

Framingham State University
Syllabus
HIST 151 US History to Reconstruction
Summer 2017

Credit: 4
Teaching Hours: 60 hours
Time: 2 hours/day, Mon-Friday

“Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardor and attended with diligence.” Abigail Adams, First Lady.

Catalog Description

A political, economic, social, and cultural survey of American history from the Age of Discovery to Reconstruction. The course examines the development of the United States within a global context and covers the movement of the colonies toward revolution and independence, the formulation of the Constitution, and the conflict between nationalism and sectionalism culminating in the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Goals

This class surveys American history to 1877 in a global context. Lectures, readings, class discussions and other assignments address political, economic, social, and cultural changes that occurred.

Students will

- *demonstrate greater understanding of significant economic, social and political changes in America to 1877.
- *improve written and verbal communication skills.
- *demonstrate basic knowledge of the practice of history.

Why study history? We are all historians to one degree or another: by telling a friend what you did during the summer you convey history; by posting pictures or comments on a social networking site you create history; by graduating from high school; and married/divorced you leave historical records. In other words, we are all part of history. By studying the past, we can better comprehend current events such regional conflicts in the US, racism, and the animosity between the political parties. While it is impossible to predict what will happen in the future, study of the past often reveals important trends and/or possibilities. Knowing history will help us understand the present.

Required Book

Foner, Eric. *Give Me Liberty!* Vol. 1, 4th edition.

Articles on Blackboard

Gamber, Wendy. "Tarnished Labor, the Home, the Market, and the Boarding House in Antebellum America." *The Journal of the Early Republic*, 2002.

Robertson, Andrew. "Look at this Picture...And on this! Nationalism, Localism, and Partisan Images of otherness in the US, 1787 to 1820." *American Historical Review*, 2001.

Tiedemann, Joseph. "Presbyterianism and the American Revolution in the Middle Colonies." *Church History*, 2005.

Classroom Etiquette

Please silence your phones and put them away. I will ask you to leave class if I see you using your phone. You are welcome to use laptops or tablets for taking notes only. If I suspect that you are using them for other things, I will ask you to turn it off.

Grading

Grades: 100 Points Possible. As noted above points will be deducted for daily work not turned in. Late work will be accepted at my discretion, but points will be reduced. I will make exceptions if you provide documentation to support your request.

Mid-term—35 points

Final Exam—35 points

Attendance and homework assignments—30 points

A 100-94, A- 93-90

B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80

C+ 79-77, C 76-74, C- 73-70

D+ 69-67, D 66-64, D- 63-60

F 59

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism involves the failure to indicate the source of ideas or information. In not giving credit to your sources, you are claiming the ideas or information as your own. Plagiarism includes: copying from a source, paraphrasing a source, obtaining a paper or portion thereof from a source other than yourself (e.g., a peer, web site), purchasing a paper even if an original work, or any other means of completing a written assignment not of one's own efforts. Plagiarism is grounds for course failure and expulsion from university.

Weekly Schedule

At the end of each week, students will write an essay as part of their attendance grade.

Week 1—Peoples of North America, European Settlement, and English dominance, Foner chapters, 1-3.

Week 2—Colonial economy, slavery, imperial ties, and the coming of the American Revolution, Foner chapters, 4-6. Class discussion of article: Tiedemann, Joseph. "Presbyterianism and the American Revolution in the Middle Colonies." *Church History*, June 2005.

Week 3—War, Constitution and the early Republic, Foner chapters, 7-9. Class discussion of article: Robertson, Andrew. "Look at this Picture...And on this! Nationalism, Localism, and Partisan Images of otherness in the US, 1787 to 1820." *American Historical Review*, 2001. Mid term exam.

Week 4---Democracy and slavery in the US, 1815-1840, Foner chapters, 10-12. Class discussion of article: Gamber, Wendy. "Tarnished Labor, the Home, the Market, and the Boarding House in Antebellum America." *The Journal of the Early Republic*, 2002.

Week 5---The American Civil War. Foner chapters, 13-14.

Week 6—Civil War concluded, and Reconstruction, Foner chapter, 15. Final exam.