

S U P P O L K U N I V E R S I T Y

Lecture Series  
EUROPE'S CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN CIVILIZATION

*40 copies*

Suggested Outline of Speeches  
as guide to speakers

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I-- THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF POPULATION

(The United States is a nation made up of the descendants of immigrants from every part of the world. From the first planting of Jamestown in 1607 to the arrival of refugees after 1945, it drew strength from the successive movements of population westward across the Atlantic. Among the immigrants were both men and women of distinction and the humbler folk whose labor helped develop the American economy.)

II-- CULTURE IN IMMIGRANT CHESTS

(Each group of immigrants brought its own culture with it--beliefs, habits, holidays, cuisine--and left a measurable imprint upon the common culture of the United States that resulted from their contacts with each other.)

III. - THE POWER OF IDEAS

(European ideas also crossed the Atlantic, even when there were no immigrants to carry them. Scottish philosophy, the French enlightenment, and German romanticism were among the intellectual movements that influenced Americans. Italy, Spain and Greece exercised a continuing impact upon the American imagination, as did the British.)

IV-- THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

(Through most of its history the United States was less advanced in cultural and scientific techniques than the nations of Europe and depended on them for leadership.)

V.-- THE TIES OF TRADE AND DIPDOMANCY

(As an underdeveloped country, the United States long depended upon the assistance of Europe. British, French, Dutch and German capital helped develop the American economy; and American diplomats often had to count on European diplomatic support.)

VI. LINKS FROM THE OLD WORLD TO THE NEW

(Although the United States was long cut off from the rest of the world by its two oceans, it was never isolated and its history was always shaped by contacts with the Old World.