

**SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**Humanities**

**Revision Date: 07-01-23**

[Syllabus Statements](#)

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Course Number: HIST2010

Course Title: American History I

Prerequisite: None

Catalog Description: A survey of American history from the Age of Discovery through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Emphasis is on the political, economic, cultural, social, and technological issues that arise in the development of the American nation.

Credit Hours: 3.0

Class Hours: 45

Lab Hours: 0

Total Contact Hours: 45

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:** *Course will:*

- A. Explore the fundamental themes of American history before the Age of Discovery to 1877
- B. Demonstrate how geography influenced the course of American history
- C. Introduce and explain the major time periods in American history
- D. Explain the interaction of various forces in American history and how these influenced the future
- E. Evaluate historiography to recognize changing viewpoints and historical interpretations
- F. Conduct original historical research/writing by interpreting and drawing conclusions from primary and/or secondary sources

**III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**A. Student Learning Outcomes:** *Student will be able to:*

- 1. Increase knowledge of the basic periodization and central themes in United States history
- 2. Develop their ability to critique historical issues and interpretations from a variety of perspectives
- 3. Analyze historical data and reach informed conclusions
- 4. Understand the history of the United States in a global context
- 5. Analyze primary and secondary sources, being able to differentiate between the two
- 6. Strengthen verbal and written communication skills

**B. General Education Learning Outcomes**

- 1. GELO #3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
  - Outcome: Collect, identify, interpret and analyze data.
  - Outcome: Synthesize information to arrive at reasoned solutions to problems.
  - Outcome: Evaluate the validity of arguments, alternatives, data, outcomes, and/or impacts of actions.

**IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE** *(course outline may provide more detailed information)*

- A. Introduction to History
- B. Pre-Columbian Era
- C. European Contact with America
- D. Establishing the Colonies
- E. American Life in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century
- F. The “Peculiar Institution”: The Development of Slavery

- G. Colonial Society on the Eve of the Revolution
- H. The Duel for North America
- I. The Road to Revolution
- J. The War for Independence
- K. The Articles of Confederation and the Constitution
- L. The Federalist Era
- M. The Triumph of Jeffersonian Democracy
- N. James Madison and the War of 1812
- O. Nationalism vs. Sectionalism
- P. The Jacksonian Era and Native Americans
- Q. Forging the National Market Economy
- R. Age of Reform
- S. The South and the Controversy over Slavery
- T. Manifest Destiny: American Expansion
- U. Sectionalism and Disunion
- V. The Civil War
- W. Reconstruction

## V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Required Text(s):
  - 1. Open Education Resource:
    - a. Locke and Wright, The American Yawp  
[<http://www.americanyawp.com/>]
    - b. Watson and Dailey, Building the American Republic  
[<https://press.uchicago.edu/sites/buildingtheamericanrepublic/index.html>]
    - c. Corbett, et al. U.S. History  
[<https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history>]
- B. Other resources:
  - 1. None.

## VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

- A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:
  - 1. Lectures
  - 2. Class Discussion
  - 3. Individual/Group Projects
  - 4. Video Clips
  - 5. Student Presentations

## VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:
  - 1. Written examinations
  - 2. Quizzes
  - 3. Research papers
  - 4. Book reviews
  - 5. Short papers based on readings
  - 6. Class discussions
  - 7. Student Presentations (Group and/or Individual)
  - 8. Other interactive activities
  - 9. Attendance
- B. Specific weighting of these assessment modalities is detailed in the course policies. The instructor may also require other types of graded work, as long as it is not inconsistent with the parameters defined in the “Methods of Evaluation” section.

**C. SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY**

A+	95-100	C+	75-79	F	59 or less
A	90-94	C	70-74		
B+	85-89	D+	65-69		
B	80-84	D	60-64		

**VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- A.** In order to receive a passing grade in this course, students must complete the work assigned by the instructor in a satisfactory manner.
- B.** Regular attendance, reading, examinations, writing assignments, discussion, and respectful behavior are all required course components.