Course Guide

Self-paced study. Anytime. Anywhere!

History 112
Introduction to U.S. History

University of Idaho
3 Semester-Hour Credits

Prepared by:
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History Department
University of Idaho

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*Maps courtesy of National Geographic Marcopolo Xpeditions, Xpeditions Atlas: Maps made for Printing and Copying
Introduction to U.S. History

3 Semester-Hour Credits: U-Idaho

Welcome!
Whether you are a new or returning student, welcome to the Independent Study in Idaho (ISI) program. Below, you will find information pertinent to your course including the course description, course materials, course objectives, as well as information about lessons, exams, and grading.

Policies and Procedures
Refer to the ISI website at www.uidaho.edu/isi and select Students for the most current policies and procedures, including information on setting up accounts, student confidentiality, exams, proctors, transcripts, course exchanges, refunds, academic integrity, library resources, and disability support and other services.

Course Description
Political, diplomatic, economic, social, and cultural history: 1877 to present.
U-Idaho students: may be used as core credit in J-3-d, as a social science, and American diversity.
Prerequisite: None.

16 graded lessons, 1 graded paper, 3 proctored exams
Students may submit up to 3 assignments at a time and 6 assignments per week. Before taking exams, students MUST wait for grades and feedback on assignments, which may take up to three weeks after date of receipt by the instructor.

ALL assignments and exams must be submitted to receive a final grade for the course.

Course Materials
Required Course Materials

Course Delivery
This course is available online. An electronic course guide is accessible through BbLearn at no additional cost. Refer to your Registration Confirmation Email for instructions on how to access BbLearn.

Course Introduction
This course will provide an introduction into the complex nature of the modern United States and its diverse population. An understanding of the traditions and cultures of the peoples of the United States will increase tolerance and an appreciation for American diversity.

Rather than memorizing lists of names and dates, students should immerse themselves in the story of the past and, more importantly, to try to understand the people involved in that story. It is helpful to try to imagine what it was like to live in different situations and environments, and then think about how you, the student, might react in the same circumstance. To examine history in the proper context, the student should not make judgments from a twenty-first century perspective.
As you explore the text, maps, and required readings, you will be expected to contemplate and analyze numerous aspects of life in the United States from the Reconstruction Era to modern times. From your analysis, you will reach some conclusions about how the people of the United States reacted to circumstances and lived their lives, as well as how events are interconnected.

While you are investigating the past, pay special attention to the impact of traditions and cultural expectations on the ongoing process of events in the United States. Keep these expectations in mind when studying the story of the past—the interactions with Native Americans, former slaves, reform movements of the progressives, expansionism, the nineteenth- and twentieth-century wars, and with concepts such as feminism, Black power, and fundamentalism. Upon completion of this course, you should have a better understanding as to how the strong traditions of the past impact the current decision-making processes in the United States, as well as how this zeal for tradition and cultural expectations is still creating powerful social and cultural movements.

**Course Objectives**
The objectives of this course are to:
- provide students with a better understanding of (a) the social movements, continued traditions, and motivations for international involvement that helped form modern U.S. philosophy and political thought, and (b) as to how these past activities continue to impact daily events in the United States;
- enable students to (a) understand the people who lived during specific historical periods, (b) develop their analytic and contemplative skills, and (c) recognize how events reflected reactions to situations that occurred during the progress of history.

**Lessons**
Each lesson includes the following components:
- Lesson objectives
- Reading assignment
- Important terms
- Map exercise
- Lecture
- Written assignment

**Study Hints**
- Complete all assigned readings.
- Read each lesson carefully.
- Keep a copy of every lesson submitted.
- When writing essays, be sure you answer all questions presented. Address all aspects of the essay proposal, using information from the texts in your analyses. Include conclusions you have reached based on what you have read. Use specific examples to support your conclusions.
- When presenting identifications, be sure you include the historical significance of the item.
- Set a schedule allowing for completion of the course one month prior to your desired deadline. (An Assignment Submission Log is provided for this purpose.)
- Work receiving an “A” will be well written with few or no mistakes, and will answer all portions of each question while providing several specific examples.
- Work receiving a “B” will be well written with a few mistakes and will answer most portions of the questions with some specific examples.
- Work receiving a “C” will have a few mistakes and will answer questions in a general manner with few examples.

**Exams**
- Submit all lessons preceding each exam prior to taking that exam.
- You must wait for grades and comments on lessons prior to taking each subsequent exam.
For your instructor’s exam guidelines, refer to the letter sent in your registration packet and the Exam Information sections in this study guide.

There are three exams for this course. They are not comprehensive.

See Grading for specific information on exams, points, and percentages.

**Proctor Selection/Scheduling Exams**
All exams require a proctor unless an exam is self-administered.

**Grading**
Grading for this course is based on recognition of some basic factual information and map placement, and on the ability to reach some conclusions concerning the “hows” and “whys” of events, and to support these conclusions with factual information acquired from the texts.

There are a total of 470 points possible for the completion of the course: 170 points for 17 written assignments (10 points each), and 300 points for the three exams (100 points each). The written assignments account for 34 percent of the final grade, and the exams account for 66 percent, as shown in the following chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Exams</th>
<th>Individual Points</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Individual Percent</th>
<th>Total Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lessons 1–17</td>
<td>10 points each</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>2% each</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams 1, 2, and 3</td>
<td>100 points each</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>22% each</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points/Percent</td>
<td></td>
<td>470</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each exam has three sections: Identification, Map, and Essays.

1. An identification section that contains ten items: Choose only four of the ten to identify and explain the historical significance. This section accounts for 20 percent of the exam grade.
2. A map section that contains ten items chosen from the map sections of the lessons: Signify the location of each place on the map that is included in the exam. This section accounts for 10 percent of the exam grade.
3. The essay section contains three essay proposals: Choose two of these to address in your exam. The essays are your opportunity to tell me everything you have learned in the section of the text pertaining to the exam. Be sure you address all aspects of the essay proposals you choose. Within each essay, support the statements you make with specific information (people, places, events, etc.). This section accounts for 70 percent of the exam grade (35 percent per essay).

The grading criteria for the Exam Essay Responses include:

1. Accurately presents the material requested in the questions.
2. Completely covers the breadth of issues posed in the questions.
3. Refers to and integrates appropriate examples from the textbooks to illustrate statements.
4. Reflects on the implications of the issues posed in the questions as they relate to a broad overview of United States history.
5. Written in a legible and well-organized style with concepts and illustrative examples clearly articulated.

The grading criteria for the Exam Identifications include:

1. A clear statement explaining the item.
2. A statement that illustrates why the item is relevant or significant to the historical process, that is, the impact the item had on future developments.
Grade Criteria:

100%–90%   A
89%–80%     B
79%–70%     C
69%–60%     D

The final course grade is issued after all lessons and exams have been graded.

Acts of academic dishonesty, including cheating or plagiarism are considered a very serious transgression and may result in a grade of F for the course.

About the Course Developer

Your course developer is Kenneth Faunce, an Adjunct Professor of History and American Studies at the University of Idaho. He received his Ph.D. in history and historical archaeology from the University of Idaho in 2000. He has taught a variety of courses at the University of Idaho and Washington State University in History, American Studies and Anthropology. Before coming to the University of Idaho, he worked for the federal government for several years as an archaeologist and historian.

Contacting Your Instructor

Instructor contact information is posted in the Course Rules document on your BbLearn site
## Assignment Submission Log

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lessons</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Written Assignments</th>
<th>Date Submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15, 16</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 332–380</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16, 17</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 267–305</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 382–410</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 306–324</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 411–433</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 325–347</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 434–458</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 348–366</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 460–481</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 367–385</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td>Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>21</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 367–385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

*It is time to make arrangements with your proctor to take Exam 1.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lessons</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Written Assignments</th>
<th>Date Submitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 482–509</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 510–536</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 386–403</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 538–561</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 404–423</td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 562–583</td>
<td>2 essays</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 identifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>25</td>
<td><em>American Passages</em>, pages 584–611</td>
<td></td>
<td>Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td><em>Voices</em>, pages 424–442</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is time to make arrangements with your proctor to take Exam 2.

| 12 | 26–25 | American Passages, pages 612–634  
|    |       | Voices, pages 443–461          | 2 essays  
|    |       |                                | 10 identifications |
| 13 | 27–26 | American Passages, pages 635–654  
|    |       | Voices, pages 462–469          | 2 essays  
|    |       |                                | 10 identifications |
| 14 | 28–26 | American Passages, pages 655–677  
|    |       | Voices, pages 469–481          | 2 essays  
|    |       |                                | 10 identifications |
| 15 | 29–30 | American Passages, pages 678–735  
|    | 27     | Voices, pages 482–508          | 2 essays  
|    |       |                                | 10 identifications |
| 16 | 31–32 | American Passages, pages 736–786  
|    | 28     | Voices, pages 509–527          | 2 essays  
|    |       |                                | 10 identifications |
| 17 | 29–30 | Voices, pages 528–572          | Essay |

It is time to make arrangements with your proctor to take the Final Exam.
Lesson 1
Civil War and Reconstruction

Lesson Objectives
Keep the following objectives in mind while reading the text material and while writing the essays to be submitted for grading.

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:
1-1 Examine and discuss the turning point in the Civil War when it became clear that the United States would defeat the Confederacy.
1-2 Discuss how emancipation of the slaves became a central war aim for the Union.
1-3 Determine the events and circumstances that weakened Northern commitment to Reconstruction.
1-4 Discuss the social, economic, and political impact of Reconstruction on the states that had joined the Confederacy. Recognize when and why Reconstruction ended; discuss what impact the ending of Reconstruction had on freed people in both the North and the South.

Reading Assignment

*American Passages*

*Voices of the American Past*
Chapter 16, “Reconstruction,” pages 267–287
Chapter 17, “The West,” pages 288–305

Important Terms
New York City draft riots Gettysburg Address Appomattox
Freedmen’s Bureau Reconstruction Act Susan B. Anthony
Ku Klux Klan temperance election of 1876

Map Exercise
Place the following locations on the appropriate map(s) in this study guide. (Items on the exams will be chosen from these exercises.)

1. Gettysburg 4. Appomattox 7. Little Big Horn
2. Promontory Point, Utah 5. Georgia 8. Louisiana

Lecture
The Union won the Civil War, and the Confederate States of America ceased to exist. The Civil War changed the United States more than any other event in the nineteenth century. The war caused large numbers of deaths, social disorder, and rioting in the streets in the North and South. The Civil War also caused a major expansion of the federal government. It brought the emancipation of over four million enslaved people as well. In 1865, the attempt to reintegrate the South was almost as divisive as the war itself. Resentment was common on both sides: Southerners resented forced reentry into the United States and Northerners blamed the South for the devastation of the war. Also, neither side knew how to deal with the large number of former slaves.
Radical Reconstructionists, aware that congressional legislation could be easily changed when popular opinion shifted, sought more permanence for freedmen’s citizenship in the form of constitutional amendments. Even so, the amendments provide little protection for the freedmen until matters began to change in the 1950s.

Reconstruction efforts failed to provide freedmen with equal rights for a number of reasons. First, while most citizens in the North found the institution of slavery abhorrent or immoral, the majority of mainstream Americans did not accept African-Americans as equals, socially, legally, or economically. Second, many Southerners who were dissatisfied with the results of temporary reconstruction efforts migrated west and north. Third, as a whole, Americans became very disinterested in the South’s problems after the war. People felt that they had fought a dreadful war to end slavery, had accomplished that end result, and so, were finished. It was time to get back to their farms, their work, their families, and normalcy. Consequently, Reconstruction and the fate of freedmen were dealt with on a regional or local level, which meant the efforts ended.

From 1867 to 1877 the country experienced mixed constructive and lamentable results. New economic energies produced the construction of the transcontinental railroad, a surge of industrialization, and a renewal of migration and settlement of the West. After the Civil War, migration increases reflected the devastation of war. People went west not only to get rich, but also to escape changes that war and industrialism had brought. At the same time, Native Americans saw their way of life threatened with extinction. Political corruption spread throughout public life, and the economic prosperity, the Panic of 1873, and the hard times that followed tested the endurance of the average American.

Women wanted access to equality; woman suffrage got underway, but met with male resistance. The campaign against alcohol moved to clean up society and to help carry women toward political power. Americans engaged in problems and issues that would continue into the next century. Racial injustice, industrial growth, urbanization, and the balance between business and government continued to provide dilemmas for the American people.

As you progress through this course, notice how most of the events that occurred during this time period can be seen as a reaction to previous events. Understanding these action/reaction sequences will help you understand the process of history, and keep the chronological order of events clear in your mind as you prepare for exams.

**Written Assignment**

Two written essays and the answers to 10 identifications must be submitted for grading for this lesson. Each essay should be **two double-spaced, typed pages**. Be sure to address all aspects of the essay proposal, using information from the texts. Also, include some analysis and conclusions you have reached based on what you have read. This written assignment is worth 10 points (2 percent of the overall course grade). The assignment is graded on the following percentage scale: the two essays are worth 70 percent (35 percent each), and the 10 identifications are worth 30 percent (3 percent each).

**Essays** (70 percent: 35 percent each)

**Essay 1**
A major part of Reconstruction was the battle between President Johnson and Congress over the extent and role of Reconstruction. Compare/contrast President Johnson’s objectives and Congress’s ambitions concerning Reconstruction. Include information about the various proposals, legislation, and constitutional amendments. Which actions succeeded and which failed in their goals? What was the final legacy of the Reconstruction years?
Essay 2
After the Civil War ended the direction of American society changed as well. Examine the various issues and events of the decade after the war. Which groups participated in making decisions on the direction of society? Which groups were not represented or ignored? What do you think was a driving force behind this change?

Terms for Identification (3 points each; 2 points for identification and 1 point for historical significance)
Identify and explain the historical significance of the following terms. (Items on the exams will be chosen from these terms.)

1. Gettysburg Address
2. Freedmen’s Bureau
3. Ku Klux Klan
4. woman suffrage
5. Tweed Ring
6. temperance
7. annihilation of the buffalo herds
8. election of 1876
9. Grant’s Peace Policy
10. Promontory Point, Utah