

History 1700
American Civilization -- 3 Credits
Southern Utah University
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Course Description

This course is an introductory survey of United States history aimed at students who are new to college or new to the college-level study of history. Besides providing a clear chronology of events and explaining their historical significance, this course will provide opportunities to develop a variety of skills. All students in History 1700 will be exposed to the diversity of historical experiences and to the difficulty of interpreting the past. Successful completion of this course will fulfill basic degree and graduation requirements, including the American Government and Institutions Requirement, and you will gain a firm foundation for further study in history and related fields. Please note that this college-level history course demands your active involvement, persistence, and discipline.

History 1700 has been structured to follow in sequential order, from Chapter 1 through Chapter 32 of the textbook, with seven section exams that correspond with major sections or parts of the textbook. Your reading and course work will follow the basic chronological order of American history. As you work through the course materials, try to build upon what you learn and apply “lessons from the past” to your understanding of more recent and contemporary events. This course is entirely self-paced, so you must be focused and diligent to finish all course work by the end of this term. Grades of “incomplete” or extensions will not be granted, so please do not procrastinate or underestimate the demands of this challenging course.

Required Textbook and Reading Assignments

The required textbook is available for purchase through the SUU Bookstore and other locations: James A. Henretta and David Brody, *America, A Concise History*, Fourth edition (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2010). This is the “combined” volume. You are encouraged to purchase the book with its companion “e-book” option, ISBN 0-312-60946-9. Or, you can purchase the book by itself without the “e-book”: ISBN 0-312-48541-2. You must have access to this book either in print or online to succeed in the course.

Every copy of *America: A Concise History* is accompanied by a suite of free online resources designed to help you master the themes, ideas, and information in the text. The main web site is found at <http://bedfordstmartins.com/henrettaconcise>. Here you will find a wealth of resources, from a Recommended Study Plan to Multiple Choice Quizzes to Map Activities. In addition to these learning tools, the publisher's web site offers other media and resources for your benefit. You are strongly encouraged to read and review the textbook in conjunction with your interactive use of the web site and all of its features.

Grading and Examinations

Most of your work in History 1700 will focus on reading and reviewing textbook chapters, ideally with support from the publisher's companion web site. Because this is a self-paced course, the grading and examinations will reward your persistence and diligence in moving

consistently and sequentially through all course materials. You are encouraged to work at a steady and systematic pace to finish all required work by the course deadline.

Your grade will be based mainly on multiple-choice tests drawn from the textbook and will be computed as follows.

<i>Assessments/Assignments</i>	<i>Points</i>
32 Chapter Quizzes (all must be completed)	0 points
7 Section Tests @ 30 points each	210 points
7 Short Assignments @ 10 points each	70 points
1 Short Essay @ 20 points	20 points
Total Available Points	300 points

Note: If you complete and submit all required work listed above, you will have an opportunity to earn up to thirty (30) “extra credit” points through a research paper on a topic of your choosing. This paper is entirely optional, and more information is provided in the expanded “Course Outline.”

The grading scale is based on the following:

<i>Grade/Percentile</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
A, 93-100	279-300
A-, 90-92	270-278
B+, 87-89	261-269
B, 83-86	249-260
B-, 80-82	240-248
C+, 77-79	231-239
C, 73-76	219-230
C-, 70-72	210-218
D+, 67-69	201-209
D, 63-66	189-200
D-, 60-62	180-188
F, 0-59	<179

Chapter Quizzes

Each chapter quiz will have ten (10) multiple-choice questions that will be randomly generated, and you will have ten (10) minutes to complete each quiz. You can take each quiz up to five (5) times to attain a score of five (5) or better out of ten (10) questions. You will not be able to move to the next chapter quiz unless you receive a score of 50% or better. You will have a minimum of five (5) minutes between each quiz opportunity. Quiz scores will NOT be computed as part of your final grade, but all chapter quizzes must be completed with a grade of 5 (five) or better if you are to take all section exams. The aim here is to encourage you to study effectively to maximize your success on each of the six section exams. Chapter quizzes must be

taken in sequential order, and each Section Exam can be taken only if you have successfully completed all relevant chapter quizzes. Because the goal is for you to read and understand course material before moving on to the next section, please plan to read each chapter in succession while working with relevant learning resources at the companion web site.

Section Exams

You should read the chapters in sequential order to best prepare for the seven (7) section exams that correspond with the seven parts of *America, A Concise History*. Each of the seven tests will feature the same format and will consist of thirty (30) multiple-choice questions that will draw upon all material covered during that part of the course. Each question will be worth one point. *These exams will be timed for forty-five (45) minutes and may be taken twice, with the highest score counting toward your final grade.* Questions from chapter quizzes and from the companion web site may appear on the section exams. Although some questions will test your factual knowledge and others probe your analytical abilities, all questions will require critical thinking more than mere memorization. As with the chapter quizzes, your preparation in reading the textbook and utilizing the publisher's web site will shape success in the section exams.

Short Assignments

Through seven relatively simple assignments (each worth 10 points), you will be required to submit short responses about different types of historical issues, themes, sources, and information. For the most part, these assignments will focus on web-based materials of your own choosing. Your completed assignments will be submitted to your instructor via Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection web site that has a link on the course home page. After the course begins, your instructor will inform all students about the unique course ID number and password to complete your own registration for Turnitin.com. In addition, you are asked to compose and submit a short essay in conjunction with Part Five of this course that will be worth up to twenty (20) points. All together, these short assignments add up to ninety (90) points in the course, almost one-third of all possible points. You will not be allowed to move on to the next section of the course until you have submitted the appropriate short assignment for that section of History 1700.

Submitting Written Assignments

Your written work submitted for this course (e.g., web site evaluations and short essay) should be typed and follow the standard rules of grammar, punctuation, and English usage. For all written assignments, try to write in your own words, but if you wish to quote from course materials or a web site, please place all quoted material in quotation marks and add a page reference or citation in parentheses at the end of that sentence. Do not plagiarize, and be aware that you are expected to submit original and independent work by all deadlines. You should register for and submit all work through Turnitin.com, an excellent and thorough plagiarism detection web site. Please review the student manual at http://www.turnitin.com/static/pdf/tii_student_guide.pdf. Feel free to be imaginative in exploring the questions asked in this course, and ask questions if you are unclear about assignments or expectations.

Learning Objectives

- Learners will utilize chronological thinking to place the history of the United States in proper chronological framework.
- Learners will develop historical comprehension, identify central questions of each time period, and draw upon data presented in text, maps, charts, and graphs.
- Learners will be able to make historical analysis and interpretations, to compare and contrast, to differentiate historical facts and interpretations, consider multiple perspectives, analyze cause and effect relationships, compare competing historical analyses, and recognize the tentative nature of historical interpretations.
- Learners will develop an ability to construct their own historical interpretations.
- Learners will be able to identify main issues and problems in United States history, and will be able to evaluate historical evidence and interpretations.
- Learners will develop historical understanding of the social, political, economic, and cultural developments in the United States from approximately 1500 to the present.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by Student Services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

STUDENT DISABILITY NOTICE

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 205C of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

When In Doubt, Ask!

As with any college course, it is hoped that you will get out of this course what you put into it. In fact, I have found a strong correlation between the time that students devote to this class and their final grades. While this history course is self-paced, you should feel free to contact me as needed. If you have questions about your progress in History 1700 or remain unclear about course assignments or materials, please do not hesitate to ask. You have several ways to contact me. First, you can use the "Mail" feature within this class to send email at any time. If you're in the Cedar City area, you can visit during my office hours in Centrum 225. Feel free to call me at 435/865-8323; leave your name and number if I am not available. Finally, you can also communicate by email outside of the course by sending directly to my email address: mulderink@suu.edu. I will do my best to respond promptly to your questions and concerns.

Good luck!