

US History to 1877 (HIST 200)-Online  
Syllabus and Course Outline  
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### **Course Description:**

US History to 1877 (HIST 200) is a general survey of the history of the United States from the Colonial Era to the end of Reconstruction. HIST 200 is also a lab course, which introduces students to analyzing historical primary sources and drawing logical conclusion about US history based on these documents and their knowledge of the historical record.

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Apply their knowledge of the history of the United States to the understanding and interpretation of primary source documents from the past.
2. Apply their knowledge of the history of the United States to 1877 and their discoveries generated through the analysis of primary sources and lectures/textbook to a midterm and final exam.

### **Textbook:**

Matthew Ellington, Nancy Hewitt, Stephen Lawson, Jason Stacy, *Fabric of a Nation*, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2020. [On Blackboard]

### **Point Values:**

Analyzing Sources: 20 points each x 12= 240 points

Lab Reports: 60 points each x 5= 300 points

Exams: 120 points each x 2=240 points

Total: 780 points

**Late assignments can be turned in anytime during the semester for a maximum of half credit. Any excuse for late work must be accompanied by documentation.**

To receive the following letter grades, you must acquire the corresponding percentages of the above total points:

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=59% and below

### **Assignments:**

**Analyzing Sources:** Analyzing Sources assignments include all “Analyzing Sources” boxes in the assigned module (generally two-to-four boxes per module). You must answer the questions in each of these boxes to receive full credit for the assignment (20 points). These are graded as all-or-nothing, so that if you answer all the assigned questions **completely and accurately**, you will receive full credit. If you answer any of the questions partially or inaccurately, you will receive no credit. If you turn in a complete set of responses late, you will receive half credit.

**Please note:** To answer the questions in an “Analyzing Sources” box **completely and accurately**, you will need to read the historical material preceding it as well. All of the material needed to answer each “Analyzing Sources” question **completely and accurately** can be found in the module assigned, or in earlier assigned modules.

All “Analyzing Sources” questions should be answered in a Word file and uploaded to Blackboard in the proper assignment category. **Please include the questions with your responses.**

**Lab Reports:** Lab Reports are written individually. Each lab report is worth 60 points and will be scored according to the rubric at the end of this syllabus. Most of your Lab Reports are “Document-Based Questions,” which require you to incorporate primary sources into your response. Instructions as to how to write Document-Based Questions are included sequentially in your textbook, starting in Period 2.

All Lab Reports should be answered in a word File and uploaded to Blackboard in the proper assignment category. **Please include the Document-Based Question at the top of your response.** You do not have to include documents in your Word file **but please cite the documents in your essay with a parenthetical citation at the end of the appropriate sentence.** Like this:

*James K. Polk hid his desire for war when he said, “The Mexican government...after a long-continued series of menaces, have at last invaded our territory....” (Document 1).*

**Midterm/Final Exam:** There are two exams in this course. Both exams will be taken online. On each exam, you will answer one essay question and one Document-Based Question. **You can find each exam in Blackboard and begin preparing for them immediately.**

All exams responses will be entered online. Please use the citation method described above for your DBQs on your exams.

**Optional Assignments:** Unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus, the “Thinking Historically,” “Writing Historically,” and “Analyzing Sources” exercises in the textbook are *optional*. However, they will all help you with completing the assignments and assessments above.

**General Policies:**

**Plagiarism:** When you use the ideas or words of others, you must indicate this in a footnote or by some other method. If you use the exact words of another author, you must place these words in quotation marks. If you borrow or copy the ideas or words of others without acknowledgment, you are guilty of plagiarism and will face the consequences as set forth in the student handbook.

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

Please notify me no later than the end of the first week of class concerning any academic accommodations you will need. You must have a documented disability and an ID CARD from Disability Support Services. If you need accommodations not indicated on the Disability Support Services ID CARD, such as special equipment for clinical experiments or for outside classroom settings, please contact the Disability Support Services office as soon as possible so arrangements can be made for the additional equipment or accommodations.

Disability Support Services  
Student Success Center, Room 1270  
Campus Box 1611  
Edwardsville IL 62026  
Office: 618-650-3726 Fax: 618-650-5691

**Tentative Schedule (all readings/assignments/labs/assessments listed on due date)**

Day	Reading Assignment (Module)	Assignments/Lab	Assessment
12/16			
12/17	1.1-1.2	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 1.1-1.2	
12/18	1.3-1.4	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 1.3-1.4	Period 1 Lab: "Responding to a Short-Answer Question" (Module 1.4, pg. 37)
12/19	2.1-2.3	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 2.1-2.3	
12/19	2.4-2.6	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 2.4-2.6	
12/20	2.7-2.9	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 2.7-2.9	Period 2 Lab: "Responding to a Document-Based Question" (Module 2.9, pg. 136)
12/23			<b>Periods 1&amp;2 Exam</b>
12/24	3.1-3.3	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 3.1-3.3	
12/25	3.4-3.6	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 3.4-3.6	
12/26	3.7-3.9	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 3.7-3.9	Period 3 Lab: "Evaluating Causation in a Document-Based Essay" (Module 3.9 pg. 246)
12/27	4.1-4.4	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 4.1-4.4	
12/30	4.5-4.8	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 4.5-4.8	Period 4 Lab: "Responding to a Document-Based Question" (Module 4.3 pg. 296)
12/31	5.1-5.4	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 5.1-5.4	
1/1	5.5-5.8	Analyzing Sources exercises for Modules 5.5-5.8	Period 5 Lab: "Responding to a Document-Based Question" (Module 5.9 pg. 439)
1/2			<b>Periods 3, 4, &amp; 5 Exam</b>

## Course Rubrics

### Short-Answer Question Rubric (for Lab 1):

	Yes	No
Responded Accurately and Thoroughly to a)	20 points	0 points
Responded Accurately and Thoroughly to b)	20 points	0 points
Responded Accurately and Thoroughly to c)	20 points	0 points

Total: 60 points

### Document-Based Question Rubric (for exams and labs):

Assessed Skill	Meets Expectation	Description of Meeting Expectation
<b>THESIS/CLAIM</b> 0-10 points	Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.	To earn this point, the thesis must make a claim that responds to the prompt rather than restating or rephrasing the prompt. The thesis must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion.
<b>CONTEXTUALIZATION</b> 0-10 points	Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.	To earn these points, the response must relate the topic of the prompt to broader historical events, developments, or processes that occur before, during, or continue after the time frame of the question. These points are not awarded for merely a phrase or reference.
<b>EVIDENCE</b> 0-20 points	Supports an argument in response to the prompt using at least six documents.	To earn points, the response must accurately describe — rather than simply quote — the content from at least six of the documents.  In addition, the response must use the content of the document to prove the essay's argument.
<b>ANALYSIS AND REASONING</b> 0-20 points	For at least three documents, explains how or why the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument.	To earn these points, the response must explain how or why (rather than simply identifying) the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, or audience is relevant to an argument about the prompt for each of the documents sourced.

Total: 60 points

**Long-Essay Question Rubric (for exams):**

Assessed Skill	Meets Expectation	Description of Meeting Expectation
<b>THESIS/CLAIM</b> 0-10 points	Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.	To earn this point, the thesis must make a claim that responds to the prompt rather than restating or rephrasing the prompt. The thesis must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion.
<b>CONTEXTUALIZATION</b> 0-10 points	Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.	To earn these points, the response must relate the topic of the prompt to broader historical events, developments, or processes that occur before, during, or continue after the time frame of the question. These points are not awarded for merely a phrase or reference.
<b>EVIDENCE</b> 0-20 points	Provides specific examples of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt	To earn points, the response must use specific historical evidence to support an argument in response to the prompt.
<b>ANALYSIS AND REASONING</b> 0-20 points	Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.	To earn these points, the response must demonstrate the use of historical reasoning to frame or structure an argument.

Total: 60 points

**Analyzing Sources Rubric**

	All Analyzing Sources Exercises in Assigned Module(s) Complete	Analyzing Sources Exercises in Assigned Module(s) Incomplete
Points received	20 points	0 points