

HISTORY 17B53Z: History of the United States 1800-1900

CRN 26838

De Anza College

Fall 2024

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Office Hours: by appointment



[Canvas Website](#)

PDF of course syllabus

History 17B-53Z is an online class that does not have scheduled meetings. Students can log in any time to do the required week's course work. Students must have access to a computer, the internet, and an individual email address. We recommend a laptop or desktop computer to successfully complete the course; a tablet or phone may not be adequate for all assignments and tests. The class will use the Canvas course management system. See the [Student Online Resources hub](#) with extensive information and tips for online learning.

Course Description: Look at the back of an American coin: you will see the slogan *E pluribus Unum*—Latin for “Out of many, one.” But what does this really mean? One *what*? There are many different answers to that question, several of which we will examine in this course. “One nation” is the obvious answer, but could it also mean “one people”? The distinction might seem subtle, but it is important. The United States is a country that has always been striving to define itself. This course will begin to explore that process of self-definition.

This survey will examine the evolution of the United States from an isolated group of “united” states to its emergence as a world power at the dawn of the 20th century. We will examine the democratization of politics in the early 19th century, as well as the expansion of the country and the problems created by that expansion. We will conduct original research into the memory of slavery for African Americans. We will examine the causes and consequences of the Civil War, the challenges of industrialization, and finally the emergence of the United States as a world power.

Student Learning Outcomes: In History 17B students will demonstrate and apply knowledge of the 19th century U.S. to construct defensible statements of meaning and evaluation about this period's developments. Students will identify, critically evaluate, and interpret 19th century U.S. primary documents to construct analysis.

Requisites: Advisory: EWRT 1A or EWRT 1AH or ESL 5.

Note: History 17B partially fulfills Area 4 of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). For further information, go to <http://www.deanza.edu/articulation/documents/ge-igetc.pdf>

Office Hours: I will be happy to meet with you during the quarter. Simply e-mail me to set up a meeting on Zoom, by phone, or other medium. jacksonchristopherr@fhda.edu

Textbook: OpenStax College, *U.S. History*. OpenStax College. 23 December 2014. <<http://cnx.org/content/col11740/latest/>>. Please note this textbook is free on-line. In order to download a pdf of the book, go to

<http://cnx.org/content/col11740/latest/>

Grading Policies: Please note that **the instructor will not initiate any “W” grades**; it is your responsibility to drop the course if you choose to do so. The last day to drop the class is October 6; the last day to withdraw with a “W” is November 15. Make-up discussions or late analysis papers will not be accepted. There is no extra credit in the class.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is cheating, caused by lazy or dishonest students who do not properly cite their sources or quotations. It is a serious academic violation and will not be tolerated in this class. Assignments that have been plagiarized will be given zero points and could lead to college disciplinary action. Please see the Student Handbook section on [academic integrity](#).

For a brief explanation of what plagiarism is, the different kinds of plagiarism, and how to avoid it, see <http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/what-is-plagiarism/>

Please do not “borrow” material from the web without providing proper citations and enclosing direct quotations in quotation marks. Likewise do not use ChatGPT or any other AI program. Your paper should be your own writing. Otherwise, it will be considered plagiarism, and the penalties will be severe.

Assignments

Primary source analysis papers. There will be two primary source analysis papers due, as listed below. They will be devoted to analyzing primary sources available from the course web page. Typed, double-spaced, and formatted according to MLA standards, approximately 800-1000 words, to be submitted to the Canvas website by 11:59 pm on the date due. (See instructions below.)

Instructions for turning in a paper for History 17B. The video below uses History 17C as an example, but the procedures are essentially the same.

**[Embedded video]

You must turn in Paper #1 on Indian Removal. You will then have a choice on which subject you will write your second paper: Secession, Populism and Reform, and Imperialism, to be submitted to the Canvas website by 11:59 pm on the date due. These assignments are posted on the class Canvas website. Click on the links for the assignments and links to the primary sources. Each worth 20 points. You may turn in only two papers for credit. For help on MLA formatting, consult the [Purdue Owl](#). Please do not submit Apple Pages files.

Paper #1: Indian Removal due October 13.

Paper #2: Secession due November 10.

Paper #3: Populism and Reform November 24.

Paper #4: Imperialism due December 8.

Discussions. In order to have regular and substantive interaction (and to get to know each other), we will be holding discussions on the historical topics of designated weeks. You will need to keep up with the material regularly, and not just leave it to the end of the week.

There will be five class discussions based on material from the textbook. Discussion posts must be made over the course of three separate days. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL SUNDAY TO DO THE DISCUSSION.** For more details, see the [Discussions assignment instructions](#).

Memory and American Slavery Quiz, Report, and Peer Reviews. To help you understand how to work with primary sources critically, you will investigate and write up a report on the experiences of enslaved persons in the United States. You will answer a brief quiz on the primary sources used for the report, and you will also evaluate three other students' reports. For more details, see the [assignment instructions](#).

Final exam. The final will be held on **Wednesday December 11th**. It will consist of one essay question and three short identifications. A study guide will be provided one week ahead of the exam that will consist of four possible essay questions; the instructor will choose one of these for your final exam—you will not have a choice. You will have a choice on the short IDs, but these will only be available on the day of the exam. You will have 24 hours to complete and submit the exam to Turnitin via Canvas.

Assignment Points

Say Hello	1% of final grade
Discussions:	25% of final grade

Analysis papers: 40% of final grade (20% each)

Slavery report project:(15% report, 2% quiz, 2% response) = 19% of final grade

Final examination: 15% of final grade

Grade Points/Letter Grade Equivalents

95+	90-94	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	73-76	67-72	64-66	60-63	<59
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	F

(Please note that there is no “C-minus” grade at De Anza.)

Class Topics

Week 1: September 23-September 29 **The New Republic, Early Industrialization**

Reading: OpenStax, chaps.8, 9

Say Hello Assignment due September 29

Week 2: September 30-October 6

From “Good Feelings” to Jacksonian Democracy

Reading: OpenStax, chap.10

Discussion #1 covering chaps. 8, 9

Week 3: October 7-13

Westward Expansion

Reading: OpenStax, chap.11

Paper #1 (Indian Removal) Due October 13

Week 4: October 14-20

Antebellum South, Reform Impulses

Reading: OpenStax, chaps. 12, 13

Discussion #2 covering chaps. 10, 11

Slavery Assignment Quiz due October 20

Week 5: October 21-27

Sectionalism and the Road to War

Reading: OpenStax, chap.14

Slavery Report due October 27

Week 6: October 28-November 3

The Civil War

Reading: OpenStax, chap. 15

Slavery Assignment peer reviews due November 3

Discussion #3 covering chaps. 12 and 13

Week 7: November 4-10

Reconstruction, the Far West

Reading: OpenStax, chaps.16, 17

Paper Option #2 (Secession) due November 10

Week 8: November 11-17

Industrialization and Big Business

Reading: OpenStax, chap.18

Discussion #4 covering chaps. 14 and 15

Week 9: November 18-24

Urbanization

Reading: OpenStax, chap.19

Paper Option #3 (Populism and Reform) due November 24

Week 10: November 25-December 1

The Gilded Age; Progressivism

Reading: OpenStax, chaps.20, 21

Discussion #5 covering chaps. 16 and 17

Week 11: December 2-8 **Politics and Foreign Affairs; Conclusion**

Reading: OpenStax, chap.22

Paper Option #4 (Imperialism) due December 8

Final Examination: Wednesday, December 11.

Need help? Meet with tutors and attend workshops in the Student Success

Center: <http://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess>.

For help with writing and reading, go to the Advanced Technology Center (ATC) Room 309.

Drop-in help is available!

Free online tutoring available to all De Anza students! For more information, go to

<https://deanza.edu/studentssuccess/onlinetutoring/>