**HISTORY 11 online, HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES TO 1877 (Course Code: 52273)**

## FALL 2012

**INSTRUCTOR:** **Randy Genera**

# Office: CCI - 210 Office Hours: MWF, 9:00 to 9:45am; Tues, Thurs: 11:00am to 12:30pm

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**HISTORY 11 COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will examine the key events, individuals, and forces that shaped the development of the United States from its earliest Pre-Columbian and colonial origins up to the Civil War and the Reconstruction era ending in 1877.

**BASIC SKILLS ADVISORIES FOR HISTORY 11: Eligibility for English 125 and 126**

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR HISTORY 11:** Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the origins of America’s distinctive political traditions and governmental institutions.

2. Analyze the fundamental changes in the American economy from pre-industrial times to the late 1800s.

3. Identify the key trends and movements in American cultural, social and intellectual life through 1877.

4. Analyze the causes and consequences of America’s foreign policy, wars, and its geographical expansion through 1877.

5. Identify the contributions and changing roles of gender and ethnic groups in American history through1877.

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:** Students must access course assignments, lectures, quizzes, and announcements through the course internet site located on the Reedley College Blackboard system. The main element of the course consists of recorded lectures delivered by the instructor which are posted on the course Blackboard site for students to view. The lectures provide students with an educational experience very similar to a face-to-face class, with the flexibility to access course materials at any hour, day or night. The recorded lectures constitute the foundation of this course; viewing them all, in the order specified by the instructor, represents the student’s main responsibility in online History 11.

In addition to the online aspect of the course, this class includes **SIX MANDATORY FACE-TO-FACE CLASS SESSIONS** consisting ofone orientation session and five meetings for exams. All exams will be administered in face-to-face meetings on the Reedley College campus in the classroom designated as CCI 203 (Classroom Complex 1, Room 203).

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| **Mandatory class meetings are scheduled for the following Tuesdays from 2:00 to 3:15pm: August 14, September 4, October 2, October 23, November 13, and December 11 (this the final exam from 2:00 to 3:50pm).**  **If you cannot attend all six face to face meetings, you should not enroll in this class.** |
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**REQUIRED TEXT**: *American History: Connecting with the Past*, *Volume 1*, Fourteenth Edition, by Alan Brinkley (NOTE: the Thirteenth Edition of this text is also acceptable.) **ALL STUDENTS IN ONLINE HISTORY 11 MUST HAVE THIS TEXTBOOK.** Obtain it through the Reedley College Bookstore, an internet purchase site, or any source you can find. A few copies of the Thirteenth Edition are also on reserve in the Reedley College Library for short-term checkout. In any case, **ALL STUDENTS IN THIS COURSE MUST ACQUIRE A COPY OF THIS TEXTBOOK.**

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| **REQUIRED E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR ONLINE HISTORY 11:** In this class, **the email address assigned to you by Reedley College is the only way I will communicate with you.** Reedley College has assigned every student a free email account that consists of the following format: **yourlastname\_studentID@my.scccd.edu**  For example, if I were a student, my email address would be [**genera\_0123456@my.scccd.edu**](mailto:genera_0123456@my.scccd.edu)**.**  If you are already checking and using your “my.scccd.edu” email address, you are ready to receive my emails. If not, you must activate and use your “my.scccd.edu” account right away. To do this, go to the Reedley College homepage on the internet (<http://reedleycollege.edu>). On the homepage, find the tab near the top that is labeled “New and Returning Students.” Click on the tab to open a drop-down menu and find the tab for “Student Email.” By clicking on this item, you will find all the instructions you need to activate your “my.scccd.edu” email address. **To repeat, all students enrolled in online History 11 must use the college-provided “my.scccd.edu” email account, not their personal accounts with other providers such as Yahoo, Comcast, Hotmail, gmail, etc.** |

**THE ONLINE HISTORY 11 BLACKBOARD SITE:** If you are a regular user of the “Blackboard” system, you already know how to login to Blackboard, and this class should appear as a class for you to access. If you are a new user of Blackboard, to access the course site, go to: <http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu>. Login using your seven-digit student ID for your username and password. Go to Personal Information and enter your email address. You will need to be officially enrolled before you will be allowed to enter the site.

**NECESSARY COMPUTER PROGRAMS:** In order to work from home, you should have the following programs (all of which are installed on computers on the Reedley College campus): internet browser (such as Internet Explorer or Netscape); e-mail access; Microsoft Word as a word processing system; Adobe Acrobat Reader.

**NECESSARY COMPUTER SKILLS:** Your enrollment in this class assumes you have the computer skills to function in an online course. You should be able to use Microsoft Word, access and browse the internet, send e-mail, etc.

**IMPORTANT: The instructor cannot provide assistance to students who are unable to follow the class or complete assignments because of computer equipment or skill problems. Each student must assume the responsibility for solving any technical or computer problems encountered during the semester.**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR “ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:”**

Other than the six face-to-face sessions, you will access all the course materials on the internet by logging in to the course site on Blackboard. You will perform all of the required course work (reading the textbook, completing homework assignments, viewing lectures, etc.) **on your own time.** The instructor will not record attendance because there is no weekly “attendance.”

However, this class does require all students to demonstrate that they are **actively participating** in the course. This means contacting the course online site often and completing course assignments on time. Specifically, students must:

1. Login to the course Blackboard site on a frequent and regular basis. **The expectation is that all students will contact the course site at least every two days.**
2. **Make steady and timely progress in completing the reading and homework assignments.**
3. View the course recorded lectures **each week** as the lectures are posted on the course Blackboard site.

These requirements are intended to assure that students are actively engaged in the class and progressing through the course assignments on schedule. **Students who fail to contact the course site or view lectures for more than a week MAY BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS.**

**NOTE:** I teach a regular face-to-face History 11 class on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 12:00 to 12:50pm in Forum 1 on the Reedley campus. If you want to attend some of those live class sessionsto supplement the online lectures you are viewing, you may do so. Just show up in the face-to-face class; see me before class so I can seat you.

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| **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:** The overall course grade for History 11 depends on the components detailed below.   * **FIVE EXAMINATIONS** **(100 points each):** **five** examinations based on assigned readings and course lectures. The fifth (and final) exam is NOT comprehensive. All five exams count toward the overall course grade; **no exam score will be dropped. The first four exams will be conducted on campus in Forum 1, on specific, designated Tuesdays, from 2:00 to 3:15pm in CCI (Classroom Complex 1) Room 203 on the Reedley College campus. The final exam will take place May 15 in CCI 203 from 2:00 to 3:50pm.**      * **ONE TERM PAPER (100 points plus the possibility of bonus points)*:*** The instructor will provide a list of predetermined topics for the term paper; students must choose one topic from this list. Each topic will involve reading one or more specific articles required for the term paper topic. After reading the required articles, students will write a three-to-five page term paper summarizing, comparing, and critiquing the views presented in the articles. No research is required for this assignment; it is a task involving the summary, analysis, and comparison of contrasting ideas in articles by prominent historians.      * **FOUR QUIZZES:** **(40 points):** There will be **four quizzes** conducted on the Blackboard site at arranged times. Each quiz counts for 10 points * **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**: **(60 points total, with the possibility of bonus points):** The instructor will post in the Blackboard ASSIGNMENTS section a Microsoft Word file containing a series of questions for the first chapter of the textbook. The Chapter 1 homework questions file will be a five point “trial run” for students to practice completing the homework and submitting it electronically through the ASSIGNMENTS section. There will be a specific due date for completing the homework.   Students will complete the homework by reading the assigned textbook chapter, finding the required information and typing (and saving) their answers to the homework questions into the blank spaces in the Microsoft Word document.  After the first chapter’s homework is submitted, the remaining homework leading up to Test # 1 will be posted for students to complete. Therefore, the combined homework assignments for Test #1 will count for 15 points, with the possibility of a few bonus points for exceptional work. After Test # 1 is completed, 15 points will be awarded for the homework leading to Test #2; 15 points for Test #3 homework, and 15 points for Test #4 homework. **The homework for Test #5, which is the final exam, will be treated as an extra credit assignment.**  **THE GENERAL RULE ON READING AND HOMEWORK:** Students need to **(1) read at least one chapter of the textbook per week** and (**2) complete the related chapter homework questions at the same time**. The homework answers should reflect a thorough knowledge of the information in the textbook chapters. |

**HOW YOUR OVERALL COURSE GRADE IS CALCULATED:**

Total points for the semester: 700. The 700 points include the following elements:

* 500 points (five examinations) +
* 100 points (term paper) +
* 40 points (four quizzes) =
* 60 points (four sets of textbook chapter homework questions, with each set counting for 15 points)

Based on 700 points as the maximum for the class, students who earn 90% or more of the possible points will receive an A; 89% to 80% equals a B; 79% to 70% represents a C; 69% to 60% amounts to a D; 59% or lower translates into a failing grade.

**BE AWARE OF THE DROP DEADLINE DATE.** Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade until ***Friday, October 12, 2012***. After that date everyone enrolled in the class **WILL RECEIVE A LETTER GRADE.**

**ACCOMMODATION:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**CLASS POLICY ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**: In this class, cheating on an exam or quiz will result in a grade of “zero” points on the exam or quiz. In the case of a plagiarized term paper, the student will receive an “F,” typically with a score of “zero.” Students who plagiarize homework assignments will be assessed a 25 point penalty.

**POLICY REGARDING TEST AND QUIZ MAKEUPS:** Tests represent the primary basis for your grade in this course. The instructor will notify you well in advance as to the date of an upcoming test. It is your responsibility to be prepared and present in class on the day of a scheduled exam.THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY FOR THIS COURSE.Nothing should prevent you from taking an exam on the scheduled day except the most urgent emergency. However, if you must miss a test,

Contact the instructor several days IN ADVANCE to make other arrangements.

**IF YOU MISS AN EXAM OR QUIZ:**

1. No test scores are dropped in this class. Contact the instructor right away and set a time to complete the make up assignment. **ANY MISSED EXAM, QUIZ, OR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT MUST BE MADE-UP WITHIN ONE WEEK.**
2. Makeup exams will be different from thescheduled test. It will cover the same chapters, but it will consist of essay questions and fill-in-the-blank questions which may be more difficult for some students. Your best chance for success is to be in class on the day of the regular exam.

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| **FINAL COMMENTS AND KEYS TO SUCCESS:** My goal is to take the best elements of a traditional face-to-face History 11 class and present them to students in an online format. I will do my utmost to make this class dynamic, interesting and understandable. I will also respond to your questions or concerns as quickly as possible.  You need not be a history major or have any special prior knowledge of American history to perform well in this class. All the information you need for success is available in the course materials prepared for this course. Every student can succeed by working steadily on the assignments (that is, reading the textbook, completing the homework, and viewing the recorded course lectures on Blackboard every week). If you have questions or need an explanation, contact me via email. Students in an online class must show a high degree of dedication, motivation, and self-reliance. I am confident that students who enroll in this online class possess all those qualities. Let’s work together to make this a meaningful and productive semester. Welcome to History 11. |



