History (HIST) 2231 History of the United States to 1877 (3 Units) CSU:UC
[formerly History 17A]

Advisory: Successful completion of English 1500 strongly recommended.

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture. 96 Outside of class hours. (144 Total Student Learning hours)

Catalog Description: This course is an historical survey of Ancient America, of the European colonization of North America and of the United States through Reconstruction. It meets the 3 unit requirement in American History and Institutions for the Associate degrees.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


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Additional Instructional Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

1. demonstrate the ability to interpret primary and secondary sources and to compose an argument which uses them, as appropriate, for support;
2. demonstrate an understanding of U.S. History through current analytical categories of race, class, gender and ethnicity;
3. demonstrate an understanding of America's growth in a global context,
4. explain the major economic, technological and scientific developments and their historical significance;
5. analyze major political trends, attitudes, conflicts and events-including both mainstream and reform efforts-and explain their historical significance;
6. explain the major social and cultural developments, their causes and effects, and their historical significance; and, analyze the history of the United States.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I The Americas, Europe, and Africa Before 1492

A. The Americas
B. Europe on the Brink of Change
C. West Africa and the Role of Slavery

Unit II  
Early Globalization: The Atlantic World, 1492-1650

A. Portuguese Exploration and Spanish Conquest
B. Religious Upheavals in the Developing Atlantic World
C. Challenges to Spain's Supremacy
D. New Worlds in the Americas: Labor, Commerce, and the Columbian Exchange

Unit III  
Creating New Social Orders: Colonial Societies, 1500-1700

A. Spanish Exploration and Colonial Society
B. Colonial Rivalries: Dutch and French Colonial Ambitions
C. English Settlements in America
D. The Impact of Colonization

Unit IV  
Rule Britannia! The English Empire, 1660-1763

A. Charles II and the Restoration Colonies
B. The Glorious Revolution and the English Empire
C. An Empire of Slavery and the Consumer Revolution
D. Great Awakening and Enlightenment
E. Wars for Empire

Unit V  
Imperial Reforms and Colonial Protests, 1763-1774

A. Confronting the National Debt: The Aftermath of the French and Indian War
B. The Stamp Act and the Sons and Daughters of Liberty
C. The Townshend Acts and Colonial Protest
D. The Destruction of the Tea and the Coercive Acts
E. Disaffection: The First Continental Congress and American Identity

Unit VI  
America's War for Independence, 1775-1783

A. Britain's Law-and-Order Strategy and Its Consequences
B. The Early Years of the Revolution
C. War in the South
D. Identity during the American Revolution

Unit VII  
Creating Republican Governments, 1776-1790

A. Common Sense: From Monarchy to an American Republic
B. How Much Revolutionary Change?
C. Debating Democracy
D. The Constitutional Convention and Federal Constitution

Unit VIII  
Growing Pains: The New Republic, 1790-1820

A. Competing Visions: Federalists and Democratic-Republicans
B. The New American Republic
C. Partisan Politics
D. The United States Goes Back to War

Unit IX Industrial Transformation in the North, 1800-1850
A. Early Industrialization in the Northeast
B. A Vibrant Capitalist Republic
C. On the Move: The Transportation Revolution
D. A New Social Order: Class Divisions

Unit X Jacksonian Democracy, 1820-1840
A. A New Political Style: From John Quincy Adams to Andrew Jackson
B. The Rise of American Democracy
C. The Nullification Crisis and the Bank War
D. Indian Removal
E. The Tyranny and Triumph of the Majority

Unit XI A Nation on the Move: Westward Expansion, 1800-1860
A. Lewis and Clark
B. The Missouri Crisis
C. Independence for Texas
D. The Mexican-American War, 1846-1848
E. Free Soil or Slave? The Dilemma of the West

Unit XII Cotton is King: The Antebellum South, 1800-1860
A. The Economics of Cotton
B. African Americans in the Antebellum United States
C. Wealth and Culture in the South
D. The Filibuster and the Quest for New Slave States

Unit XIII Antebellum Idealism and Reform Impulses, 1820-1860
A. An Awakening of Religion and Individualism
B. Antebellum Communal Experiments
C. Reforms to Human Health
D. Addressing Slavery
E. Women's Rights

Unit XIV Troubled Times: the Tumultuous 1850s
A. The Compromise of 1850
B. The Kansas-Nebraska Act and the Republican Party
C. The Dred Scott Decision and Sectional Strife
D. John Brown and the Election of 1860
Unit XV    The Civil War, 1860-1865

A. The Origins and Outbreak of the Civil War  
B. Early Mobilization and War  
C. 1863: The Changing Nature of the War  
D. The Union Triumphant

Unit XVI    The Era of Reconstruction, 1865-1877

A. Restoring the Union  
B. Congress and the Remaking of the South, 1865-1866  
C. Radical Reconstruction, 1867-1872  
D. The Collapse of Reconstruction

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Studying  
2. Answering questions  
3. Completing required reading  
4. Written work

Methods of Instruction:

1. Assigned readings from text and collateral reading  
4. Lectures by instructor  
5. In-class activities including essay writing, presentations and/or projects

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Substantial writing assignments, including:  
   a. research or other paper  
   b. written essays  
   c. research projects  

2. Other examinations, including:  
   a. multiple choice  
   b. completion  
   c. essay exams

Can also include:

1. Classroom discussions that include primary and secondary sources  
2. Objective exams  
3. Classroom projects and presentations

Supplemental Data:
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