

San José State University
College of Social Science
Interdisciplinary Social Science and Sociology Department
AAS 33A (Section 1), Asian Americans and U.S. History and Political Institutions
Spring Semester, 2020

Instructor	Dr. Soo Choi
Dr. Choi's Office Location	DMH 238B
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Choi's Office Hours:	1:30-2:30 pm M&W and 12:00-12:30 pm Tuesday
Class Days/Time:	9:00-10:15 T & Th
Room	HGH 122
Prerequisites	None
GE/American Institutions Category:	D2 Social Sciences and US 1 American Institutions
Fees	None

Course Description

This course will examine the development of the U.S. from before the era of European expansion through the Civil War. Emphasis will be given to the historical and political factors that shaped the culture, society and institutions of the nation. This approach will focus on the roles played by workers, immigrants, and people of color generally and Asian Americans in particular. Since Asian immigrants did not arrive in large numbers until the 1850s, AAS 33A will focus on the historical experiences of Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and women. Such an examination of minority groups in the United States will help us understand the development of this country as a diverse, multicultural nation.

This course will also examine the development of national political ideologies, institutions and practices. Topics will include the nature of government, the evolution of the Constitution, federalism, civil liberties and civil rights, political parties and interest groups and the ways in which politics and public policy have been interwoven with struggles over the issues of race, ethnicity, gender and class.

While team taught, your section instructor will be responsible for specific assignments and grading.

Texts

Greenberg, Edward S., and Benjamin I. Page, *The Struggle for Democracy*, 11th Edition, Pearson Publishers, 2014 ISBN-13: 978-0133915273
 ISBN-10: 0133915271

Jones, Jacqueline, et. al., *Created Equal: A Social and Political History of the United States*, 4th Edition, Pearson Publishers, 2014 (Combined 33A and 33B edition) ISBN-13: 978-0205901302
 ISBN-10: 0205901301

These textbooks are available for purchase at Spartan Bookstore and other outlets.

Course Requirements and Assignments:

Midterms will be based on class lectures, activities, and readings. This exam will cover the assigned chapters in the textbooks, Canvas activities, and lectures for weeks.

PARTICIPATION The participation grade will be based upon completion of in-class assignments such as group projects, class exercises and quizzes, as well as display appropriate class protocol. Please read the assigned chapters before the date of class. Instructors may give unannounced quizzes or in-class assignments based upon your prior reading. There is no make-up for these in-class exercises. Study a little harder for exams to make up for points lost.

PRESENTATION A group of about 4-5 students will collectively make a presentation on a given topic. All topics (prompts) are posted on canvas. All groups and group names are posted as well. All Group members will receive the same points based upon the quality of presentation and coordination. Free riders will not gain any point. Each group is obligated to report members who refuse to cooperate. Those who do not contribute will not gain any point.

FINAL EXAM The final exam will cover the assigned chapters in the textbooks, Canvas activities, and lectures for the entire semester with a focus on week 13 – 15.

Assignments and Grading Policy

EXAMS/PAPERS & DUE DATES	POINTS POSSIBLE	GELO Assessed
Two Midterms	40 points (10 points each)	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4
Presentation	20 points	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4
FINAL EXAM	20 points	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4
PARTICIPATION (Quiz)	20 points	GELO 1, 2, 3, 4
Total	100 points possible	

Grading Scale:

95-100%: A 90-94%: A- 86-89%: B+ 83-85%: B 80-82%: B- 76-79%: C+ 73-75%: C 70-72%: C- 66-69%: D+ 63-65%: D 60-62%: D- 0-59%: F

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to arrive on time, participate in class discussions and exercises, and to be attentive to lectures and discussions. It is important to be courteous and respectful to peers as well as to the instructors. Students are asked to refrain from using cell phones, earphones or other devices. Students are expected to use laptop computers for classroom related work. If misused, electronic devices will be banned on the instructor's discretion. If students feel like they need to tape lectures and/or take photos of power point slides, they will need to attain the instructors' permission.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1/23	Introduction
1/28 1/30	North American Founders, North America to 1590 Reading: Jones, pp. xxxi-xxxiv, Part One, Chapter 1
2/4	European Footholds in North America, 1600-1660 Reading: Jones, Chapter 2
2/6 2/11	European Control of North America, 1660-1715 Reading: Jones, Chapter 3
2/13 2/18	African Enslavement: The Terrible Transformation, 1565-1770 Reading: Jones, Chapter 4
2/20	An American Babel: 1713-1763 Readings: Jones, Chapter 5

2/25	Midterm I
2/27	Limits of Imperial Control, 1763-1775 Readings: Jones, Chapter 6
3/3,5	Revolutionaries at War, 1775-1783 Readings: Jones, Chapter 7
3/10	Political Science Perspectives. Readings: Greenberg and Page, Forward, Chapter 1
3/12, 17, 19	New Beginnings: The Creation of the United States, The 1780s and the Constitution Reading: Jones, Chapter 8 Reading: Greenberg and Page, Ch. 2 and 3
3/24, 26	Revolutionary Legacies 1789-1803 Reading: Jones, Chapter 9
3/31	History and Objectivity ; Defending and Expanding the nation 1803-1818 Reading: Jones, Chapter 10
4/2	Society and Politics in the “Age of Common Man”, 1819-1832 Reading Jones, Chapter 11
4/7	Midterm II
4/9, 14	Congress Reading: Greenberg and Page, Chapter 11
4/16, 21	The Presidency Reading: Greenberg and Page, Chapter 12
4/23, 28	Federal Bureaucracy and the Courts Reading: Greenberg and Page, Chapter 13 and 14
4/30	Western Expansion, Asia, the Pacific and early Chinese Immigration Reading: Jones, Chapter 12
5/5	Origins of the Civil War Reading: Jones, Chapter 13
5/7	Summary & Conclusion
5/19 Tue	FINAL EXAM 7:15-9:30 am