



## Basic Course Information

Semester:	<b>Fall 2024</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Christopher Cardona</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>HIST 121 – US History: Reconstruction - Present</b>	Email:	<b>Christopher.Cardona@Imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	<b>10281</b>	Webpage (optional):	<b>www.imperial.edu</b>
Classroom:	<b>411</b>	Office #:	<b>3900</b>
Class Dates:	<b>Aug 12 – Dec 07, 2024</b>	Office Hours:	<b>MTWR 7:30 – 8:00am (in the classroom) &amp; F 7:30-8:30am (in 3900)</b>
Class Days:	<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday (TR)</b>	Office Phone #:	<b>Behavioral &amp; Social Sciences Dept Office (760) 352-8320.</b>
Class Times:	<b>8:000 – 9:25 AM (rise &amp; shine!)</b>	Emergency Contact:	<b>(760) 481-8481</b>
Units:	<b>3</b>	Class Format/Modality:	<b>On-campus/on-ground/face-to-face</b>

## Course Description

*This course is a survey of American history from Reconstruction to the present. This course will cover the major political, economic, social, gender, racial, cultural and intellectual transformations of the modern American eras. Of special note will be an examination of America's rise to global power. At the completion of this course students will have a broad understanding of the most important ideas, personalities, movements, and events in the modern period. Students will also gain skills in analytical thinking, reading, and writing, and learn to analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources of history. This course does require a significant amount of reading and writing. Students are required to write at least ten (10) pages during the course.*

## 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:*

- 1. Identify and recall key information from a historical text and/or a documentary film. (ILO1)*
- 2. Describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event. (ILO1, ILO2)*
- 3. Explain and analyze the key information contained in a primary source document. (ILO1, ILO2)*

## Course Objectives

*Identify the major events and key intellectual, cultural, social, political and economic trends in United States history since 1877, and identify and understand the significance of important personalities and ideas in United States history since 1877. Specifically:*

- 1. Describe the movement of Americans into the trans-Mississippi west after 1877, the development of western industries and its impact on Native peoples;*
- 2. Describe the causes and consequences of the second industrial revolution and the rise of American corporations;*

3. Discuss the main trends in American politics during the Gilded Age including issues of labor, immigration and urbanization;
4. Explain the changing social, gender and class roles and experiences in the late-19th century;
5. Describe the rise of American imperialism and its effects in the Pacific, the Caribbean and Latin America;
6. Discuss the rise of the new political ideas of Populism and Progressivism and explain the changes they brought to American political, economic and social life;
7. Explain the causes, key events and consequences of World War I;
8. Discuss the main social and cultural trends of the 1920s, including the growth of modernism and the concurrent conservatism;
9. Explain the economic situation of the 1920s and the causes of the Great Depression;
10. Discuss the programs and policies of the New Deal, both successes and failures;
11. Describe the causes of World War II, the reasons for United States involvement, the key events of the war, and its effect on the homefront;
12. Discuss the causes of the Cold War and the events that led to the tensions between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. in the post-war world;
13. Explain the policies and events of the Cold War of the 1950s, especially the Korean war, nuclear weapons, American interventionism, and Cuba;
14. Discuss the culture and society of America in the 1950s;
15. Describe the causes, key events, and successes of the black Civil Rights movement;
16. Describe the spread of civil rights activities to other groups (Chicanos, women, gays, Indians) and other areas (personal freedom, environmentalism, political action).
17. Discuss the causes, key events and consequences of the Vietnam War;
18. Describe the post-Vietnam war domestic and foreign policies and events;
19. Discuss the rise and success of the Conservative movement in America beginning in the 1970s;
20. Describe the end of the Cold War and the problems and opportunities facing the United States in the 21st century.

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

US History. Go to <https://openstax.org/subjects/humanities> to access the text.

There is no cost for the digital version. ISBN for the PDF: 978-1-947172-08-1.

Printed copies are available for order through OpenStax or may be purchased at the College Bookstore. ISBN for the print version: 978-1-938168-36-9.

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Assignments and exams are prepared to help you share what you are learning as well as your views/opinions on the material. Assignments may be based on a specific section of the text, on a part of a video, or a class lecture. The content is the important element. While I will seldom ask for exact dates, it will help to remember the timeline of events, as well as people and places. Ideally, this work will also help you look at the material with a critical eye.

Students will be able to submit the assignments in a variety of formats:

**NO-NO!** 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. Also, as stated above, the use of AI is strictly prohibited and may result in submissions receiving a zero grade.

**Success:** Acquiring knowledge of any subject requires focused effort. Sitting in class is simply not sufficient for you to succeed. You must study and participate as much as you possibly can, both in the classroom and outside of class. College guidelines suggest that you study two hours for every hour of class. Since this is a three-hour class, this would mean that you are expected to study or participate in some other learning activity for an additional six hours every week.



*Instructional Methodology: Demonstration, Discussion Group Activity, Individual Assistance Lecture, Distance Learning, Audio/Visual, Computer Assisted Instruction.*

**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. I have adopted a similar requirement. Since this is an intensive course, you should expect to work at least 6 hours a week on homework, reading, and study.*

**Note:** *All History 120 and 121 courses at Imperial Valley College have a writing requirement. Students can expect to write a minimum ten total pages over the course in the semester. To meet this requirement students will be assigned the following assignments:*

**Analytical Essay:** *You will write one analytical research essay on Civil Rights. This assignment is worth 100 points. The other essays are topic-specific and may not happen on the dates noted later in this syllabus. These are opportunities for you to express ideas and opinions on the topic/time period. The points for these are not yet determined and will be added to the Canvas gradebook. They can help you learn about the content as well as possibly raise your grade. Because they are based on class content, I will not accept them late.*

**Exams:** *There will be a minimum of two exams. Each will be worth between 100 and 150 points. Exams will primarily cover lecture material but may also feature questions from your textbook and/or the Canvas modules. Exams may consist of an essay, short identification, multiple choice, and/or matching questions. I recommend students take notes on every key term posted on each module/lesson, as these terms will appear on both quizzes and exams. Exams will pull questions from all sources of material presented to the class. That includes PowerPoints and material posted to the Canvas page or delivered in class during instruction. More details on the exams will be presented in class.*

*The final exam will be cumulative. I will not allow a make-up examination except in instances in which a student has a documented medical emergency. Exams will be held on-campus on the dates indicated on the Course Schedule below.*

**ID Responses:** *There will approximately four of these assignments. Students will be given two or three terms from a module study terms and they will select one of them to write about. These short writing assignments will be completed outside of class meetings. Your first ID Term/Personality Assignment will be due Monday, September 9 and will be a presentation in class*

**Quizzes:** *There will be approximately six quizzes based on the materials and one syllabus quiz. Each quiz is worth approximately 15 points. Quizzes will be completed in class, and are intended to give me a sense of whether you are critically thinking about the assigned material. You may take each quiz once.*

**Student Introduction:** *You are required to write or film a short biography. Your submission must be typed and submitted to the instructor by the third day of the semester, Wednesday, August 14, 2024, or you may be dropped from the course.*

**Short Papers:** *There will be short paper assignments. These papers will analyze historical films, podcasts, news stories, and/or primary source documents. Students need to submit at least four over the course of the semester. Students should expect each short paper to be about two or three pages in total length. Note: Information covered in these assignments will appear on either Exam 1 or Exam 2.*

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

1. *Students must attend class on August 12, 2024 and submit the syllabus quiz by August 14, 2024 or risk being dropped from the course. If a student is dropped from the course, the instructor may choose to add them back to the bottom of the waitlist or refuse re-entry, at his discretion.*
2. *Late assignments are not accepted unless there is a documented medical excuse.*
3. *Participation points may not be made up. Simple attendance is not participation. However, attendance is required if you plan to participate.*



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4. *There will be assignments, quizzes, and exams. The majority of the points will come from these.*
5. *90%+ is an A, 80-89.9% is a B and so forth.*
6. *Exams are not weighted. There is a total of points possible in the class and if the student earns 90% of those points, then the student has earned a 'A' in the course (example).*

### **Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)**

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

### **Course Policies**

*I want you to be successful in this course, at IVC, and in life. I will do my best to aid you in your educational pursuits while you are at IVC, and offer support after you graduate. With that said, you must take responsibility for your education. Registering for a course is the first step, but is the beginning of the work required in order to succeed. Some of you may choose to be historians, while others are here for the credit. Either way, I am glad you are here.*

*To be successful in this course:*

- *Attendance: A student who fails to attend the first meeting (Monday, Aug 12) AND does not complete the first mandatory activity (due Wednesday, August 14) will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that 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 (5) may be dropped. For online assignments, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped. Only absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.*
- *No cheating (this includes using translation services and/or classmates interpreting for classmates)*
- *Attending partial class meetings will be counted as an absence (arriving late/leaving early is not acceptable)*
- *Attending tutoring on campus or via Zoom may be REQUIRED for this course! Plan accordingly.*
- *Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. The first time I see a student using technology of any kind in the classroom, I will ask him/ her to put it away. The second time, I will take the device from the student for the class period. If you are using technology in class, you are not participating and will lose participation points. Exceptions for students with disabilities, who have registered with DSPPS and require such accommodations to be successful.*
- *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.*
- *Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.*
- *Listening: When I am lecturing or playing videos, there should be no talking. Students must be able to listen carefully to the lecture or video to improve their listening comprehension skills. Also, when students are participating in group discussions, they must speak quietly because many students will be talking at the same time.*



- *Leaving: Do not leave the classroom unless it is necessary. It is a distraction to me and your classmates when you leave and come back to the classroom. Leave the classroom for emergencies only. Leaving early because of a bus schedule is unacceptable. Leaving early and/or arriving late will be considered an absence and may result in being dropped from the course. Make sure you handle all personal needs (restrooms, food, phone calls, etc.) before class begins. If you need to leave during the class to take care of a personal need, try to do so with as little disruption as possible. You do not need to ask me for permission.*
- *If you bring drinks into the classroom, please ensure the drink has an appropriate lid. Accidents happen and we do not want to be responsible for ruining the carpet in the classroom or the clothing of another student.*
- *Please refrain from bringing food into the classroom.*

## Land Acknowledgement

*I acknowledge that the land I'm occupying is located on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Paipai, Kumeyaay, Tipai, Kiliwa, Akwa'ala, and Cocopah people. I recognize the impact of historical trauma and dispossession and ongoing systemic inequities. I acknowledge the relationships of care that these Indigenous Nations continue to maintain with this land. Through this Acknowledgement, I celebrate their resilience and strength then and now, and express my ongoing commitment to dismantle silenced histories based on colonization in our sessions and in our communities.*

## 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. 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.

IVC offers several resources for students. Please utilize those resources for your benefit, including, but not limited to:

- Mental health services
- 'Nursing services (health services)
- Kitchen (food)
- Food distribution
- Housing
- EOPS
- Financial Aid
- Library
- Free tutoring and paper review
- IT Help Desk
- DSPS

## Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

*[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]*

<b>Date or Week</b>	<b>Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic</b>	<b>Pages/ Due Dates/Tests</b>
Week 1 August 12	Syllabus & Introduction Required attendance and mandatory activity Frontier, Industry, Labor	Ch 17 & 18
Week 2	Hawaii, Politics, Spanish-American War	Ch. 19 & 20



<b>Date or Week</b>	<b>Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic</b>	<b>Pages/ Due Dates/Tests</b>
Aug 19		Presentation 1
Week 3 Aug 26	1900 – 1914 War!	
Week 4 September 4 (No class Sept 2)	World War I	p. 608-618 Exam 1
Week 5 Sep 9	Impacts of War (1920's) Great Depression	p. 618-631 & Ch. 24 & 25
Week 6 Sept 16	FDR & the New Deal & Leading to World War II	Ch. 26
Week 7 Sept 23	World War II	Exam 2 (Midterm)
Week 8 Sept 30	The Decision of Truman – 1950s Civil Rights	
Week 9 Oct 7	Kennedy, Johnson & the Vietnam War	Paper 1
Week 10 Oct 14	1960s Civil Rights, Social Movements & Changes	Presentation 2
Week 11 Oct 21	Vietnam & Nixon/Watergate	P. 822-837
Week 12 Oct 28	Reagan & HIV	P. 837-867
Week 13 Nov 4	Bush, Education, & Clinton	
Week 14 Nov 13 (No class Nov 11)	Obama & Trump	
Week 15 Nov 18	Trump & Biden	Presentation 3
Week 16 Dec 2 (No class Nov 25/27)	Modern politics & Civil Rights	
Final Exam Dec 4		Final Exam

**\*\*\*Subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***





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**Imperial Valley College**  
**ACADEMIC CALENDAR**  
**2024-2025**

**2024 FALL SEMESTER**  
 AUGUST 2024: Aug 12 - Late Registration; Aug 24 - Instructor Authorization; Aug 25 - Last day to drop; Aug 26 - Census; Aug 26 - Ticketing.  
 SEPTEMBER 2024: Sep 2 - Labor Day (Campus Closed); Sep 6 - Financial Aid Freeze Date.  
 OCTOBER 2024: Oct 17 - Title IV Drop Date.  
 NOVEMBER 2024: Nov 2 - Deadline to drop full-term classes; Nov 11 - Veterans Day (Campus Closed); Nov 25-26 - Campus Open; Nov 27-29 - Thanksgiving (Campus Closed).  
 DECEMBER 2024: Dec 6 - Graduation Petition Deadline; Dec 2-6 - Final Exams.

**2025 SPRING SEMESTER**  
 JANUARY 2025: Jan 5 - Spring Session Classes Begin.  
 FEBRUARY 2025: Feb 19 - Statewide Election Day.  
 MARCH 2025: Mar 19 - Last Day to Register for General Election.  
 APRIL 2025: Apr 20 - Spring Session Classes End.  
 MAY 2025: May 8 - Summer Session Classes Begin.

**2025 SUMMER SESSION**  
 JUNE 2025: Jun 7 - Summer Session Classes Begin.  
 JULY 2025: Jul 14 - Summer Session Classes End.

**LEGEND**  
 Full Semester: Yellow  
 Winter Session: Light Blue  
 Spring Semester: Light Green  
 Summer Session: Light Purple  
 Continuation / Continuation: Light Orange  
 No Classes (Campus Open): Yellow  
 State Holiday (Campus Closed): Red  
 Election Holiday (Campus Closed): Blue  
 Reason (Campus Closed): Grey  
 Crisis, Voting, Registration: Black

**2023 ASPEN PRIZE WINNER**

- August 12** Late Registration. Beginning on first day each class meets, add authorization
- August 24** code from instructor required to register for that class, filled or open.
- August 25** Last day to drop and receive a refund for full-term classes and not receive a “W”.
- August 26** Census
- August 26** Ticketing for parking violations in student spaces on main campus begins.  
 Note: Tickets are issued for reserved (Faculty/Staff), disabled, time limit parking and no-parking spaces year around.
- September 2** Holiday – Labor day. No classes.
- September 6** Financial Aid Freeze Date – Units enrolled as of this date will be used to determine enrollment status for financial aid payment.
- October 17** Return to Title IV Drop Date – Complete withdrawal before this date will require financial aid eligibility recalculation and funds may be owed.
- \*\* November 2\*\*** Deadline to drop full-term classes.
- November 11** Holiday – Veterans Day. No classes.
- November 25 – 26** No classes (Campus Open)
- November 27 – 29** Holiday – Thanksgiving. No classes.
- December 6** Deadline to submit Petition for Graduation for degree to be awarded for Fall 2023. Completed petition must be received in Admissions & Records Office by this date. Students must meet with a Counselor to petition by this date.
- December 2 – 6** Final Exams.