

SYLLABUS FOR ONLINE HISTORY 12 (HIST-12-54611)

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865, **SPRING 2021**

INSTRUCTOR: Randy Genera **Office:** CCI - 210 **Office Hours:** Most communication will take place via email. Students who wish to meet with the instructor in person may do so by appointment or by arranging for a live internet-based conference with the instructor using the Conferzoom feature on the course on Canvas.

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HISTORY 12 COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course traces the development of the United States from 1865 to the present, evaluating the events, individuals, and factors that have transformed America into a complex, multicultural, twenty-first century global superpower.

HOW THIS ONLINE CLASS WILL FUNCTION: This course is 100% online. No face-to-face meetings are required as part of this class. Students will access all of the required learning materials for this web-based version of History 12 through the course website hosted on the **CANVAS** learning management system used by the State Center Community College District. The materials include recorded lectures (videos of in-class lectures), homework assignments, quizzes, tests, and an essay assignment.

TEXTBOOK: This course is designated as a **FREE TEXTBOOK COURSE**. The textbook for this course is a **free online textbook PROVIDED ON THE COURSE CANVAS WEBSITE**. Students may access every assigned chapter of the textbook through the Modules file on the course website. There is no need to download the textbook. Students can access and read the textbook directly on the course website on Canvas.

TO REPEAT: THE COURSE TEXTBOOK IS FREE AND PROVIDED TO STUDENTS ON THE COURSE CANVAS SITE. There is no need to buy an expensive printed textbook for this course. The purpose of the free online textbook is to make the class affordable and accessible to a wide range of students.


IF YOU PREFER A TRADITIONAL TEXTBOOK: Some students prefer to use a personal, printed textbook for a college course. For students who want to use a traditional printed text for this course, the recommended textbook is *American History, Volume 2*, by Alan Brinkley, published by McGraw-Hill. Several editions of this textbook (the 15th, 14th, or 13th edition) are acceptable for this course. Students can find affordable copies of the textbook by searching the internet.

CRITICAL TASK TO BE COMPLETED BY THE THIRD DAY OF THE SEMESTER: By the end of Wednesday, January 13, 2021, all students enrolled in online History 12 must complete a specific **"CHECK-IN" PROCESS** to verify that they are active students in this course. The check-in process requires students to (1) contact the course website; (2) read the course syllabus; and (3) view the orientation video that is required for this course. Students may access the Check-In Process by logging into the Course Home Page on Canvas or through the Modules file on the course Canvas site. **STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THESE "CHECK-IN" PROCESS BY WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13 IN ORDER TO REMAIN ENROLLED IN THE COURSE.**

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR HISTORY 12: Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the changing characteristics of American political and governmental institutions since 1865.
2. Analyze the fundamental changes in the American economy since 1865.
3. Identify the key trends and movements in American cultural, social and intellectual life since 1865.
4. Analyze the causes and consequences of America's foreign policy, wars, and rise to global prominence since 1865.
5. Identify the contributions and changing roles of gender and ethnic groups in American history since 1865.
6. Demonstrate the ability to interpret primary and secondary sources, discern between the two and to compose an argument that uses them, as appropriate, for support.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS FOR ONLINE HISTORY 12:

 **VIEW THE RECORDED LECTURES POSTED ON CANVAS:** Each week the instructor will post several recorded lectures on Canvas for students to view. **The recorded lectures are the most important learning activity in this course. Viewing the recorded lectures is a mandatory activity in this course.** Every student must have the necessary technology and software to view these lectures and capture their information.

Students need to spend **two to three hours per week viewing the recorded lectures**. The recorded lectures consist of original lessons (with power point slide and video clips) delivered by the instructor to a recent face-to-face History 12 class. The recorded lectures make the student's experience in this online course similar to a face-to-face class, except that you will have the flexibility to access course materials any hour, day or night.

MORE ON THE RECORDED LECTURES: The recorded lectures represent the primary learning tool for students in this course. The lectures provide students with essential information needed to answer questions on quizzes, tests, and homework assignments. The lectures are the key to success in this course. Viewing the lectures is NOT a graded activity. **HOWEVER, IN THIS COURSE, IT IS EACH STUDENT'S PRIMARY TO VIEW THE ASSIGNED RECORDED LECTURES EVERY WEEK.**

(Notice: It is prohibited to reproduce or transmit the recorded lectures contained in this course without the express permission of the instructor and the State Center Community College District)

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS FOR ONLINE HISTORY 12: The overall course grade for History 12 depends on the components detailed below.

FIVE TESTS (100 points each): There are **five major tests** in this course. Each test consists of approximately 65 multiple-choice questions. The test questions are based on the information provided in recorded lectures posted each week on the course Canvas site. Reading assignments from the online textbook and Test Workbook assignments (described below) supplement information from the recorded lectures. The fifth (and final) test is NOT comprehensive. All five tests count toward the overall course grade. **NO TEST SCORE WILL BE DROPPED.**

• **All five tests will be take place online on the course Canvas site.**

ANALYTICAL ESSAY (140 points plus the possibility of 14 bonus points): This is a five to seven page analytical writing assignment. For this assignment, students must choose one topic from a list of topics provided by the instructor. Each topic will involve reading specific articles. After reading the required articles, students will write a five to seven page essay summarizing, comparing, and evaluating 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 and journalists. The instructor will post the required articles for each topic on the course Canvas site.

FIVE QUIZZES: (60 total points): There will be **FIVE quizzes** conducted on the course website at arranged times. Each quiz counts for 12 points

“WORKBOOK” ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE FIVE TESTS OF THE SEMESTER: (Five workbooks @ 20 points each = 100 total points, with the possibility of bonus points): Find the ASSIGNMENTS file on the course Canvas site. Look for the item labeled **“TEST WORKBOOK ASSIGNMENTS.”** The instructor will post a workbook for each test. Each workbook, presented in the form of a Microsoft Word document, lists a series of homework questions relating to the recorded lectures and reading required for each of the five major tests this semester.

▪ To complete the Workbook assignments, students need to view the assigned recorded lectures posted on Canvas and read the textbook chapters indicated by the instructor. From these sources, students will find the information to answer questions in the Workbook, typing (and saving) their answers into the workbook document (a Microsoft file). **By answering the workbook questions, students are earning points and also learning the specific information they will need to answer questions on each major test.**

• Specific due dates will be given for each workbook assignment. Students will submit their completed questions to the instructor through the course website on Canvas. The completed questions for the textbook chapters leading to Tests # 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 will count for 20 points each for a total of 100 points.

WEEKLY TIME COMMITMENT FOR ONLINE HISTORY 12: Students can anticipate the following tasks each week of the semester: (1) View three hours of recorded lectures on the course website; (2) Read one chapter of the online textbook; (3) complete the workbook questions using information from the recorded lectures and reading.. **ESTIMATED HOURS PER WEEK: SIX TO NINE HOURS OF LECTURE VIEWING, READING, AND HOMEWORK.**

HOW YOUR OVERALL COURSE GRADE IS CALCULATED: There are 800 total points in this course, including:

- 500 points (five examinations) +
- 140 points (analytical essay) +
- 60 points (five quizzes) +
- 100 points (five sets of Test Workbook questions; each set counts for 20 points)

Based on 800 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 an F.

ACCESSING THE ONLINE HISTORY 12 WEBSITE: This course will be presented on the **“Canvas”** internet learning management system. The entry portal for Canvas is <https://sccd.instructure.com> If you are uncertain about how to log into Canvas, look for instructions on the websites of each campus of the State Center Community College District. Follow the instructions for accessing the online History course on Canvas.

THINGS YOU NEED FOR THIS ONLINE COURSE: This is a 100% online course. All assignments (quizzes, tests, the essay, and workbook assignments) take place in the online mode. In order to function in this course, every student must have a reliable internet connection and a dependable device to access all course materials posted on the course Canvas site. It is each student's responsibility to have the necessary equipment, software, internet connection, and knowhow to complete the assignments in this course.

REQUIREMENTS FOR "ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:"

Assignments, announcements, quizzes, exams, and lectures will be available by logging in to the course website on Canvas. The instructor will not record attendance because this course requires no face-to-face attendance.

However, **this class does require all students to demonstrate that they are actively participating** in the course.

To demonstrate "active participation" in this course, students must:

- (1) Login to the course website and check for course-related emails at least every two days.**
- (2) Make steady and timely progress in completing the reading and Test Workbook assignments.**
- (3) View the recorded lectures each week on the course website. **STUDENTS SHOULD SPEND AN AVERAGE OF TWO TO THREE HOURS PER WEEK VIEWING THE RECORDED LECTURES.****

These requirements are intended to assure that students are actively engaged in the class and performing the required assignments in the course, just as would be required in a face-to-face class. **Students who fail to demonstrate "active participation" run the risk of being dropped from the course.**

BE AWARE OF THE DROP DEADLINE DATE. Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade until Friday, March 12, 2021. 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 typically result in a grade of "zero" points on the exam or quiz. In the case of a plagiarized term paper or homework assignment, the student will typically receive a score of "zero" points on the assignment. Instances of cheating or plagiarism will be referred to the appropriate State Center Community College administrators for consideration of disciplinary procedures.

IF YOU MISS AN ASSIGNMENT: The due dates of all assignments for this class (tests, quizzes, essay, and test workbook assignments) will be announced via emails and alerts posted on the course website. Below are policies regarding "missed" or late assignments.

- (1) Late workbook assignments may be accepted, for reduced credit, for a brief period after the official due date.
- (2) Every quiz will be posted for several days. When the quiz expires, its expiration is final. There will not be a makeup opportunity for an expired quiz.
- (3) The essay assignment will have an early "bonus" due date and "on time" due date. Late essays will be accepted for a few days with points deducted for lateness. After the late deadline expires, the assignment is closed.
- (4) **Concerning the five major tests: All test scores count in this course; no test score is dropped.** Tests will be posted online for several days in order to provide all students with ample time to take the test. Each test will expire at a specific time announced by the instructor. When a test expires, it will not be posted again.

If you miss a test: Students who miss an exam must contact the instructor immediately to arrange for a makeup exam. The makeup exam must be taken with two days of the expiration of the regular exam. The makeup exam will be different from the "regular," scheduled test. It will cover the same chapters, but it will consist of short-answer essay questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, and multiple-choice questions. No makeup exam is available for the final exam (Test # 5). Students must take the final exam while it is available online during finals week.

FINAL COMMENTS AND KEYS TO SUCCESS: 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 to earn a strong grade is available on the course Canvas site.

Every student can succeed by working steadily on the assignments each week. View the recorded lectures, read the assigned textbook chapters, complete the workbook assignments, and use the study guide materials provided for every test. If you do these things, you should be successful in online History 12.

Welcome to History 12. Let's make this a meaningful and successful semester.