



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring, 2021	Instructor Name:	Lisa Solomon
Course Title & #:	HIST 121: US from 1877 to Current	Email:	lisa.solomon@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20574		
Classroom:		Office #:	
Class Dates:	Feb. 17 – June 10, 2021	Office Hours:	MW 9:30 – 10:30am TR 8:30 -- 9:30am
Class Days:	TR	Office Phone #:	760-355-6453
Class Times:	11:20am-12:45pm	Department Office:	760-355-6144
Units:	3	Class Format:	Zoom

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

Course Description

The major events of United States history from 1877 to the present will be studied. This examination will include the social, political, economic, racial, gender, cultural and intellectual changes that have occurred, and their relevance to current events. Of special note will be an examination of America's rise to global power.

NOTE: This course requires a significant amount of reading and writing!

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, 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 post-Reconstruction period to the late 20th century, and identify and understand the significance of important personalities and ideas in United States history after 1877

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required: *US History*. Go to <https://openstax.org/subjects/humanities> to access the text (dark blue background with "US History" on the cover). There is no cost for the digital version. Printed copies are available for order through OpenStax, or may be purchased through the College Bookstore. <https://www.bkstr.com/imperialvalleystore/home> The ISBN for the print version: 978-1-938168-36-9.

Recommended: A good college-level dictionary.

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

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Exams: There will be four exams (two shorter tests, Midterm and Final). All will be based on the text, any additional readings, lectures (which includes Power Point presentations), and videos. The two shorter tests include identifying terms and answering a short essay question. The Midterm and Final are entirely essay.

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 four *school* days after the original test date face a point reduction of 25%. I will not approve any make-up test scheduled later than one (1) week after the original test date. There is **NO** make-up available for the Final exam!

Grading rubrics will be posted on Canvas for the exams.

Writing Requirement: Students will be required to complete two written assignments. Information on these assignments will be presented by me. The grading rubric for the assignments will also be posted to Canvas.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement. *This means that since this is a 3-credit course, you're responsible for **about six hours of work outside of class each week**. You should use that time to read the textbook, review your lecture notes, study for the exams, and work on your assignments!*

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

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

Discussion/Participation (in class and Discussion boards)	270 points
Exams (two @ 70 points each)	140 points
Assignments (two @ 70 points each)	140 points
Midterm	150 points
Final	300 points

Grading will be based on total points, as follows:

A = 901 – 1000 pts.	B = 801 – 900.5 pts.
C = 701 – 800.5 pts.	D = 601 – 700.5 pts.
F = 0 – 600.5 pts.	



Discussion points can be earned when you ask questions by messaging me, participate in classroom discussions (primarily through Canvas), or share opinions. Don't be afraid to think out loud or ask me to better explain something. Talking helps us understand and learn.

Discussion points are not earned simply for attendance. However, being current on the reading, reviewing materials on Canvas, and course work will help you earn a better grade.

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.

Course Policies

Attendance: A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor 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 General Catalog for details.

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.

Logging onto Canvas alone is NOT adequate to demonstrate academic attendance by the student.

More information and details can be found on Canvas.

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 are the most common.

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.



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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 a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in 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.

More information and details can be found on Canvas.

Online Netiquette: “Netiquette” refers to the rules of behaving well online. It can be more difficult to discern meaning in written text than in spoken conversation, so pay particular attention to your words.

Keep your language clear and concise; ensure posts are on-topic; use correct spelling, grammar, and capitalization (all caps = yelling); and contribute productively to conversations.

Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).

More information and details can be found on Canvas.

Other Course Information

Discussion and questions are encouraged during the class, and by email. During class meetings, please treat each other with respect and patience. Some of us experience technical issues with Zoom, others with internet challenges, and others with language/reading/writing challenges. Respect your classmates’ opinions, even if they differ from yours. Anyone who treats a classmate or me in a disrespectful manner will be removed from the class meeting, and I will schedule a meeting with that student before they are allowed to return.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.



Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

The readings are to be done before class. **This schedule is subject to change without notice.**

NOTE: Some of the video content is graphic and may be difficult for any student dealing with PTSD. Please let me know if this applies to you and take necessary steps to take care of yourself.

Week/Date	Topic, Assignments, Work	Reading and Videos (page numbers are for the PDF version)
Week 1	Syllabus; introduction to the class; Deep learning; Frontier	Video on Canvas; Chap. 17
Week 2	Labor and Industry; Society; Politics In-class essay	Chaps. 18 & 19
Week 3	Quest for empire: Spanish-American War (and discussion) Assignment #1	Chap. 20, pp. 633-647 <i>Crucible of Empire</i> video
Week 4	Progressives; early 1900s, WWI	Chap. 21, pp. 647-656 <i>The Great War</i> video
Week 5	World War I and its impacts of the war Test study guide on Canvas; Test #1	<i>The Great War</i> video Chap. 23
Week 6	To 1920; 1920s	Chap. 24
Week 7	Crash and Great Depression Midterm study guide on Canvas	Chap. 25
Week 8	FDR Midterm exam	
Apr. 5-9	NO CLASSES – Spring Break	
Week 9	The New Deals; 1920s and 1930s abroad	Chap. 26, pp. 787-795 (to 27.2)
Week 10	Lead-up to war; WWII at home and abroad	Pp. 795-812 (to 27.4)
Week 11	Truman's decision; to 1950; Cold War In-class essay Assignment #2	Pp. 812-831
Week 12	Korea; "Nifty '50"; Civil rights	Pp. 831-849 <i>PBS video on Korean War</i>
Week 13	1960-1967	Chap. 29
Week 14	1968; Nixon era Test #2	Pp. 885-906 (to 30.4)
Week 15	Watergate; Ford and Carter Final exam questions on Canvas	Pp. 906-914
Week 16	Memorial In-class essay Final Exam	<i>Frontline: Vietnam Memorial</i> video

Subject to change without prior notice