



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter 2023	Instructor Name:	Shawn Barcroft
Course Title & #:	History 120 — United States History: Prehistory to Reconstruction	Email:	shawn.barcroft@imperial.edu
CRNs #:	15043	Office Hours:	And by appointment.
Classroom:	Online	Office Phone #:	760-355-6170
Class Dates:	1/3/2023 to 2/3/2023	Emergency Contact:	Please email
Units:	Three	Class Format:	Asynchronous/Traditional Online

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.

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to: 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.

Required Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

- Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History, Vol. 1, Seagull* (Fourth Edition)
ISBN: 9780393920307
Note: You may use a hardcopy or digital version. Also, you may use a newer edition.
- Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*
ISBN: 9780486284996
Note: There are many different electronic and hardcopy versions of this book. Some of these versions may have different



forewords or introductions.

- There will also be required additional readings and resources posted in Canvas:
<https://imperial.instructure.com/login/canvas>

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

The quantity of assignments and the listed point values are subject to change. Changes will appear on Canvas. Extra credit may or may not be offered. Extra credit assignments will not be given on an individual basis. **Please do not email me at the end of the semester asking to have your final grade rounded up.**

Here is a look at the course assignments and grading scale:

Course Assignments	Grading Scale		
Analytical Essay	1 x 100	100 points	A: 100 – 90.0%
Discussion Boards	5 x 25*	100 points	B: 89.9 – 80.0%
Exams	2 x 100	200 points	C: 79.9 – 70.0%
Short Papers	3 x 50^	100 points	D: 69.9 – 60.0%
Quizzes	7 x 15#	90 points	F: 59.9 – 0%
Student Bio	1 x 10%	10 points	

* Your lowest score will be automatically dropped by Canvas.

^ If a student submits all three then the first will be considered extra credit.

Students may take each quiz twice. Also, your lowest score will be automatically dropped by Canvas.

% Failure to submit this assignment by the end of the third day of the semester may result in being dropped from the course.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Instructional Methods: This is an asynchronous online course. This means we will not be meeting as a class at a specific time or place. Instead, course materials and assignments will be posted in Canvas modules to be completed at a time of your own choosing within the given time parameters. Lectures will be in video form, and will often include information not covered in your readings. At different points of the semester, students will also be required to read and watch additional posted materials. Students will be given access to new modules every one to two weeks with tasks to complete. It's critical for students to review all the published information on the course homepage during the first couple of days of the semester. During the remainder of the semester students should regularly check Canvas for announcements and carefully read each published module details page (they can be found at the top of each module) for information on assignments and exams. Here are some more important details about the course:

- All writing assignments must be submitted on Canvas. **Please do not email me your work unless I have given you prior approval.**
- All assignments must be submitted in a PDF or Word.doc format. **Note:** If you use Google.docs to write your papers you should save your work as a PDF or a Word file before uploading to Canvas. Submitting your assignments in another format may result in a zero.
- All submissions must cite using Chicago Style to receive full credit. (See the Chicago Citation Guide on Canvas for more details.) You may use another citation format for partial credit.
- **Plagiarism, the copying of information from the internet, a similarity score more than 40%, or the use of outside or online sources is not allowed and will result in a zero.**
- All assigned readings, whether in your textbook or on Canvas, are expected to be completed during that of the assigned module week(s).



- Grading rubrics are attached to each DB and Paper assignment. I highly recommend students review these rubrics before submitting each assignment.
- Due dates are subject to change. Always check assignment **due dates** and **close dates** as they might not be the same, and submit your work before the posted close date to receive credit. I will not accept work after an assignment has closed.
- Never include the given questions in a discussion post or in a short paper submission.
- Per the IVC, there is an eight to ten page minimum writing requirement for this course.

Analytical Essay: You will write one analytical five-paragraph essay on the history of American slavery primarily using the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*. This assignment is worth 100 points. You can find a prompt outlining exactly what I am expecting you to analyze on our course homepage. **Note:** Submissions will be penalized three points for each calendar day the assignment is late. Also, you can submit this assignment early.

Discussion Boards (DBs): Modules will typically consist of a discussion board assignment. Each of these assignments will be worth 25 points. I will provide the class with question(s) to answer based on the presented material. Below is a basic scoring breakdown of the DB assignments. **Note:** For a more specific scoring breakdown I recommend students review the DB grading rubric attached to each DB on Canvas.

- **How do I score 25 points each week?**

DB post 21 points: You must answer the presented question(s). Answers to the DB should be thorough and well thought out. Submissions must meet the given minimum word count and include cited details that demonstrate your understanding of the module materials. All DB submissions must also include cited direct quotes from the presented material. These quotes must be cited using Chicago Style footnotes at the bottom of your original post. You can find information for properly citing information in Module 1 on Canvas.

- **DB peer responses (2 pts each)**

The aim of peer responses is to facilitate a good discussion and to help your classmates better understand the presented material. You must respond to at least two of your fellow students' posts to receive full credit. Your peer responses must be posted before the assignment closes on Canvas. Peer responses must be thorough and well thought out. "Nice," and "I completely agree," are not proper responses and will result in a point deduction. There is not a word count requirement for peer responses, however, good responses should be a meaty paragraph and when needed include citations from the course materials. Feel free to respond to as many of your peers as you would like as this will help to facilitate a good discussion. However, if more than five students have already responded to post, please respond to another. **Note:** The Netiquette guidelines (listed below) are in effect, so be courteous and professional because I will not tolerate disrespectful behavior in this course.

Also...here are some other things to know about the DB assignments:

- I will not open a DB early for a single student.
- I will not allow a DB to be submitted after the assignment has closed on Canvas.
- **Students must submit their responses before viewing or responding to their classmates. Do not attempt to double-post, post an incomplete response, or edit your submissions because doing so will result in a zero. Furthermore, copying another post or something from the internet will result in a zero grade.**
- You may not submit your initial response and your peer responses on the same day for full credit.
- Your lowest DB score will be automatically dropped by Canvas. This means students do not need to submit all the DB assignments to receive full credit. Typically, dropped scores are marked with an "X" in a student's gradebook.

Exams: There will be two exams. Each will be worth between 85 and 100 points. Exams will primarily cover lecture material but may also feature questions from your textbook and the Canvas modules. Exams may consist of an essay, short identification, multiple choice, and/or matching questions. I highly recommend you begin taking notes on each of the key terms that have been posted in each module details page as they may appear on both quizzes and exams. The final exam will not be cumulative.



- I will not allow a make-up examination except in instances in which a student has a documented medical emergency.

Quizzes: There will be at least six quizzes based on your module materials and one syllabus quiz. Each quiz is worth up to 15 points. Quizzes are intended to give me a sense of whether you are critically thinking about the assigned material. You may take each quiz twice. If you take the quiz more than once your second attempt score will be kept. You can find further details on these quizzes on Canvas. Your lowest quiz score of the semester will be automatically dropped by Canvas. Typically, dropped scores are marked with an "X" in a student's gradebook.

Student Introduction: You are required to write or film a short biography. Your submission must be posted to the "Student Bio" discussion board by the third day of the semester or you may be dropped from the course. You are required to respond to at least one of your peers to receive full credit. This post is worth up to 10 points.

Short Papers: These papers may analyze historical films, news stories, and primary source documents. Assignment details for each will be posted in your modules. There will be three short paper opportunities. Students need to submit two over the course of the semester. If a student submits all three short paper opportunities then your first submission will be considered extra credit. This means you have the potential of earning up to 50 points of extra credit.

Students should expect each short paper to be about two or three pages in total length. Each submission will be worth up to 50 points.

Please follow the following guidelines for all Short Paper assignments:

- Include your name, the date, the name of the course, and your document's total word count single-spaced in the top left corner.
- The title/headline of your paper should be 12-point Times-New Roman centered type and include the topic of the documents, artifact, and/or film being analyzed. (**Note:** Don't just say "Short Paper".)
- Body text must be 12-point Times New Roman, double-spaced, and the document must have one-inch margins.

Unless directed differently on Canvas, answer the given questions individually in their own numbered paragraph. For example: 1. or 2.

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. Per IVC, students can expect to produce from ten to fifteen pages of written work in this course.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

The following course schedule is subject to change without prior notice. Changes will appear on Canvas.

Modules and Topics	Textbook Reading	Course Notes
Module 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course Introduction		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Bio Alert: Failure to submit this assignment by the third day may result in student being dropped.• Intro Quiz



Module 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before 1492• After 1492• Beginning of English North America	Chapters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DB 1• Quiz 1• Paper 1
Module 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English in New England• North America in Crisis	Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DB 2• Quiz 2
Module 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New English Colonies• Early American Slavery	Chapters 4 and 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DB 3• Quiz 3• Paper 2• Douglass
Module 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Revolutionary Era	Chapter 6	
Module 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam 1 is scheduled to open by Jan. 14 and close on Jan 18 at 11:59 PM.
Module 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age of Passion• War of 1812	Chapters 7 and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DB 4• Quiz 4• Paper 3
Module 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Market Revolution• Consequences of Westward Expansion and Modernization	Chapters 9 and 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DB 5• Quiz 5
Module 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peculiar Institution• Social Movements	Chapters 11 and 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quiz 6
Module 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Civil War• Exam 2	Chapter 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam 2 is scheduled to open by Feb. 2 and close on Feb. 5 at 11:59 PM.

Course Policies

- **Outside Sources:** They are not allowed in this course. The use of them without my approval will result in a zero.
- **Disruptive Students:** Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- **What is netiquette?:** Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!!)].
- **Academic dishonesty:** Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance 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 the instructor 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.
- **On 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 may 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.

What does it mean to "attend" an online class?



Attendance is critical to student success and for IVC to use federal aid funds. Acceptable indications of attendance are:

- Student submission of an academic assignment
- Student submission of an exam
- Student participation in an instructor-led Zoom conference
- Documented student interaction with class postings, such as an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction via modules
- A posting by the student showing the student's participation in an assignment created by the instructor
- A posting by the student in a discussion forum showing the student's participation in an online discussion about academic matters
- An email from the student or other documentation showing that the student has initiated contact with a faculty member to ask a question about an academic subject studied in the course.
- Logging onto Canvas alone is **NOT** adequate to demonstrate academic attendance by the student.

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.