

Course Requirements U.S. To 1877 (HY 1301)

US History Survey Part One: To 1877

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Textbooks

The main textbook will be *America: A Narrative History, Volume I* by Tindall and Shi, Brief 7th edition, 2007, ISBN 03931711406
Each student will also select one Historical Monograph from those listed at the end of each chapter in the text. Consult the book dissection exercise for more information.

Introduction

· The goal and purpose of this course are as follows:

1. first: to obtain a factual basis for American history from colonization to the era of the Civil War, including political, diplomatic, social, cultural and economic topics.
2. second: to understand and organize information on very complex social systems.
3. third: to appreciate the "whys" of history--why things happened, not merely when and where.

Obviously, formal attendance in the classroom is not possible in this delivery format. However, you will be expected to converse with the instructor at least once per week via e-mail. If the student does not continue weekly contact, the University will assume that the student no longer wishes to be enrolled in the class and will drop the student from the course. Therefore, students should check their e-mail everyday to keep updated on any changes in the course.

Exams/Grading

- **All quizzes and combination objective and essay examinations are maintained and taken on the course Web site. You must first email the instructor to obtain a password that will allow you to access each test on Blackboard. Before you begin the exam, make sure you read and understand the instructions on the introductory page to the tests. Once you begin the test, it is too late to ask questions. Makeup tests can be arranged only for a time before the test date; there will be no make-ups after the test date. The midterms count 120 points each and the final counts 120 points.**
- **QUIZZES: Each student will complete chapter quizzes on each chapter in the book during the term. Each quiz is timed and you will have only 20 minutes to complete each quiz. (30 points each) The remainder of your grade will be computed using three combination objective and essay examinations (Midterms 120 points each & final 120 points), and the book dissection exercise outlined on the Assignments page on Blackboard. (100 points).**
- **EXAMS: You will write a two one-hour midterm examinations and a two-hour final exam. These exams will be combination objective and essay in format and will be posted on the web page under the Course Information section. The essay questions will focus on your ability to select and marshal evidence, analyze it, and reach a defensible conclusion. Clarity of thought is key. Sample essay questions can be found on the Course Documents page on Blackboard.**
- **The first midterm essay exam covering chapters 1 through 6 is available on the website. The second midterm exam covering chapters 7 through 12 is available on the website, and the final exam covering primarily chapters 13 through 18, but will also include material from earlier quizzes will be available during the final week of class. You must complete the exams within the week they are posted. In extenuating circumstances an extension of time might be permitted. Please consult with the instructor and facilitator if you have a problem with this schedule.**
- **Quality of work is the primary factor, followed by coverage and supporting detail. Mere assembly of facts is inadequate. Similarly, excessive interpretation without adequate supporting evidence will hurt. You need facts.**

Honesty

- **Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of the instructor to determine what constitutes academic dishonesty and what constitutes the appropriate penalty. It is to the advantage of the student to avoid and situation that might be interpreted as academic dishonesty.**

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