



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2020 Summer Program

HIS 105 Introduction to American History

Course Outline

Term: June 22-July 17, 2020

Class Hours: 15:30-18:00 (Monday through Friday)

Course Code: HIS 105

Instructor: Justin Rueb, PhD

Home Institution: University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Office Hours: TBA

Email: jrueb@uwsp.edu

Credit: 4

Class Hours: This course will have 72 class hours, including 40 lecture hours, 10 lecturer office hours, 10-hour TA discussion sessions, 2-hour review sessions, 10-hour extra classes.

Course Description:

This course is an introductory history of what is now the United States of America and will focus on encounters between Native Americans and Europeans from 1492 through Reconstruction in the late 1800s. The course will cover the history and the underlying factors and the myriad of immigrants that led to the discovery, development, and expansion of the American Government and Society through 1900.



Required Textbooks:

Foner, E. (2014), *Give Me Liberty!: An American History*, Seagull Fifth Edition, Volume 1 (W.W. Norton, 2014)

Grading & Evaluation: Course Structure and Policies

Attendance - University Policy is that all students will attend class. Failure to attend class will result in missed DQs and missed information vital to all grading aspects of the course.

Late turn-in policy - The policy for this unlikely event will be a 10% reduction in your score for each day the paper is late. Any exceptional circumstances that may result in an unforeseen late submission (e.g., hospitalization, emergency absence) will be coordinated with your instructor. Missed exams may be rescheduled **within two days** of returning to class. Papers **are due when noted** in the syllabus unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Cell Phones and Electronic Recording Devices - All cell phones are to be silenced. Should a phone ring in class, I will be more than happy to answer that phone and talk to the caller. Anticipated emergency phone calls can be pre-arranged with the instructor, but the call must be answered outside of the classroom. Electronic recording devices for recording lectures must be pre-approved by the instructor.

Academic Honesty – If I suspect that a violation of academic honesty has occurred, I will pursue disciplinary sanction in accordance with NTUST policy.

Course Evaluation

Students will have many opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge of the course. The course is comprised of 1000 points. The course has 20 daily questions, 1 written paper, and 2 examinations. The exams will test student knowledge of the course material and will draw heavily from course discussion and the book. The written paper allows the students to critically analyzed a specific event in world history and its impact on the world.

Classroom Attendance & Participation (CAP) Points (200 points) - CAP points account for 20% of a student's grade in the course. These points, awarded at the end of the semester, evaluates how well and how often a student participates in the class or provides items of interest to the instructor that can assist in another student's learning. These points may also come from pop quizzes or unlisted outside assignments. Active oral participation is essential to do well in this portion of the grading. Should students fail to participate in class, they can expect to receive no better than **130 of 200 points**. You can also expect to be downgraded in this area for more than **two absences**. Two absences or less will result in a 100 out of 100 points for attendance. Attendance is recorded daily and the student is awarded a daily score from (0-Slept in class/did



not attend, 1-Failed to participate/refused to answer question when called upon or late to class, 2-participated when called upon, 3-active, voluntary participation). The participation portion of the grade will be calculated using an instructor-derived formula based on your daily participation score total.

Daily Questions (DQ) 100 points - To encourage daily preparation and to reward those who do prepare, students will answer 1-3 daily question(s) during each of the classes. Each question will be worth 5 points. A total of 20 questions will count toward your overall grade, although it is probable that more than 20 questions may be given during the semester. However, your maximum score for this area cannot exceed 100 points. When answering your daily question, you may use any study notes that you made prior to class. Daily lesson slides that you bring to class do constitute notes. Photocopies of another's notes do not constitute note preparation on your part. You may **not** use your textbook for the daily questions. If you miss a DQ(s), you will simply miss the question(s) for that day.

Midterm Examinations (300 points total) – The midterm tests the daily reading and classroom discussion with 50 objective (multiple choice/fill-in-the-blank) questions at 6 points each. The examination is designed to evaluate a student's knowledge of the subject area. As an added incentive, each student may prepare one 8"x11" piece of paper as a note page for assistance on the midterm.

Final Exam (300 points)

The final exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions worth 6 points a piece and it will be comprehensive. Your work throughout the course should prepare you well for the final. As an added incentive, each student may prepare one 8"x11" piece of paper as a note page for assistance on the final. I have incorporated this policy as it helps students prepare for class and has been demonstrated to be very effective in the retention of course material (generation effect); a primary goal of this instructor

American Influence on the World (100 points-10%)

This paper (typed) will be due **at the start of class**. This paper requires the student to choose one of the singular greatest impact/events in world history. Explain what the event is and why you view it as monumental in nature. You must support your opinion with solid reasoning and factual data, as appropriate. Due to time constraints, this paper may not be resubmitted for an additional grade, so be very conscientious and concise. The paper will be a **maximum of two**



pages, with 1-inch margins. Furthermore, the typewritten paper should be in **Times New Roman font, size 12**. The paper must include a title page, reference page, and any appendices deemed appropriate.

Course Grading Summary	Points	%	Score	Total
CAP Points	200	20	_____	_____
DQ	100	10	_____	_____
Midterm Exam	300	20	_____	_____
Comparison Paper	100	20	_____	_____
Final Examination	300	30	_____	_____
Total	1000	100	_____	_____

THE GRADE GUIDELINES FOR WORLD HISTORY

Since scores on papers and examinations reflect the student's ability, instructor's grading tendencies, and the difficulty of the test, a contract grade schedule for this course would be inappropriate. Therefore, this course will not use a rigid contract for converting percentages to letter grades. However, the course will use the following guidelines to assign points on essays and projects. Although final grade cuts may be associated with lower percentages, these guidelines represent guaranteed grades for achieving these percentage levels.

For example:

A 94-100	B+ 87 – 89.99	C+ 78 – 81.99	D+ 67 – 70.99
A- 90-93.99	B 84 – 86.99	C 74 – 77.99	D 64 – 66.99
	B- 82 – 83.99	C- 71 – 73.99	F Below 64



Course Schedule

Week 1: Colonial Era—Founding a New Nation			Readings
Mon	Jun 22	Europeans, Africans, and Native Americans	13-16, 72-103
Tue	Jun 23	Seven Year's War/Revolution	104-192
Wed	Jun 24	Anxieties of a New Republic/ Creation of a Constitution	193-235
Thu	Jun 25	Factionalism and the Rise of Party Politics	236-248
Fri	Jun 26	War of 1812 and the Era of Good Feelings	Review
Week 2: Jacksonian Democracy-Creating a Republican Society			
Mon	Jun 29	Market Revolution	249-266
Tue	Jun 30	Age of Jackson	280-310
Wed	Jul 1	Race and Gender and Egalitarianism	267-279
Thu	Jul 2	America the Exceptional	280-300
Fri	Jul 3	Midterm Examination	Midterm
Week 3: Sectionalism and Expansion			
Mon	Jul 6	Social Reform	339-365
Tue	Jul 7	Rise of Sectional Tensions	311-339
Wed	Jul 8	Texas, Oregon, California and Beyond	366-377
Thur	Jul 9	Compromise of 1850 and Bleeding Kansas	378-401
Fri	Jul 10	Election of 1860 and Secession	Paper due
Week 4: Civil War and Reconstruction			
Mon	Jul 13	Stalemate and Lincoln's Evolution	403-417
Tue	Jul 14	Turning Points at Vicksburg and Gettysburg	418-440
Wed	Jul 15	Total War and Re-Union	441-461
Thu	Jul 16	Triumph and Tragedy of Reconstruction	462-474
Fri	Jul:17	Final Exam	Final