

New York City College of Technology (CUNY)
Social Science Department
The History of the United States to 1877
HIS1110/OL48
Spring 2020

Fulfills CUNY Flexible Core: US Experience in its Diversity
Prerequisites: CUNY Proficiency in Reading and Writing

Fully ONLINE COURSE

Instructor: Dr. Peter Catapano 610 Namm Hall	Class Meetings: Fully Online Course that runs from August 27 to December 19. There is no set time for meetings, but please consult Blackboard for all assignments and due dates.
Office Hours: Tues, Wed, and Thurs. 3-4pm, or by appointment	E-mail: pcatapano@citytech.cuny.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of significant developments in American history from colonization through the Civil War. Topics covered include the collision of cultures in the New World and the founding of English colonies, colonial cultures and politics, the rise of slavery, the causes and consequences of the American Revolution, the Republican ideal and the establishment of the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion and frontier life, sectional conflict.

WHAT IS AN ON-LINE COURSE?

This course is designed as fully online and synchronous. We will not be meeting face-to-face in person or online. Instead, you work at your own pace within a daily/weekly framework.

Our main source of interaction will occur via the ANNOUNCEMENT page and DISCUSSION BOARD on Blackboard. It is important that you log on and check Blackboard regularly during the day. Your reading, tests, and assignments are posted by topic in the LEARNING UNITS tab.

REQUIRED E-TEXTBOOK

There is no textbook to purchase. We will be using an online textbook called *The American Yawp*. You find it at the following web address: <http://www.americanyawp.com/> You can also find there a link to download the book as a PDF if you prefer.

OTHER READINGS and REQUIRED VIDEOS

There will be other readings and videos that are required as the semester progresses. Those links will be provided to you on Blackboard.

INSTRUCTION FOR LEARNING UNIT ASSIGNMENTS

Each chapter topic we cover is divided on Blackboard into LEARNING UNITS. Please follow the instructions carefully. Each module will also include a study guide with maps, charts, and additional texts that will help you with your written assignments and tests. It is best to complete the UNITS in order and it is required to complete any assignment or test by the due date.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

For the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify significant events that contributed to the development of the United States.
- Discuss competing interpretations of major historical events in American history from colonization to the Civil War.
- Discuss sources of historical change, and explain cause and effect relationships as they pertain to historical
- Use vocabulary common to history and to be able to explain the historical developments of the American society up to 1865.

GENERAL EDUCATION OBJECTIVES

For the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to evaluate a variety of historical sources for their credibility, position, and perspective, as well as contextualize materials from the past with appropriate precision and detail.
- Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between primary and secondary source materials and decide when to use each, as well as, choose among multiple tools, methods, and perspectives to investigate and interpret materials from the past,
- Seek a variety of sources that provide evidence to support an argument about the past,
- Demonstrate the ability to generate a historical argument that is reasoned and based on historical evidence selected, arranged, and analyzed.
- Write effective narrative that describes and analyzes the past for its use in the present.
- Demonstrate the ability to engage a diversity of viewpoints in a civil and constructive fashion.

ACCESS TO BLACKBOARD:

You may access Blackboard via the City Tech website (www.citytech.cuny.edu) by clicking on the Blackboard link under “Quick Links,” under the category “Logins.” If you do not have an account, click on **Register Now** to create a new student account. Click on **Student** and fill out the requested information. Type in your user name and password. Once you have logged in, you will find a link on the right side of the page named **Blackboard 9.1**. When you click on it, you will be redirected to your Blackboard homepage. Then click on your course. Alternatively, you can login to Blackboard via the CUNY Portal www.cuny.edu and click **Log-in**. For help logging in, see http://websupport1.citytech.cuny.edu/bb9student_videos/login/Login.html

CUNY PORTAL HELP:

If you need help with the CUNY Portal, for example, you do not seem to have a CUNY account no Blackboard please contact the **Student Helpdesk** located on the 1st Floor of the Atrium (A114), inside the **Student Welcome Center**. The telephone number is **718-260-4900**, or e-mail them at studenthelpdesk@citytech.cuny.edu.

If you have any technical issues, please check your device and/or contact the **Instructional Technology & Technology Enhancement Center** 718-254-8565 or e-mail at ITEC@citytech.cuny.edu. Alternatively, drop by the student lab, G-600, at any time during its hours of operation.

For those new to Blackboard, or are in need of instruction, the Department of Instructional Technology will be conducting free student Blackboard workshops during the Summer Semester. Here’s the link for the training days and times: <http://websupport1.citytech.cuny.edu/studentworkshops.html> Please note that while these sessions are for hybrid sections, they will work just as well for asynchronous classes like ours. You can also find helpful tips on the various features of Blackboard (including how to “Create and Post a Thread”) on the **City Tech iTEC** webpage: <http://websupport1.citytech.cuny.edu/studentbb.html>

COMMUNICATION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR:

I am available in my office during my posted office hours. I am also available via email Monday through Friday. I usually check my email for class a minimum of twice a day. While I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can, sometimes it might take longer. I will however respond within 24-48 hours.

If you send me an e-mail, please enter the course number in the subject section; otherwise, I may delete it. Also, be sure to sign your email with your full name. Some email addresses aren't clear regarding identity and there may be multiple students with the same first and/or last name.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

All assignments for this course will be submitted via BLACKBOARD. For each unit, you will:

- Complete the chapter readings
- Take unit quizzes
- Post the Discussion Board assignment
- Take your exams
- Submit Understanding History assignments

The calendar with due dates can be found at the end of the syllabus.

It is very important that you follow the due dates provided on the syllabus and check your email regularly. You should login to Blackboard and check announcement at least twice a week for any additional information, changes, or advice on your assignments.

ASSESSMENT

Please keep aware of all assignment dates by checking the syllabus and the ANNOUNCEMENT page for any changes. No "extra credit" or "make-up" is offered. NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS will be accepted without PRIOR approval by the instructor. Each assignment is will be weighted according to the percentage below:

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|-------------------------|--|
| • Exams: 30% (15% each) | • Understanding History Exercises, 40% |
| • Unit Quizzes, 15% | • Discussion Board, 15% |

EXAMS: There will be two exams worth 15% of your final grade. Each exam will cover one half of course material. There is no cumulative final exam. Exams are given on the dates given in the schedule below. There are NO makeup exams. Each exam will consist of multiple-choice, true or false, and/or an essay question. Further instructions on the format of the test will be made on Blackboard.

UNDERSTANDING HISTORY: You will be asked to complete a **FOUR-part assignment** that will help you understand how to use primary and secondary sources to create their own historical narrative. Instructions will be posted on Blackboard. The four assignments together will be worth 40% of your final grade. The breakdown of each assignment is the following:

- Part 1: Distinguishing Sources Quiz, 10% of **Understanding History** grade
- Part 2: Evaluating Sources Quiz, 15%
- Part 3: How to Avoid Plagiarism Quizzes, 15%
- Part 4: Primary Source Essay, 60%

Be aware of the due dates. Assignments will be penalized a full grade per day if it is LATE without prior permission. **All FOUR parts MUST be completed to receive a grade for the entire Understanding History assignment.**

UNIT QUIZZES: There will be short weekly reading quizzes posted on a course Blackboard that correspond with each lecture topic. The quizzes provide an excellent study guide for the exams. The total value of the quizzes toward your final grade is 15%. All quizzes are open book and must be submitted by the posted due date. Late quizzes will receive ½ credit if completed before the next upcoming exam. You will have multiple attempts to complete the quiz.

DISCUSSION BOARD: There will be a Discussion Board question for each learning module. All Discussion Board assignments will consist of two parts: 1.) your response to the question and; 2) Comments and critiques to at least two of your classmates. To complete each assignment, you **MUST** complete both parts for a total of three posts. No partial credit is given. For completing only Part 1 or Part 2. Since this is a major portion of the class I will allow up to TWO LATE entries. However, keep in mind for your fellow classmates to complete part 2, you must complete part 1. Your diligence in posting will be helpful to both you and your fellow students' success in the class.

GRADING:

Grades will be posted to your Gradebook in Blackboard. The letter grade equivalent for your final weighted total will be assigned according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Meaning of Letter Grade	Number Grade
A	Exceptional	100-93
A-	Superior	92.9-90
B+	Very Good	89.9-87
B	Good	86.9-83
B-	Above Average	82.9-80
C+	Slightly Above Average	79.9-77
C	Average	76.9-70
D	Poor	69.9-60
F	Failure	59.9-0

NETIQUETTE AND CLASS CONDUCT

Since this course is fully online, our primary interaction will be on Blackboard. Therefore, you will be expected to respect the collective online environment of your classmates. There are similarities between good manners in face-to-face and online classrooms. However, there are some differences unique to the online experience. Here is a netiquette list of do and don'ts to guide you through the semester:

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make comments and questions that are relevant to the discussion topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write anything that you would not share in person in a class.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use respectful and polite language in your comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share confidential information about yourself or others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make comments that are thoughtful but to the point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write in all CAPITALS because this looks as if you are SHOUTING and makes your message more difficult to read.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve confidential information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use unexplained acronyms or strange notations that may be unfamiliar to readers.

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to a comment or message by including enough information so that the context of your response is understood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make rambling and off the topic comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate upper and lower case and punctuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post a message to point out other people's errors in typing or spelling unless they have asked for the correct spelling of a name or unfamiliar concept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of CUNY's Policy on Academic Integrity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use offensive language or make fun of someone's post.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think before you push the send button. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write anything that you would not share in person in a class.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not hesitate to ask for feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share confidential information about yourself or others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When in doubt, check with your instructor for clarification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write in all CAPITALS because this looks as if you are SHOUTING and makes your message more difficult to read.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

According to the NYCCT statement on academic integrity:

“Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion.”

The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the college catalog.

ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. NYCCT is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible, but definitely before the date of the first exam, so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Center for Student Accessibility, which is located in A-237 in the Atrium Building.

Schedule and Due Dates for History 1110: The History of the United States to 1877
 (All assignments subject of change!!)

<u>DATES</u>	<u>LEARNING UNITS</u>	<u>UNIT QUIZZES</u>	<u>DISCUSSION BOARD</u>	<u>UNDERSTANDING HISTORY</u>
January 27 - 31	Introduction to US History		“Welcome” Due: Fri, 1/31	“Lunchroom Fight” Due: Sunday, Feb. 2 On Discussion Board
February 3 - 7	1. The New World	<u>Quiz 1</u> Due: Sun, 2/9	“Las Casas reactions” Due: Fri, 2/7	“Who Makes the Stronger Argument” Due: Sun, Feb. 9 On Discussion Board
February 10 - 14	2. Colliding Cultures	<u>Quiz 2</u> Due: Sun, 2/16	“Case for English Colonization” Due: Fri, 2/14	
February 17 - 21	3. British North America	<u>Quiz 3</u> Due: Sun, 2/23	“Recruiting Settlers” Due: Fri, 2/21	Part 1: Distinguishing Source Quiz Due: Sun, Feb. 23
February 24 - 28	4. Colonial Society	<u>Quiz 4</u> Due: Sun, 3/1	“Conversion and Assimilation” Due: Fri, 2/28	Part 2: Evaluating Sources Quiz Due: Sun, March 1
March 2 - 6	5: The American Revolution	<u>Quiz 5</u> Due: Sun, 3/8	“Franklin and Independence” Due: Fri, 3/6	
March 9 -13	6. A New Nation	<u>Quiz 6</u> Due: Sun, 3/15	“What is an American?” Due: Fri, 3/13	
March 16 -20	7. The Early Republic	<u>Quiz 7</u> Due: Sun, 3/22	“Indian Resistance” Due: Fri, 3/20	
March 23 - 27	MIDTERM Week		MIDTERM DUE	
March 30 – April 3	8. The Market Revolution	<u>Quiz 8</u> Due: Sun, 4/5	“Immigration before the Civil War” Due: Fri, 4/3	
April 6 - 8	9. Democracy in America	<u>Quiz 9</u> Due: *Sun, 4/19	“Frederick Douglass” Due: *Fri, 4/17	

<u>DATES</u>	<u>LEARNING UNITS</u>	<u>UNIT QUIZZES</u>	<u>DISCUSSION BOARD</u>	<u>UNDERSTANDING HISTORY</u>
April 8 - 16	*SPRING RECESS			
April 20 - 24	10. Religion and Reform	<u>Quiz 10</u> Due: Sun, 4/26	“Religion and Reform” Due: Fri, 4/24	
April 27 – May 1	11. The Cotton Revolution	<u>Quiz 11</u> Due: Sun, 5/3	“Plantation Slavery” Due: Fri, 5/1	Part 3: How to Avoid Plagiarism Quizzes DUE: SUNDAY, 5/3
May 4 – 8	12. Manifest Destiny	<u>Quiz 12</u> Due: Sun, 5/10	“Manifest Destiny” Due: Fri, 5/8	
May 11- 15	13. The Sectional Crisis	<u>Quiz 13</u> Due: Sun, 5/17	“Abolitionism” Due: Fri, 5/15	Part 4: “Secession and the Sectional Crisis” Essay Due: SUNDAY, 5/17
May 18 – 20	14. The Civil War	<u>Quiz 14</u> Due: Wed, 5/20	“Civil War” Due: *Wed, 5/20	
May 21 – 22	FINAL EXAM			