

University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus
History 161- U.S. to 1877
Spring 2017
Section 501, 3 credit hours
ONLINE COURSE

Instructor Information

Instructor: Heather Bakas

Email: hbakas@unm.edu **please include the course & section number in SUBJECT line!**

Course Description

Survey of the economic, political, intellectual and social development of the United States, including the place of the U.S. in world affairs, from 1607 to 1877. We will discuss the history of the United States from the beginnings of European settlement to post-war Reconstruction. Central themes include the growth and maturation of the United States from the colonial era, through revolution, nationhood and continental expansion, the eventual resolution, through Civil War, of the crisis over slavery, and the struggle to re-unify the nation in the Reconstruction Era. **Because this class is fully online, students should also have good keyboarding skills and some familiarity with software. Online courses also require a good degree of initiative, discipline, diligence and organization on the part of the student.**

Required Readings

All books are available at UNM Valencia Campus bookstore as well as from other local and online vendors. There IS an option to get the textbook in ebook format when you register for Connect access.

U.S.: A Narrative History, 7th ed. Volume 1 to 1877, by Davidson, etc., McGraw-Hill w/ one semester Connect access

Dearest Friend: A Life of Abigail Adams by Lynne Withey, Touchstone Books

The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass, St Martin Press

Americans with disabilities statement

This course is hosted on Blackboard Learn, which is ADA compliant.

Qualified students with special learning needs are encouraged to notify the instructor at the beginning of the class about any specific assistance that may be required to support the student's learning. It is the instructor's intent to assist qualified students with special learning needs by making course modifications that will ensure a successful learning experience for the student.

Students are asked to contact the Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506 in order for support staff to assist the instructor with course modifications.

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- describe the varied cultures and peoples who settled North America
- identify the major ideas and events that led to the founding of the United States
- examine the issues of federalism and states' rights
- analyze the effects of nationalism and sectionalism
- discuss the causes and effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction
- gain a greater understanding of contemporary political issues and enhanced interest in citizenship
- develop critical thinking skills in evaluating historical events through the study of primary historical documents, historical writings and images
- experience a sense of personal growth and increased self-esteem based on the knowledge they have acquired

Course Requirements

1) Attendance is required.

For an online class, this means keeping up with the reading, assignments, discussions. Checking in once a week will not be sufficient for this course; expect to log in at least several times per week to keep up with coursework and DAILY to check announcements/email.

The following will be considered excessive absences, and a student **may** be dropped from the course (it is ultimately the STUDENT'S responsibility to make certain that they are dropped since all students still registered at the end of the semester WILL receive a final course grade):

- failure to complete the first week's assignment
- not submitting any assignments for TWO (2) weeks in a row

2) Assignments

There are several types of assignments required for this section. **PLAN for computer problems, system outages, illness, and family emergencies by doing your work BEFORE the last moment it is due. No late work will be accepted! NO EXCUSES -- NO EXCEPTIONS !!**

Videos – Watching the assigned videos, as indicated in each week's Learning Module, can make the textbook reading and other material more comprehensible. This is especially true if you learn better through visual/audio resources. It is HIGHLY recommended that you begin each week by viewing the video assignment which, along with the reading, will be the basis for your weekly discussion posts.

Textbook Reading – Your second task each week is to read the assigned chapter(s) as listed on the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus and in each Weekly Learning Module. An overview of each chapter's Learning Objectives will also be provided to assist in student comprehension.

Supplemental Reading & Writing Assignments – Ongoing reading of the supplemental readers in a timely manner in order to complete assignments based on them. Review the assignments under the “Supplemental Readers” tab on the course home page---this should be done ASAP so that students understand the instructions with plenty of time to read and complete. The due date for the Supplemental Reading assignment is listed on the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus, and there will be a reminder within the appropriate week’s Learning Module.

Discussion – using the Blackboard (Bb) Discussion Board for the course, each student is required to post thoughtful responses to the assignment when indicated in a weekly Learning Module. ALL DISCUSSION POSTS MUST ADHERE TO THE DISCUSSION BOARD GUIDELINES FOUND UNDER THE “Getting Started” BUTTON.

McGraw-Hill’s Connect – weekly optional LearnSmart sessions for review and required Quizzes. The quiz is based on the textbook reading. There is no time limit for taking the quiz, but you may only take it once.

****SEE THE GETTING STARTED IN AN ONLINE COURSE DOCUMENT UNDER THE “GETTING STARTED” TAB FOR DETAILED INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT CONNECT ACCESS & REGISTRATION****

THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE TEACHING STUDENTS HOW TO USE BLACKBOARD LEARN OR CONNECT AND WILL NOT ADDRESS TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES. SEE THE GETTING STARTED IN AN ONLINE COURSE DOCUMENT UNDER THE “GETTING STARTED” TAB FOR DETAILS ON WHERE/HOW TO GET THIS KIND OF HELP.

Final Project – students should refer to the “Final Project” tab for assignment and due date (see Course Schedule at end of this syllabus, and a reminder will also be within the last week’s Learning Module)

3) Academic Dishonesty – Students are expected to do their own work. Cheating and plagiarism are the two most common offenses leading to discipline for academic dishonesty violations.

According to UNM policy, “Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.” This instructor WILL report ALL incidents of plagiarism to the Dean of Students.

4)Classroom Etiquette – When composing email messages or postings to the discussion board, bear in mind that your words convey everything the reader will be able to comprehend. Unlike face-to-face conversations, readers cannot interpret facial expressions, body language, tone of voice, or voice inflection. Without those cues, it is very important to use language very carefully to enhance communication. Flaming, sarcasm, vulgar language and slang are inappropriate. STUDENTS MUST ADHERE TO THE DISCUSSION BOARD GUIDELINES FOUND UNDER THE “GETTING STARTED” TAB.

5)Communication – Students should contact me using UNM email. Email messages will be answered within 24 hours during the week (often sooner); email messages sent after 5PM MST on Fridays will be answered no later than Monday (but, again, often sooner). Allow for this time delay---email me right away when there is a question/concern! ****Please include the course & section number in SUBJECT line!****

Grading Procedure

Quizzes (14 X 30 points each)	= 420 points
Discussions (8 X 30 points each)	= 240 points
<i>Adams/Douglass</i> Assignment	= 100 points
Final Project	= 40 points

The total possible points in the course is 800. To achieve your desired letter grade for the course, you will need to accumulate points on this scale:

720 or more points = A

640-719 points = B

560-639 points = C

480-559 points = D

479 and below = F

When applicable, a Plus (+) or Minus (-) grade will be based on final percentage score, using basic mathematical rules for rounding up

Course Schedule

- The course week begins on MONDAY at 12:01AM Mountain Time (when the Learning Module for that week will become available) and ends on SUNDAY at 11:59PM Mountain Time. All assignment due dates are also Mountain Time.
- MOST weekly assignments are due by 11:59PM on SUNDAY; However, discussion assignments operate differently since their value lies in the ability to read other's ideas and comment on them. Therefore, initial discussion posts will be due by 11:59PM on THURSDAY, to give students time to read and react to them in follow-up posts, which will be due with the other week's assignments by 11:59PM on Friday. See each week's Learning Module for details.
- If you are working on the material, but have not finished at 11:59PM on SUNDAY, Connect will automatically submit your quiz for grading at that time.
- **DUE DATES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE! ALL WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED ON TIME.**

The learning modules inside Blackboard show each week's assignments completely; the schedule below is an outline ONLY. Check the learning modules in Blackboard at the start of every week to be sure you are completing the requirements for the class—remember that there is a "To Do" list provided in each module to give you an overview of that week!

Week 1: 1/16-1/22

Getting Started: Course Information
Wk 1 Discussion: Getting Acquainted
Wk 1 Discussion is ungraded but **REQUIRED – students who do not post will be DROPPED**

Week 2: 1/23-1/29

First Civilizations
Text: Chapter 1
Wk 2 Quiz

Week 3: 1/30-2/5

Old Worlds/New Worlds
Text: Chapter 2
Wk 3 Quiz

Week 4: 2/6-2/12

Colonization & Conflict
Text: Chapters 3-4
Wk 4 Discussion & Quiz

Week 5: 2/13-2/19

18th Century America
Text: Chapter 5
Wk 5 Quiz

Week 6: 2/20-2/26

Approaching Revolution
Text: Chapter 6
Wk 6 Discussion & Quiz

Week 7: 2/27-3/5

Revolution
Text: Chapter 7
Wk 7 Quiz

Week 8: 3/6-3/12

Nationhood: Crisis & Constitution
Text: Chapter 8
Wk 8 Discussion & Quiz

SPRING BREAK: 3/13-3/19 No Coursework

Week 9: 3/20-3/26

The Early Republic
Text: Chapters 9-10
Wk 9 Discussion & Quiz

Week 10: 3/27-4/2

Rise of Democracy
Text: Chapter 11
Wk 10 Discussion & Quiz

Week 11: 4/3-4/9

Reform & Resistance
Text: Chapters 12-13
Wk 11 Quiz

Week 12: 4/10-4/16

Western Expansion
Text: Chapter 14
Wk 12 Quiz
Adams/Douglass Assignment Due

Week 13: 4/17-4/23

Broken Union: Toward Civil War
Text: Chapter 15
Wk 13 Discussion & Quiz

Week 14: 4/24-4/30

Total War: The Civil War
Text: Chapter 16
Wk 14 Discussion & Quiz

Week 15: 5/1-5/7

Reconstruction
Text: Chapter 17
Wk 15 Discussion & Quiz

Week 16: 5/8-5/13

Final Project Due by 11:59PM Thursday, May 11th