

**Basic Course Information**

Semester:	Spring, 2015	Instructor Name:	Lisa Solomon
Course Title & #:	HIST 120	Email:	lisa.solomon@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20738		All material will be posted on Blackboard
Classroom:	208	Office #:	Room 807, Office C
Class Dates:	Feb. 17, 2015-June 12, 2015	Office Hours:	MW 7:30am - 8:15am and 1:30pm - 2:30pm T 10:30am - 11:30am R 10:30am - 12:00noon
Class Days:	TR	Office Phone #:	760-355-6453
Class Times:	7:00am-8:25am	Emergency Contact:	Behavioral & Social Sciences office 760-355-6144
Units:	3		

I am available for meetings with students beyond the office hours. However, because of other obligations, students should contact me to set up an appointment. Contact can be made before or after class, by email, or by voice mail.

**Course Description**

This course is a survey of American history from the pre-Columbian era to the end of Reconstruction. This course will cover the major social, political, economic, racial, gender, cultural and intellectual transformations of the colonial and early American eras. At the completion of this course, students will have a broad understanding of the most important ideas, personalities, movements and events in the colonial and early American periods.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon course, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to: (1) identify and recall key information from a historical text and/or a documentary film; (2) describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event; and (3) explain and analyze the key information contained in a primary source document.

**Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to: Identify the major events and key intellectual, cultural, social, political and economic trends in United States history from the pre-Columbian period to 1877, and identify and understand the significance of important personalities and ideas in United States history before 1877.

### **Textbooks & Other Resources or Links**

There is one required text. It is *Becoming America* (Volume 1). The ISBN is 9781259328404 (loose-leaf version) and 0077800672 (all-digital version). It is available for sale or rent through the College Bookstore. There will also be a reference copy in the Library.

Additional readings/articles may be presented or assigned by me as deemed relevant.

### **Course Requirements and Instructional Methods**

**Exams:** There will be four tests, a Midterm exam and the Final exam. All tests will be based on the text, any additional readings, lectures (which includes Power Point presentations), and videos. Only one make-up exam will be given to a student during the semester, and must be scheduled with me. Make-up exams may be used only if the original exam was not taken at the scheduled time due to illness or verified family or work emergency, and I am notified before the test. Any make-up exams scheduled for more than a week after the original test date face a point reduction of 25%. I will not approve any make-up test scheduled later than two weeks after the original test date. There is NO make-up available for the Final exam!

**Writing Requirement:** Students will be required to complete four written assignments. Information on these assignments will be presented by me.

### **Course Grading Based on Course Objectives**

**Grading:** The course maximum is 1000 points, based on the following:

Discussion/participation	100 points
Exams (four @ 50 points each)	200 points
Midterm exam	150 points
Assignments (four @ 50 points each)	200 points
Final exam	350 points

Grading will be based on total points, as follows:

A = 851 – 1000	C = 701 – 775	F = 0 – 400
B = 776 -- 850	D = 401 – 700	

Discussion points will be deducted when a student is late (1 point each time), and/or when a student disrupts the class by talking during the lecture or videos, plays games or text messages on a cell phone or computer, has a cell phone ring during class, etc. (1/2 point each time). Points can only be earned by a student who asks questions and/or participates in classroom discussions. Points are not earned simply for attendance.

I reserve the right to have students complete additional work in class. Any such work will have points added to what is shown above. I do NOT offer extra credit work.

Letter grades will not be included on tests and assignments. They will only be used for the final course grade.

### **Attendance**

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped by me as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See the [General Catalog](#) for details.

Attendance is strongly encouraged, especially since History courses usually take a chronological approach. Therefore, absences can leave gaps that cannot easily be filled. While participation in classroom discussions is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged and can affect your final grade. At all times, your questions are encouraged and welcomed.

Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.

Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT CELL PHONES AND/OR PAGERS ARE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS. Any student whose cell phone and/or pager disrupts the class will be asked to leave the room and handle the call. Any device that interrupts an exam will be confiscated and held until the end of the class (NOT when the student has completed the exam). Multiple violations will result in the student being asked to leave the class, and not return until discussing the matter with me.

Food and drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs.

Students who practice inappropriate behavior will likely be asked to leave the classroom. That includes talking during videos and/or lectures. Such disruptive behavior can also result in points being deducted from those available for Discussion/Participation. Continued practice of inappropriate behavior will need to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with the coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#). Students who engage in disruptive behavior or leave the room while class is in session will have points deducted from the total possible for Discussion/Participation (see the section on Grading). Make sure you handle all personal needs (restrooms, food, phone calls, etc.) before class begins.

Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

### **Online Netiquette**

This is not applicable for this class. However, if you email classmates during the term, please do so in a respectful manner.

## Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and I may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in your file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in a drop to the next lower letter grade, an F in the course, and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

## Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

**[Blackboard Support Site](#)**. The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.

**[Learning Services](#)**. There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).

**[Library Services](#)**. There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

## Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

### Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.

[Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

### Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

### Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

### Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

The required readings should be done before the class. The schedule is subject to change.

Feb. 17	<i>Introduction</i>
Feb. 19	<i>Native peoples; Asian and Spanish exploration</i> Chapter 1, pages 31-36 <b>Assignment #1 on Blackboard</b>
Feb. 24	<i>European presence; Colonization</i> Pages 37-57 <b>Assignment #1 due</b>
Feb. 26	<i>Introduction of slavery and issues of race</i> Chapter 3
Mar. 03	<b>Test #1</b>
Mar. 05	<i>Colonial changes and growth</i> Chapter 4
Mar. 10	<i>Growing tensions; challenges of slavery</i> Pages 102-115 <b>Assignment #2 on Blackboard</b>
Mar. 12	<i>Period of warfare</i> Pages 115-127 <b>Assignment #2 due</b>
Mar. 17	<i>Dissent and ideas of revolution</i> Pages 128-140

Mar. 19	<b>Test #2</b>
Mar. 24	<i>Revolutionary War</i> Pages 140-157
Mar. 26	<i>A new republic</i> Chapter 7
Mar. 31	<i>Issues of slavery and growth</i> Pages 184-208
Apr. 02	<i>War of 1812; New phase of expansion and policy</i> Pages 208-239
Apr. 06-10	<b>Midterm exam study guide on Blackboard</b> NO CLASS – Spring break
Apr. 14	<i>Moving to the middle of the century</i> Chapters 10
Apr. 16	<b>Midterm exam</b>
Apr. 21	<i>Slavery continues</i> Chapter 11
Apr. 23	<b>Assignment #3 on Blackboard</b> <i>Reform</i> Chapter 12
Apr. 28	<b>Assignment #3 due</b> <i>Texas Rebellion and aftermath</i> Pages 320-324
Apr. 30	<b>Test #3</b>
May 05	<i>War with Mexico and the aftermath</i> Chapter 13
May 07 & 12	<i>1850s</i> Chapter 14
May 14	<b>Assignment #4 on Blackboard May 07 and due May 12</b> <i>Lead-up to the Civil War</i> <b>Assignment #4 due</b>
May 19	<b>Test #4</b>
May 21	<i>Secession, 1861-1862</i> Pages 380-394
May 26-28	<i>1863-1864</i> Pages 394-409
June 02	<b>Final Exam study guide on Blackboard on May 28</b> <i>Surrender and assassination; conclusions</i> Pages 409-413
June 04	<i>Reconstruction</i> Chapter 16
June 09 & 11	<b>Final exam</b>