



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2024	Instructor Name:	Christopher Cardona
Course Title & #:	HIST 120 – US History: Prehistory-Reconstruction	Email:	Christopher.Cardona@Imperial.edu
CRN #:	10266	Webpage (optional):	www.imperial.edu
Classroom:	413	Office #:	3900
Class Dates:	Aug 12 – Dec 07, 2024	Office Hours:	MTWR 7:30 – 8:00am (in the classroom) & F 7:30-8:30am (in 3900)
Class Days:	Monday & Wednesday (MW)	Office Phone #:	Behavioral & Social Sciences Dept Office (760) 352-8320.
Class Times:	8:00 – 9:25 AM (Rise & Shine)	Emergency Contact:	(760) 481-8481
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	On-campus/on-ground/face-to-face

Course Description

This course is a survey of American history from the end of 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 colonial and early American periods. 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: 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

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 the history of American slavery. 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.*
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*



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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 DSPS 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.

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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

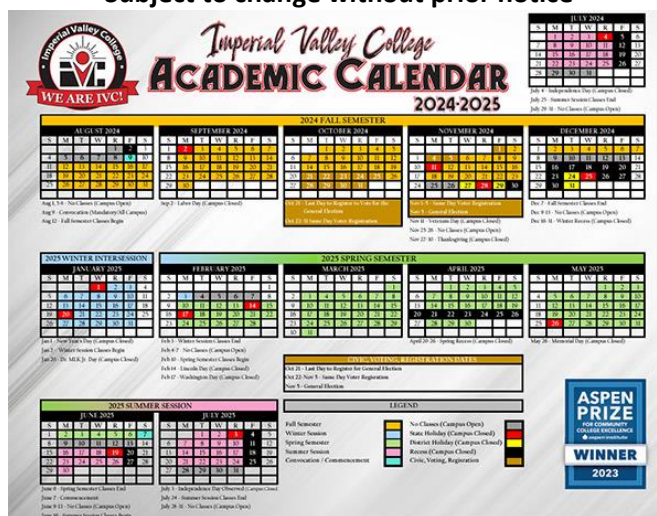
[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 August 12	Syllabus & Introduction Required attendance and mandatory activity	Ch 1
Week 2 Aug 19	Indigenous People & European Colonies	Ch. 2-3 Presentation 1
Week 3 Aug 26	Slavery & Race	Ch 4 – Paper 1
Week 4 September 4 (No class Sept 2)	Dissent & ideas for self-government	Ch 5 Exam 1
Week 5 Sep 9	Revolutionary War	Ch 6
Week 6 Sept 16	A New Republic	Ch 7
Week 7 Sept 23	Slavery & Growth	Ch 8 Exam 2 (Midterm)
Week 8 Sept 30	War of 1812	Paper 2
Week 9 Oct 7	Industry & Expansion	Ch 9
Week 10 Oct 14	Jacksonian	Ch 10-11 Exam 3
Week 11 Oct 21	Slavery and the Way of Life	Ch 12-13
Week 12 Oct 28	Texas & war with Mexico	Presentation 2
Week 13 Nov 4	Gold in California	



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 14 Nov 13 (No class Nov 11)	1850's & Civil War	Ch 15 Exam 4
Week 15 Nov 18	Civil War	Paper 3
Week 16 Dec 2 (No class Nov 25/27)	Civil War & Reconstruction	Ch 16
Final Exam Dec 4		Final Exam

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



- 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.

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