



## **CANG 9127 Compared civilization: cultural facts in the USA and the UK**

Instructor: **Vincent ROBIN**

Level **B2+/C1**

### **Course description**

The point of this course is to help students examine how British society and American society respectively react to topical and current issues and why.

It is fair to say that France is obsessed with the USA, therefore French learners are usually a lot more aware of what goes on in the USA and know little about British culture.

The goal will therefore be to help them reassess what they know and think they know through a variety of documents and activities which will enable them to practice and hopefully improve their five language skills (written and oral comprehension, written and spoken expression, oral interaction).

### **Course prerequisites**

- An interest in both American and British civilizations.
- The willingness to share your thoughts and ideas.
- A solid command (B2 min, C1) of both written and spoken English.

### **Assessment**

The evaluation will consist of 50% for the continuous assessment (homework, occasional tests or essays, attendance, participation), and 50% for the final exam.

### **Course outline (note that topics may not be necessarily in that order)**

1. Founding myths
2. Racism and discrimination
3. Healthcare and the Welfare State
4. The role of the state and the impact of the pandemic
5. Multilateralism and protectionism (America First / Brexit)
6. The impact of technology on life and society
7. Federalism v. monarchy
8. The obesity epidemic
9. Education in the time of the pandemic
10. The environment and the tackling of global warming.

...