

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2021	Instructor Name:	Shawn Barcroft
Course Title & #:	History 120 — United States History: Prehistory to Reconstruction	Email:	shawn.barcroft@imperial.edu
CRNs #:	Sections: 10273, 10274, 10275, 10278, 10289, and 10292	Office Hours:	M/W 12:30 – 2:30 And by appointment. See Canvas for Zoom details.
Classroom:	Online	Office Phone #:	760-355-6170
Class Dates:	8/16/2021 to 12/11/2021	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
- Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*
ISBN: 9780486284996

- 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 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 and Short Papers	9 x 25*	200 points	B: 89.9 – 80.0%
Exams	2 x 125	250 points	C: 79.9 – 70.0%
Quizzes	7 x 15#	90 points	D: 69.9 – 60.0%
Student Bio	1 x 10	10 points	F: 59.9 – 0%

* Your lowest score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

You will be able to take each quiz twice. Also, your lowest score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

* **and #** This means you may skip one of these assignments if you are sick or busy and your overall grade will not suffer a zero score.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Instructional Methods: This is an asynchronous online course. Both lectures and assignments will be posted in modules to be completed at a time of your own choosing within the given time parameters. Lectures may be in written or video form, and will often include information not covered in your textbook readings. Students may also be required to read and watch material posted on Canvas. Students will be given access to new modules every couple of weeks with tasks to complete. It is important to regularly check Canvas for course updates. Readings are expected to be completed during that of the assigned week. All writing assignments must be submitted on Canvas. Do not email your assignments unless I have given you prior approval. All assignments must be submitted in a PDF or Word.doc format. Do **NOT** submit assignments in other formats. Failure to properly submit an assignment may result in a zero. **Note:** If you use Google.docs simply save your work as a PDF or Word.doc file before uploading to Canvas.

Analytical Essay: You will write one analytical five-paragraph essay on the history of American slavery primarily using your textbook, lecture, and the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*. This assignment will be worth up to 100 points. You can find an assignment prompt in the Important Course Materials module on Canvas outlining what I am expecting you to analyze and discuss. Submissions will be penalized three points for each calendar day the assignment is late. Plagiarism or a similarity score more than 40% may result in an automatic zero.

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 and assigned reading. Below is a basic scoring breakdown of the DB assignments. (For a more specific scoring breakdown I recommend students review the DB grading rubric attached to the assignment 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 should include specific details and examples which demonstrate your understanding of the course material. For each DB you must quote the presented material. Quotes and details must be cited using Chicago Style footnotes at the bottom of your post. (You can find more information on citing on Canvas in the Important Course Materials module.) Please check Canvas for due dates on each DB assignment. **Note:** Be sure to meet the minimum word count.

- **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. Feel free to respond to as many of your peers as you would like as this will help to facilitate a good discussion. **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.

- I will not open a DB early for a single student.
- **I will not allow a DB to be submitted after it has closed on Canvas.**
- You may not submit all of your response and your two peer responses on the same day for full credit.
- **Using material not presented in this course will result in a zero grade.**
- Students must submit their answers 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.**

Exams: There will be two exams. Exams will cover the assigned readings, my lectures, posted material on Canvas, and everything we discuss or watch up to that point in class. 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. Exams may consist of an essay, short identification, multiple choice, and/or matching questions. A study guide will be posted on Canvas at least two weeks before each exam. Exams will be worth between 100 to 150 points each.

Quizzes: There will be six quizzes based on your readings and one syllabus quiz. Quizzes are intended to give me a sense of whether you are critically thinking about the reading material. You may take each quiz twice. If you take the quiz more than once your second attempt will be kept. You can find further details on these quizzes on Canvas. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

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.

Short Papers: These papers will analyze historical films and/or primary source documents. Assignment prompts will be posted in your module. Each submission will be worth up to 25 points. You will not be allowed to submit your response once the assignment has closed on Canvas, so be sure to double-check due and close dates because they may be different. Each submission must have your name, the date, the name of the course, and the word count single-spaced in the top right-hand corner. The title/headline of your paper should be 12-point Times-New Roman centered type and

include the title of the documents, artifact, and/or film being analyzed. Body text must be 12-point Times New Roman, body text must be double-spaced, and the document must have one-inch margins. All submissions must include at least two cited short direct quotes using Chicago Style to receive full credit. Also, cite all other ideas or evidence to avoid accidental plagiarism. Answer the given questions individually in their own numbered paragraph. For example: 1. or 2.

- Please see the Chicago Citation Guide on Canvas for more details.
- Failure to cite your information may lead to a zero grade.
- If your submission has a similarity/plagiarism score of 40% or higher you may receive zero credit—so, use your own thoughts and words.

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.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

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

Note: Short paper assignments listed above are not listed on the schedule below, see Canvas for due/close dates.

Week(s)	Modules and Topics	Textbook Reading	Course Notes
1	Module 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Introduction 		Student Bio Alert: Failure to submit this assignment by the third day may result in student being dropped. Syllabus Quiz
2 and 3	Module 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before 1492 • After 1492 • Beginning of English North America 	Chapters 1 and 2	DB 1 Reading Quiz 1
4 and 5	Module 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English in New England • North America in Crisis 	Chapter 3	DB 2 Reading Quiz 2
6 and 7	Module 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New English Colonies • Early American Slavery 	Chapters 4 and 5	DB 3 Reading Quiz 3
8 and 9	Module 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Revolutionary Era • Exam 1 	Chapter 6	



10 and 11	Module 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age of Passion • War of 1812 	Chapters 7 and 8	DB 4 Reading Quiz 4
12 and 13	Module 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Revolution • Consequences of Westward Expansion and Modernization 	Chapters 9 and 10	DB 5 Reading Quiz 5
14, 15, and 16 Note: No Class Week 15	Module 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peculiar Institution • Social Movements 	Chapters 11 and 12	DB 6 Reading Quiz 6 Analytical Essay—See prompt in Module 1 on Canvas.
17	Module 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil War • Exam 2 	Chapter 14	

Course Policies

- **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 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 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.