

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES / DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
HIST 15 – 65: Essentials of U.S. History, Section 65, Fall 2022

Instructor:	Dr. Ari Cushner
Office Location:	Clark Hall 414N
Telephone:	(408) 924-1391 [please use email]
Email:	ari.cushner@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	T 12-1 & 3-4 on campus/ Th 1-3 on Zoom, by appointment
Class Days/Time:	T 1:30-2:45pm/ Online asynchronous
Classroom:	DMH 150/ Canvas
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	US1 and Area D

COURSE DESCRIPTION

From the SJSU Catalog: “Treatment of essentials of U.S. history. Satisfies the American Institutions (US1) and the GE Area D: Social Sciences requirements.”

Specifically, this course explores the development of the United States, from pre-Columbian origins through present, focusing on myths and realities that sustain historical narratives about “America.” We examine topics such as indigenous peoples’ interactions with the government; slavery and its legacies; ideals upon which the nation was founded; colonization and territorial expansion; economic development; political reform and reaction; immigration and the experiences of immigrants; foreign relations; wars and conflicts; and social struggles connected to the labor, civil rights, feminist, and environmental movements. You will be introduced to multiple perspectives related to diverse cultures, communities, and environments across such categories as race, ethnicity, class, religion, age, gender, sexuality, and physical ability; you will learn to critically evaluate and synthesize different positions while creating evidence-based interpretations of the history of the United States and its ongoing role in world affairs.

COURSE FORMAT

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course meets in person on Tuesday of each week, with online activities and/ or assignments due weekly on Canvas (<https://sjsu.instructure.com/>) in place of a second class meeting.

Technology Requirements

Students must have an electronic device (laptop or tablet, etc.), and a reliable internet connection.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. GELO 1 (US1): Explain and evaluate the principal events, developments, and ideas in all the territories now in the United States from the beginnings of this society until the present. Assessed through weekly online quizzes, multiple-choice and essay exams, plus written analyses on primary sources and online discussion posts.
2. GELO 2 (D): Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which social institutions, culture, and environment shape and are shaped by the behavior of individuals, both past and present. Assessed through weekly online quizzes, multiple-choice and essay exams, plus written analyses on primary sources and online discussion posts.
3. GELO 3 (D): Compare and contrast the dynamics of two or more social groups or social systems in a variety of historical and/or cultural contexts. Assessed through weekly online quizzes, multiple-choice and essay exams, and online discussion posts.
4. GELO 4 (D): Place contemporary social developments in cultural, environmental, geographical, and/or historical contexts. Assessed through weekly online quizzes, multiple-choice and essay exams, plus written analyses on primary sources and online discussion posts.
5. GELO 5 (D): Draw on social/behavioral science information from various perspectives to formulate applications appropriate to historical and/or contemporary social issues. Assessed through multiple-choice and essay exams, and online discussion posts.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. CLO 1: Distinguish between primary and secondary materials and decide when to use each.
2. CLO 2: Develop a methodology to sift, analyze, order, synthesize, and interpret evidence.
3. CLO 3: Identify and summarize other scholars' historical arguments.
4. CLO 4: Apply historical knowledge and analysis to contribute to contemporary dialogue.
5. CLO 5: Generate a historical argument that is reasoned and based on historical evidence.
6. CLO 6: Devise significant questions about the past, and strategies to answer them.
7. CLO 7: Read historical texts, study and take notes and then apply learned knowledge in class.

COURSE TEXTS/ OTHER READINGS

- Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* (Brief, Sixth Edition) ISBN: 978-0-393-42868-1

* Access to InQuizitive and History Skills Tutorials is required/ Ebook recommended!
(See publisher's website for more info: <https://wwnorton.com/books/9780393418163>)

- All additional readings will be available as PDFs or URLs on our course Canvas page. *Please refer to Canvas for a list of primary sources to be read throughout the semester.*

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE BREAKDOWN

Grade Breakdown

Category	Percentage of Total Grade
Textbook readings and chapter quizzes	30%
Other assignments and activities	20%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%

Grading Information

Grading Standards:

The instructor will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. The differential grading scale defined in the SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System") is as follows: Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A = excellent; B = above average; C = average; D = below average; F = failure.

A plus = 97 to 100 percent

A = 93 to 96 percent

A minus = 90 to 92 percent

B plus = 87 to 89 percent

B = 83 to 86 percent

B minus = 80 to 82 percent

C plus = 77 to 79 percent

C = 73 to 76 percent

C minus = 70 to 72 percent

D plus = 67 to 69 percent

D = 63 to 66 percent

D minus = 60 to 62 percent

Grade	Percentage
<i>A plus</i>	<i>97 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>93 to 96%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>87 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>83 to 86%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>

Grade	Percentage
<i>C plus</i>	<i>77 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>73 to 76%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>67 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>63 to 66%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

A = Excellent: The "A" essay is articulate and well developed with fluid transitions and a clear and persuasive use of evidence, which is drawn from the literary text itself, lecture materials (when appropriate), and research materials. An "A" essay contains a fresh insight that teaches the reader something new about the subject matter.

B = Above average: The "B" essay demonstrates a good understanding of its subject, a clear and persuasive use of evidence, a certain level of ease of expression, and solid organization. However, it usually lacks the level of originality and creativity that characterizes the insight found in an "A" essay.

C = Average: The "C" essay makes a good attempt at all the assignment's requirements. It has a reasonable understanding of its subject matter but its ideas are frequently simplistic or over-generalized. The writing style is also more bland and repetitive than the style shown by "A" and "B" essays and it often contains flaws in grammar, punctuation, spelling and/or word choice. It may also use textual evidence out of context.

D = Below average: The "D" essay is poorly organized and generally unclear. It has inappropriate or inadequate examples, is noticeably superficial or simplistic, and/or contains some serious mechanical and grammatical problems. A "D" essay may also reveal some misunderstanding of the assignment requirements.

F = Failure: An "F" essay has not addressed the requirements of the assignment and is unacceptable work in terms of both form and content.

CLASSROOM PROTOCOL

Please wear a mask/ face covering when in our classroom!

Students are expected to attend all class meetings and are responsible for everything covered in class, whether present or not. Students are expected to give class participation the same level of respect and responsibility you would bring to any professional space: that means treating everyone in a courteous manner, arriving to class punctually, and coming prepared to work with the assigned materials and activities of the day. Moreover, all members of the class community are expected to conduct themselves with civility, decency, and have a great capacity for tolerating differing points of view. Our classroom can and should be a place where we can ask questions, debate, discuss, and entertain a variety of viewpoints, but we must also do so in a respectful and open way.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the at the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity

All work submitted in this course must be your own, produced specifically for this course, and for the assignment in question. If you draw on the ideas or language of others in written work or presentations, you must, by University policy, acknowledge that fact. If you have questions about the appropriate acknowledgment of sources, please review the library tutorial on how to avoid plagiarism at <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism>, or contact me.

Other Policy Information

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. For more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>).

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals. Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) (<http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>) for more information.

Library Liaison

Our library liaison is Peggy Cabrera. She can assist you with research or library-related questions you may have: Peggy.Cabrera@sjsu.edu and her campus phone number is (408) 808-2034.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126 and 2nd floor, MLK Library. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>).

HIST 15-65, FALL 2022
LECTURE, ASSIGNMENT, AND ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Any changes will be announced via Canvas. Assignments are due on 11:59 pm Pacific Time on the listed due date, unless otherwise stated.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
UNIT 1: BEFORE COLUMBUS THROUGH RECONSTRUCTION		
1	Aug. 23	Course Intro and Beginnings: Making a New World
2	Aug. 30	Colonization and Enslavement <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 1 & 2 + quizzes</i>
3	Sept. 6	Forming a New Republic <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 3 & 4 + quizzes</i>
4	Sept. 13	The Constitution and the Federalist / Antifederalist Debates <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 5 & 6 + quizzes</i>
5	Sept. 20	Indian Removal and the Market Revolution <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 7 & 8 + quizzes</i>
6	Sept. 27	Expansionism and Manifest Destiny <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 9 & 10 + quizzes</i>
7	Oct. 4	Abolitionism and Women's Rights <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 11 & 12 + quizzes</i>
8	Oct. 11	The Civil War and Reconstruction <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 13 & 14 + quizzes</i>
UNIT 2: FROM THE GILDED AGE THROUGH PRESENT		
9	Oct. 18	Gilded Age Populism and the Progressive Era <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 15 & 16 + quizzes</i>
10	Oct. 25	World War One and the Roaring Twenties <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 17 & 18 + quizzes</i>

11	Nov. 1	The Great Depression and the New Deal <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 19 & 20 + quizzes</i>
12	Nov. 8	World War Two Abroad and at Home <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 21 & 22 + quizzes</i>
13	Nov. 15	The Cold War and McCarthyism <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 23 & 24 + quizzes</i>
14	Nov. 22	The Civil Rights Movement and the Sixties <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 25 & 26 + quizzes</i>
15	Nov. 29	Nixon, Watergate, and the Reagan Era <i>Textbook reading: Foner, 27 & 28 + quizzes</i>
16	Dec. 6	9/11, the War on Terror, and the Twenty-First Century
Finals	Dec. 14	Final exam due by 2:30 pm on Wed., December 14