



## National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

### 2020 Summer Program

### HIS 105 Introduction to American History

### Course Outline

**Term: June 01-July 03,2020**

**Course Code: HIS 105**

**Instructor:Dr. Susan Hinely**

**Home Institution: State University of New York at Stony Brook**

**Office Hours: TBA & By Appointment**

**Credit: 4**

#### **Course Description:**

The course is a survey of United States History beginning with pre-colonial times and continuing through the era of Reconstruction following the Civil War. The major themes will be the dispossession of Indigenous Peoples by Europeans and Euro-Americans, the development and limitations of democracy, and slavery and its legacy for the U.S. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to the historian's craft. They will study what historians do, how they do it, and why. We will read a survey text, a scholarly narrative, and a collection of primary sources. Class will be primarily lecture-based but will require student participation through discussion and in-class exercises. It is expected that:

- Students will gain knowledge of important historical processes of U.S. history to 1877.
- Students will understand how history can be viewed through the lens of race, class, and gender and thus affect how history is interpreted.
- Students will gain an understanding of how historians work by reading primary sources, engaging in historiographical debates, and crafting written essays defending an interpretive argument.



- Students will learn to think more critically, evaluate arguments based on evidence, and challenge long-held assumptions and myths about American history.

### Required Textbooks:

- Jill Lepore, *These Truths: A History of the United States* (Norton, 2018).
- Annette Gordon-Reed, *The Hemingses of Monticello* (Norton, 2009).
- Additional materials to be accessed through Blackboard.

### Requirements:

Examinations: There will be a midterm and a cumulative final examination. Both will be a combination of essay and short answer.

Homework/Exercises/Quizzes: There will be occasional quizzes and exercises assigned through the lecture and in discussion sections.

Short Paper Assignment: Students will respond in essay form to a choice of prompts that involve an integration of the reading assignments with the major themes discussed in lecture.

### Evaluation:

Quizzes and Exercises	20%
Short Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	<u>35%</u>
	100%

### Grading

A+	98-100
A	93-97
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-99
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	59 and under
IN	Incomplete
W	Withdrawn



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### Class Policies:

- Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. All work other than the student's must be cited appropriately. Any instance of academic dishonesty will result in penalties ranging from failure of the assignment, to failure of the course, to ejection from the program.
- No late homework will be accepted and missed exercises and quizzes cannot be made up.
- Each student is expected to prepare for and attend class, take notes and participate in discussion, quizzes, and/or exercises throughout the duration of the class.

### Tentative Course Schedule:

(Primary sources and additional materials will be assigned and distributed weekly.)

#### Week 1: Lepore, 3-72.

- Introduction
- Indigenous America
- Europe and Africa on the Eve of Colonization

#### Week 2: Lepore, 109-149; Gordon-Reed.

- Colonial America
- The Great War for Empire, 1754-1763
- The War for Independence

#### Week 3: Lepore, 153-231.

- The Early Republic
- Commercialization and Industrialization
- Western Expansion
- Midterm Exam

#### Week 4: Lepore, 233-307.

- Reform and Abolition
- Transit, Technology, and the Global Economy
- The Rending of the Republic: The Missouri Compromise to the Civil War.
- Short Paper

#### Week 5: Lepore, 311-360.

- The New Constitution and Reconstruction
- Course Review
- Final Exam