

HIS 120: United States History from Early America to the Twentieth Century

History & Political Science Department
Point Loma Nazarene University
3 Units
Fall 2017

Meeting days: MWF

Meeting times: 11:00-11:55am

Meeting location: Evans 114

Final Exam: Friday, 10:30-1:00

Professor: Dr. Kelli McCoy

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Office: Colt 114

Office hours: Mon 12:00-1:00 and 2:45-4:15; and
Thursdays by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This survey course explores the major themes in American history from the age of European exploration to the turn of the twentieth century. This course begins with the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, the subsequent colonization by Europeans, and the rise of slavery. It traces the major political, economic, religious, and social developments through the colonial era, the American Revolution, the formation of the U.S. government, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Throughout the whole course, there will be an emphasis on the role of Native Americans, Black Americans (both slave and free), immigrants, and women.



{The Declaration of Independence}

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 is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students in this course will be able to:

- Analyze the major political, economic, social, and religious developments in U.S. history from the Colonial Era through Reconstruction.
- Explain the causes and consequences of the American Revolution.
- Explain the causes and consequences of the Civil War.
- Analyze the diverse experiences of Native Americans, African Americans, immigrants, and women in U.S. history from the Colonial Era through Reconstruction.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and EXPECTATIONS

Required Texts

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History* (Volume 1), W.W. Norton.

Other supplemental readings and primary sources will be posted online via Canvas.

Assessment and Grading

Please contact me at any point during the semester if you have questions about your grade.

Assignment distribution by percentage:	Letter grades assigned as follows:
• Participation 5%	A=93-100 C=73-76.99
• Quizzes and Online Discussions 10%	A-=90-92.99 C-=70-72.99
• Historical Activities 10%	B+=87-89.99 D+=67-69.99
• Project 15%	B=83-86.99 D=63-66.99
• Midterm #1 15%	B-=80-82.99 D-=60-62.99
• Midterm #2 20%	C+=77-79.99 F=0-59.99
• Final Exam 25%	

Historical Activities

The Historical Activities give you an opportunity to take field trips of your choosing! You can experience various aspects of American history in the places they actually happened,

watch historical films, or hear guest speakers and reflect on those experiences. Detailed information will be given in class and on Canvas.

Project: Design and Teach a Mini-Lesson

This is designed to help you learn the content of the course, as well as prepare you for your careers as educators by developing your skills in oral communication, information literacy, critical thinking, working with a team, and preparing lessons for your own students. Detailed instructions about these will be given in class and on Canvas.

Participation

Your engagement with the class is a huge component of your success in this course, and also enhances the learning of your classmates. Your participation is therefore evaluated throughout the semester. Since you cannot participate if you do not attend class, attendance will be taken at the start of each class. If you miss two or more classes, you will lose 15 points (out of 100 possible) for each absence, beginning with the second one. Arriving late or leaving early will be considered $\frac{1}{2}$ an absence. (As stated in the Undergraduate Catalog, there are no excused absences other than in the case of certain university-sponsored events. If this applies to you, it is your responsibility to provide me with the appropriate documentation no later than one week after the missed class.)

Incompletes and Late Assignments

Please talk with me as soon as possible if for whatever reason you are having trouble completing your work, so that we can find the best solution. All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due, unless otherwise indicated on Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances. There are no make-up quizzes/ online discussions, since those are to help you come prepared to class. 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. If papers, projects, or activities are turned in late, they will be subjected to a 10% penalty per day. Please ask me for more information if you believe you will need to turn in an assignment late.

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.

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.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. 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. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Unit 1		
Indigenous Peoples and Colonial America		
Week 1	Introduction to Course	Tuesday, Aug 29
	Make sure you can access Canvas; begin reading Foner Ch 1	Wednesday, Aug 30
	Read Foner, Ch1: A New World Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas Take Quiz on Canvas	Friday, Sept 1
Week 2	No Class: Labor Day	Monday, Sept 4
	Read Foner, Ch 2: Beginnings of English America, 1607-1660	Wednesday, Sept 6
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas Take Quiz on Canvas	Friday, Sept 8
Week 3	Read Foner, Ch 3: Creating Anglo-America, 1660-1750	Monday, Sept 11
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Sept 13
	Take Quiz on Canvas Historical Activity #1 Due	Friday, Sept 15
Week 4	Read Foner, Ch 4: Slavery, Freedom and the Struggle for Empire	Monday, Sept 18
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Sept 20
	Midterm I: Chapters 1-4	Friday, Sept 22
Unit 2		
Revolutionary America and a New Nation		
Week 5	Read Foner, Ch 5: The American Revolution, 1763-1783	Monday, Sept 25
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Sept 27
	Take Quiz on Canvas	Friday, Sept 29
Week 6	Read Foner, Ch. 6: The Revolution Within	Monday, Oct 2
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Oct 4
	Take Quiz on Canvas Historical Activity #2 Due	Friday, Oct 6
Week 7	Read Foner, Ch. 7: Founding a Nation	Monday, Oct 9
	Read primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Oct 11
	Take Quiz on Canvas Submit your Project Topic	Friday, Oct 13

Week 8	Read Foner, Ch. 8: Securing the Republic	Monday, Oct 16
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas Take Quiz on Canvas	Wednesday, Oct 18
	No Class: Fall Break	Friday, Oct 20
Week 9	Read Foner, Ch. 9: The Market Revolution, 1800-1840	Monday, Oct 23
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Oct 25
	Take Quiz on Canvas Historical Activity #3 Due	Friday, Oct 27
Week 10	Read Foner, Ch. 10: Democracy in America, 1815-1840	Monday, Oct 30
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Nov 1
	Midterm II: Chapters 1-10	Friday, Nov 3
Unit 3		
Slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction		
Week 11	Read Foner, Ch. 11: The Peculiar Institution	Monday, Nov 6
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Nov 8
	Take Quiz on Canvas	Friday, Nov 10
Week 12	Read Foner, Ch. 12: An Age of Reform, 1820-1840	Monday, Nov 13
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Nov 15
	Take Quiz on Canvas Historical Activity #4 Due	Friday, Nov 17
Week 13	Read Foner, Ch. 13: A House Divided, 1840-1861	Monday, Nov 20
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Nov 22
	No Class: Thanksgiving Break	Friday, Nov 24
	No Class: Thanksgiving Break	Friday, Nov 24
Week 14	Read Foner, Ch. 14: A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War	Monday, Nov 27
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Nov 29
	Take Quiz on Canvas Projects Due in Class	Friday, Dec 1
Week 15	Read Foner, Ch. 15: "What is Freedom?": Reconstruction	Monday, Dec 4
	Read/View primary sources posted on Canvas	Wednesday, Dec 6
	Take Quiz on Canvas	Friday, Dec 8
Week 16	Final Exam: All Chapters on Friday, 10:30am-1:00pm	Friday, Dec 15