

**HIS 320: UNITED STATES HISTORY, 1815-1914**  
Spring 2016, Point Loma Nazarene University  
4 units, MWF 1:30-2:35pm, Colt 120

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Office Hours: MWF 11am-noon  
And by appointment

**PLNU MISSION**  
**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES:**

This course examines the major social, political, economic, and ideological conflicts and changes of the United States from 1815-1914. Over the course of the nineteenth century, the U.S. experienced profound changes, including industrialization, immigration, westward expansion, slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction. This course includes an analysis of the political leadership of Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln; the ideas of liberalism, nationalism, expansion, and industrialization; the social impact of religious revivals, slavery, and feminism; and the cataclysmic impact of the Mexican, Civil, and Spanish-American wars as the nation hurtled toward world power status after World War I.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Students will be able to explain the major events that shaped the United States from 1815-1914.
2. Students will be able to evaluate various types of primary and secondary sources.
3. Students will be able to write a research paper that exhibits their own original analysis of the sources.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

Weekly Responses	10%
Quizzes/Participation	10%
Research Paper Proposal	5%
Research Paper	15%
Wikipedia Project	10%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	25%

**Weekly Responses** are a way of rewarding you for thinking thoughtfully and critically about the reading assignments. They are also designed to encourage participation in class discussions; for this reason, they will not be accepted late. **Responses must be submitted via Canvas before the time class starts.**

- 2 pages typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font
- Due on the dates listed in the syllabus before the time class starts
- What to write about: Analyze the main themes from that week's reading and end with a few questions about it to pose to your classmates during the discussion. Discuss at least one substantial reading assignment (document, chapter, etc.) in detail. Use quotations when possible. Always include a citation any time that you directly quote a source, paraphrase a source, or reference a specific detail from the reading. **Citations should be footnotes in Chicago Style.**

**Reading Assignments** should be read before class on the date listed in the syllabus.

**Late proposals and research papers** will be subject to a penalty of 10% per day.

However, if you contact the professor *more than 72 hours before the due date* and explain your circumstances (i.e. an unusual number of large assignments due in other classes that week), your request for an extension will be considered. Note that extensions will not be given on the "Responses," for the reasons given above. Of course, emergencies are an exception to this rule, and will be dealt with depending on the individual circumstances.

**Research Papers** will be written about a course-related topic of your choosing, and will be due at the end of the semester. **Proposals** will be due in class during Week 5. Detailed guidelines will be handed out in class.

**Wikipedia Project:** more info will be given in class and posted on Canvas. You will be adding information to Wikipedia articles related to the topic of your research paper.

**Grades:** Please contact me at any point during the semester if you have questions about the status of your grade. Mid-semester grades will be available following the Midterm exam.

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

93%-100%	A	83%-87%	B	73%-77%	C
90%-93%	A-	80%-83%	B-	70%-73%	C-
87%-90%	B+	77%-80%	C+	etc.	

#### COURSE POLICIES

This class will follow the academic policies of PLNU as outlined in the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate Catalog.

**Attendance and Participation:** Your regular presence in class will help you succeed and will make our class discussions more fruitful. Therefore, you are strongly encouraged to attend all of the class sessions and to arrive on time. Your active participation will constitute a portion of your grade. Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. In keeping with university policy: If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the grading section of the catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad academic catalog.

**Academic Honesty:** Please remember that your greatest contributions to this course are your own original thoughts and words. “Academic Honesty” means that you should have integrity in all that you do in this course by making a clear distinction at all times between your own work and words, and those of others. Plagiarism, copying, and cheating in any form is dishonest and undermines your ability to learn the material. “Plagiarism” means using someone else’s words and passing them off as your own; this includes (but is not limited to) any writing you find online as well as in a book or article. Plagiarism can occur not only in writing, but also in presentations or projects if you use the words of someone else and don’t attribute them to the source. You can avoid plagiarism by putting quotation marks around any groups of words that are not your own, and citing the source. Or, in the case of an oral presentation, by acknowledging when words or ideas come from someone else. “Cheating” includes (but is not limited to) having someone else do your work, copying someone else’s work, signing the attendance sheet for another student, looking at your

notes while taking an exam, or submitting a reflection when you did not actually do the activity.

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As explained in the university catalog, academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for further information.

**Academic Accommodations:** All students can and should succeed in this course, so please let me know if there are things I can do to help you. Please speak with me as soon as possible if any problems arise or if you have any questions about how to succeed in this course.

While all students are expected to meet the minimum academic standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, students must request that academic accommodations by filing documentation with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. Once the student files documentation, the Disability Resource Center will contact the student's instructors and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual needs of the student. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad academic catalog.

**Late work** will receive a deduction of 10% per day. However, if you contact the professor *more than 72 hours before the due date* and explain your circumstances (i.e. an unusual number of assignments due in other classes that week), your request for an extension will be considered. Note that "Weekly Responses" **cannot** be turned in late for the reasons given above. Of course, emergencies are an exception to this rule, and will be dealt with depending on the individual circumstances. There are no make-up exams (midterms and final), unless you have contacted me in advance, in which case I *may* allow it depending on the circumstances.

**Cell Phones and Recording Devices:** In order to create the most conducive learning environment, all phones should be silenced and not used during class. No recording of lectures or class discussions is allowed without prior permission from the professor.

**Tutorial Center:** The PLNU Tutorial Center is available free of charge for all current, undergraduate PLNU students. It offers tutoring for most subjects, as well as for general help with paper editing, study skills, etc. The Tutorial Center is located on the south end of Bond Academic Center, next to the Study Abroad offices. Appointments may be arranged in person at the Tutorial Center, over the phone at (619) 849 2593, or via email at TutorialServices@pointloma.edu.

**FERPA Policy:** In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publicly posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by distributing all grades and papers individually. Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal. See Policy Statements in the undergrad academic catalog.

**Final Examination Policy:** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the Class Schedules site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

- Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*.
- Michael P. Johnson, ed. *Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Civil War*.
- Bruce Levine, *The Fall of the House of Dixie: The Civil War and the Social Revolution that Transformed the South*.
- Pauli Murray, *Proud Shoes*.
- Also required: A one-semester subscription to MilestoneDocuments.com to access primary and secondary sources.
  - This is where most of your reading assignments will be. It costs about \$20 for the whole semester. Subscribe using the access code purchased from the bookstore. If you choose to subscribe directly on the Milestone Documents website, make sure to sign up for the semester-long access that links you to this course. You MUST be able to view the course page for this class: HIS 320 with McCoy. If you have any technical difficulties, please contact Milestone Document's customer service. [Click here \(https://www.milestonedocuments.com/register/checkout/1004/student\)](https://www.milestonedocuments.com/register/checkout/1004/student) and it should take you directly to the page where you enter my last name (McCoy) and then you can either pay for your semester-long access or enter the access code you purchased from the bookstore.

### COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1	Jan 12	Introduction/ Syllabus
	Jan 13	Before class, sign up for Milestone Documents using the instructions listed above.
	Jan 15	Milestone Documents
Week 2	Jan 18	<b>No Class—Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
	Jan 20	Milestone Documents
	Jan 22	<b>Response Due</b> Milestone Documents
Week 3	Jan 25	Milestone Documents
	Jan 27	Milestone Documents
	Jan 29	<b>Response Due</b> Milestone Documents
Week 4	Feb 1	Milestone Documents
	Feb 3	Milestone Documents <b>Not meeting in class.</b> Dr. McCoy is at a conference. Use this time to go to the library and work on your research paper proposals.
	Feb 5	<b>Response Due</b> Milestone Documents
Week 5	Feb 8	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (begin)</i>
	Feb 10	Work on Research Paper Proposal
	Feb 12	<b>Research Paper Proposal Due</b>
Week 6	Feb 15	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>
	Feb 17	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>

	Feb 19	<b>Response Due</b> <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> (completed) Milestone documents: Letter “To My Old Master”
Week 7	Feb 22	<i>Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Civil War</i> , Introduction and TBA
	Feb 24	<i>Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Civil War</i> , TBA
	Feb 26	<b>Response Due</b> <i>Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Civil War</i> , TBA
Week 8	Feb 29	<i>Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Civil War</i> , TBA
	Mar 2	Study for the exam
	Mar 4	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
Week 9	Mar 14	Milestone Documents
	Mar 16	<i>The Fall of the House of Dixie</i>
	Mar 18	<b>Response Due</b> <i>The Fall of the House of Dixie</i> (through first half)
Week 10	Mar 21	<i>The Fall of the House of Dixie</i>
	Mar 23	<b>Response Due</b> <i>The Fall of the House of Dixie</i> (through the conclusion)
	Mar 25	<b>No Class—Easter Recess</b>
Week 11	Mar 28	<b>No Class—Easter Recess</b>
	Mar 30	Milestone Documents
	Apr 1	<b>Response Due</b> Milestone Documents
Week 12	Apr 4	Peer review Wikipedia Project drafts with classmates
	Apr 6	<i>Proud Shoes</i> , Intro through Ch. 5

	Apr 8	<b>Wikipedia Project Due</b>
Week 13	Apr 11	<i>Proud Shoes</i> , Ch. 6 through Ch. 10
	Apr 13	<i>Proud Shoes</i> , Ch. 11 through Ch. 14
	Apr 15	<b>Response Due</b> <i>Proud Shoes</i> , Ch. 15 through Ch. 20
Week 14	Apr 18	Milestone Documents
	Apr 20	Milestone Documents
	Apr 22	<b>Response Due</b> Milestone Documents
Week 15	Apr 25	Finish Research Paper
	Apr 27	Finish Research Paper
	Apr 29	<b>Research Paper Due</b>

**Final Exam:**  
**Wednesday, 1:30-4:00pm**