

Course Syllabus

American History 1 – HIST 1301

Summer 2019 (June 03, 2019 – August 31, 2019)

Instructor Information

Instructor: Vu Luyen
Telephone: 0908 333933
E-mail: luyenv@saigontech.edu.vn
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Identification

Location: Room 201, SaigonTech Tower
Class Times: Thu, 7:30–11:45
Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Hours: 3
Total Course Contact Hours: 48
Type of Instruction: Lecture

Course Description

A survey of U.S. history from the Colonization years through Reconstruction. This course explores the period from the time of first contact between Europeans and the original inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere through the events of the Civil War. Topics will include the various cultural and biological exchanges between New and Old World civilizations, the evolution of colonial communities within North America, revolutionary ideology and the War for American Independence, industrialization and technological revolution, antebellum reform movements, and the struggle over the institution of slavery. Special emphasis will be on the American Revolution, the formation of a republic under the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion and the Civil War. When possible, the topics will include the causes and effects of each significant event. History 1301 fulfills three hours of the state-required six hours of United States History.

Course Pre-requisites:

Must be placed into college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and college-level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349 as a co-requisite).

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

1. Students will evaluate historical developments in an essay.
2. Students will read primary source documents.
3. Students will analyze historical evidence by writing an analytical essay.
4. Students will explain the importance of chronology and how earlier ideas and events shaped later events.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Explain Colonization
2. Identify the Causes and effects of the American Revolution
3. Explain the origins and impact of Slavery
4. Analyze the formation of the Republic

5. Summarize the effects of Expansion and Innovation
6. Explain Nationalism and Sectionalism
7. Discuss the Civil War
8. Evaluate the effects of Reconstruction

Learning Objectives (LO) for Students

Critical Thinking Skills - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

Communication Skills - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication

Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making Guidelines

Required Course Text

The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People – 8th edition, by Alan Brinkley, Andrew Huebner, and John Giggie. McGraw-Hill, 2016.
ISBN-13: 978-1259287121

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Saigon Tech policy stipulates that if a student misses 12.5% of class hours of instruction, then he/she will be dropped from the course at the instructor's discretion.

Email and Discussion policy

All personal questions or announcements for your instructor should be directed to him by email, or in person before/after class, or during an appointment meeting.

You need to check your school email before every class meeting for possible course updates or changes.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, is a serious academic offense. Now that SaigonTech has recently circulated an official policy on academic dishonesty, students are advised and expected to strictly observe the policy.

If you have questions about cheating and/or plagiarism, ask your instructor as soon as possible. Any instance of plagiarism will earn a **zero** for the entire task (assignment, group discussion, mid-term speech, and final speech presentation) and, in severe cases, result in an F for the course or more serious consequences.

To prevent plagiarism, all students will be required to cite all sources used for their speechmaking, to quote and to paraphrase appropriately.

Assignments & Exams

Periodic Quizzes

Throughout the course, each student will be given 10 (ten) quizzes on the major topics of the course. The quizzes aim at testing students' memory and understanding of the chronology, land, people, ideas, and events that made up the American history from the pre-colonial time and the aftermath of the Civil War.

There are normally no make-up quizzes. You will get a zero as a result of your absence on the quiz day unless you have a reasonable excuse with proper documentation.

Mid-term Exam

The mid-term exam is in the form of a medium essay (400-500 words). The purpose of the exam is to test students' memory and writing skills related to analyzing key peoples, events, documents, and structures that are mentioned in the first half of the course. Students are expected to effectively apply their communications and critical thinking to their writing on the assigned/selected essay questions.

The questions will be made known to the students prior to the examination date. Each student will then select one question and prepare necessary notes – not a complete essay – to address the question. The notes shall be used for their development of the complete essay to be written on the test sheet that will be provided by Saigon Tech.

Final Exam

The final exam is, similar to the midterm exam, in the form of a medium essay (400-500 words). The purpose of the exam is to test students' memory and writing skills related to analyzing key peoples, events, documents, and ideas that are mentioned in the second half of the course. Students are expected to practically apply their communication and critical thinking skills to their writing on the assigned/selected essay questions.

The questions will be made known to the students prior to the examination date. Each student will then select one question and prepare necessary notes – not a complete essay – to address the question. The notes shall be used for their development of the complete essay to be written on the test sheet that will be provided by Saigon Tech.

Grading Scheme

Grade	Final Score
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

The passing grade is C.

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on the following:

Periodic Quizzes (10 items x 10 quizzes)	100 points	40 %
Midterm Exam (Essay Writing)	100 points	30 %
Final Exam (Essay Writing)	100 points	30 %
Total	300 points	100 %

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics / Assignments/ Exams	Notes on assignments
1	Jun 06	Syllabus explanation - Course Orientation Chapter 1 - The Collision of Cultures	
2	Jun 13	Chapter 2 - Transplantation and Borderlands Quiz 1 (chapter 1)	
3	Jun 20	Chapter 3 - Society and Culture in Provincial America Quiz 2 (chapter 2)	
4	Jun 27	Chapter 4 - The Empire in Transition Quiz 3 (chapter 3)	
5	July 11	Chapter 5 - The American Revolution Quiz 4 (chapter 4)	
6	July 18	Chapter 6 - The Constitution and the New Republic Midterm Examination	
7	July 25	Chapter 6 (continued) Chapter 9 - Jacksonian America Quiz 5 (chapter 5)	
8	Aug 01	Chapter 9 (continued) Chapter 10 - America's Economic Revolution Quiz 6 (chapter 6)	
9	Aug 08	Chapter 10 (continued) Chapter 13 - The Impending Crisis Quiz 7 (chapter 9)	
10	Aug 15	Chapter 13 (continued) Chapter 14 - The Civil War Quiz 8 (chapter 10)	
11	Aug 22	Chapter 14 (continued) Quiz 9 (chapter 13) Final Examination	
12	Aug 29	Chapter 15 - Reconstruction and the New South Quiz 10 (chapter 14)	

Note : To ensure the learning quality of the course, the instructor reserves the right to make necessary modification to this syllabus without prior notice.