

United States History to 1877

HSTA 101 – United States History to 1877
Adjunct Professor Shane Fairbanks
Dual Enrollment Billings Central Catholic High School
Montana State University-Billings
3 Credits
Fall 2019



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Course Description

Surveys American history from the establishment of the colonies to the end of the Reconstruction period after the Civil War. Includes such topics as the English political and cultural heritage, independence, creation of the Constitution, early national period, increasing democracy, economic problems, manifest destiny, slavery, sectionalism, disunion, war, and reunion.

Course Objectives

- Establish a chronology of major historical events in the United States to 1877.
- Explain the changing geopolitical presence of the United States to 1877.
- Define the importance of key individuals, events, developments, and ideas in United States history to 1877.
- Identify the social, economic, and political forces at work in the evolution of the United States to 1877.
- Recognize and describe the significance of some of the Constitutional, social, political and cultural changes in the United States to 1877.
- Analyze complex historical sources and materials (both primary and secondary) and reach conclusions based on interpretations of those materials.
- Writing historically based on interpretation of sources, discussions, and course materials.

Texts

Faragher, John M., Buhle, Mari Jo, Czitrom, Daniel, et. al., *Out of Many: A History of the American People*, 8th ed. Boston: Pearson, 2015.

Punke, Michael, *The Revenant: A Novel of Revenge*. New York: Picador, 2015.

Whitehead, Colson, *The Underground Railroad: A Novel*. New York: Random House, 2016.

Fairbanks, Shane, *Civil War Textbook: Primary and Secondary Sources* (unpublished)

Texts (Purchase on your own)

Fisher, David, *Bill O'Reilly's Legends & Lies: The Patriots*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2016.

World Class Experience

As a student in this class and as your instructor, we will demonstrate a World Class character through Faith, Family Spirit, and Academic Excellence. We will show our Faith through respectful treatment of one another, integrity and honesty in our work, and living the teachings of a Christ-centered discipleship. We will show our Family Spirit through communication, empathy, and collective accountability. We will show our Academic Excellence through passion for being life-long learners, active participation in the learning experience, and maintaining high expectations of others and ourselves.

Timeliness Requirement

Timeliness is next to godliness; don't incur the wrath of the Greek gods! Habitual tardiness will first result in strenuous labor (either pushups or afterschool desk cleaning), and will then result in removal from the class. DON'T BE LATE!

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones WILL NOT be allowed during class time unless your instructor has allowed it for an emergency use. Cell phones must be placed in the storage area in class for the duration of class on silent mode.

iPad/Laptop Technology Agreement

All of our class documents and textbook will be available online for download onto your school iPads. Your device will be subject to the regulations and stipulations stated in the student handbook, your professionalism with technology will be expected at all times during class. *Individuals who misuse their technology during class time will face strenuous labor, unpaid indentured servitude, grade deductions, and you could be removed from the class.*

Online Resources

Website: <http://fairbanksonline.net>

Moodle Enrollment Password: **TeamAmerica**

Plagiarism Agreement: Turnitin.com

- All of your typed assignments will be turned in via Moodle and Turnitin.com
- Scans websites, journals, and other sources (including other student writing posted in D2L) and can and will detect evidence of plagiarism instantly.
- It is ruthless, fascist, and unforgiving. As such, academic honesty is expected of all students. The categories of prohibited activities specifically of concern are cheating and plagiarism. Neither will be tolerated on examinations, papers, or any other academic activity.
- Cheating is broadly defined as any activity, method or technique which gives a student unfair advantage over other students in the completion of evaluated work or which substitutes work done by another for one's own.
- Plagiarism involves submitting as one's own the words and/or ideas of others without proper and customary acknowledgement of one's sources.
- The penalty for violations of academic honesty is FAILURE IN THE COURSE and remanding to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for possible expulsion from the university. Don't cheat or plagiarize, it isn't worth it.

Types of Assessment:**In Class and Online Objective Exams**

Exams will be given upon the completion of each unit. A unit could cover only one topic, or it could cover a combination of two or more topics. Exams will usually be delivered in class or as an online assessment through either Moodle. Objective exams are usually a combination of multiple choice and matching questions.

Short Answer Essays & Response Papers

As you read each of the assigned texts, you will be expected to respond to the texts with various forms of written responses. **As you read the chapter, get the IDEA:**

- Identify the important names and events
- Determine the main point/thesis
- Evaluate the significance
- Assess the concept (what might be testable information)

Mock Trials, Group Debates & Panel Discussions

The students will need to prepare an introduction, arguments both pro and con, and closing arguments. They will need to dress and act in a professional manner, and be able to use the entirety of the period. These will be graded on professional conduct, effectiveness of arguments, time qualifications, and overall group effort.

Graded Discussions

Students will need to be prepared to discuss assigned reading in detail and with examples. A grade will be applied based upon your ability to express your ideas and arguments based upon the texts. This is no time to be quiet! So be prepared to get over your shyness and make yourself heard!

Thematic Elements

We will cover the following thematic elements in United States history during our lectures and discussions, and your final position paper will need to focus upon a specific area of one of the following thematic elements:

- Social and Political Changes
- The Fight for Equality
- Civil Liberties (Defense of and Infringements Upon)
- American Power and Global Policing

Summary of Topics

**Note that these topics are subject to some changes depending on the availability of time and their importance. Primary and secondary sources will be assigned for each topic listed below, although they may not be specifically cited in the list.

Topics 1&2 – Worlds Collide: From “Discovery to the Colonies

Faragher, Chapters 2-5 & selected documents

- Pre-Columbian Indian Civilization
- Worlds Collide: European First Contact
- The Columbian Exchange
- Founded Upon Smoke: The Virginia Colony
- The Wordy Shipmates: Theocracies in the New World
- Southern Colonies: Built on Slavery
- The Devil in New England: Salem Witch Trials
- Colonial Wars

Topic 3 – “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”: The American Revolution

Faragher, Chapters 6-7, *Legends and Lies: The Patriots* & selected documents

- From Empire to Independence
- Taxes, Tyranny, and Tenacity: Defense of American Rights
- From Resistance to Open Rebellion: The Road to War
- The Road to Independence in Blood and Ink
- A Rabble in Arms and Washington’s Secret War
- Turning the World Upside Down: American Victory
- Blatant Hypocrisy or Social Revolution?

Topic 4 – A Nation Founded on Compromise

Faragher, Chapters 8-9, 11 & selected documents

- A Nation Founded Upon Compromise: The Constitutional Convention
- Launching the New Nation: The Washington Presidency
- A Lesson in the Abuse of Power: Alien & Sedition Acts
- Political Revolution of 1800
- Jefferson’s Empire of Liberty – Lewis and Clark
- America’s Second War for Independence: War of 1812

Topic 5 – America’s Manifest Destiny

Faragher, Chapters 10 & 14, *The Revenant, The Underground Railroad* & selected documents

- Hugh Glass and the Fur Trappers of the West
- King Cotton & Antebellum Slavery
- The Bonds of American Slavery: Slave Rebellions

- Westward the Course of Empire: Manifest Destiny and the Mexican American War

Topic 6 – The American Cataclysm: Civil War

Faragher, Chapters 15-16, *Civil War Textbook*

- Averting Cataclysm: Compromise of 1850
- For the Soul of the Nation: John Brown, Lincoln, and Secession
- “A Great Slaughter Pen”: The Civil War Begins
- Tyrant or Savior?: Lincoln’s Decisions in War
- Conditions in War: Women and Field Hospitals
- “A Free Man’s War”: Emancipation
- “The Gray Floor of Hell”: Chancellorsville and Gettysburg
- “The Passing of the Dead”: Defeat of the Confederacy

