spread across the globe. But people do not only value California’s laid-back lifestyle or dazzling cities as LA or San Francisco. The State has a distinctively diverse nature which is preserved in several National Parks. Its climate leads to California being known as the US’ “fruit basket”.

The above mentioned are only a few aspects we will deal with in our seminar when examining California as the Golden State.

Possible topics for the *Seminararbeit* are:

1. The City of San Francisco
2. The Silicon Valley
3. The Representation of California in Songs
4. Hollywood – Most Famous Film Industry in the World
5. Surfing Culture in California
6. California Dreaming – the Real American Dream
7. California’s Water Crisis
8. Born in California: Leonardo DiCaprio, Leading Man in Hollywood Blockbusters
9. Chicano literature
10. T.C.Boyle “The Tortilla Curtain“
11. ...

Kurzbeschreibung zur Wahl eines W-Seminars durch die Schülerinnen und Schüler der Jahrgangsstufe 10

ggf. weitere Bemerkungen zum geplanten Verlauf des Seminars:

The Seminar will mostly be held in English. In addition to the regular *Leistungsnachweise*, students should be prepared to give talks about their projects in a regular mode.

You should enjoy working with the English language (e.g. reading fictional and non-fictional texts, listening to songs, watching clips, but also dealing with theoretical background knowledge).