HISTORY 130:03, UNITED STATES HISTORY  
Spring 2009  
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“The historian must have no country.” —John Quincy Adams, U.S. president, 1825-29

“Be very careful because it is very difficult to be a historian.” —Jose Enrique de la Peña, 19th century Mexican army officer and diarist

Course content and structure

History 130 is a very broad survey of American history from the pre-Columbian era to the present. We will not try to cover everything but will focus on selected topics and developments that the instructor regards as significant. Hopefully, students will find them interesting.

You will work hard in this course if you want a good grade. History 130 moves along rapidly, there is a quite a lot of assigned reading compared to what most of you are accustomed to, and you will absorb a sizeable amount of lecture material. University administrators judge that, for every hour a student sits in the classroom, (s)he should spend 2-3 hours outside of class working on the course. So I designed this syllabus on the assumption that every week you will spend some 5-6 hours at home or in a coffee shop or in the campus library, reading and digesting class material.

"History would be an excellent thing if only it were true.” —Leo Tolstoy, Russian author

History is a pack of tricks we play on the dead.” —Voltaire, French philosopher and novelist

Miscellaneous stuff

1. I encourage you to see me at the earliest sign of academic trouble. Regardless of how you are doing in the course, I invite you to drop by during office hours (Trinity 207) and introduce yourself. It’s a big class; that’s the only way we can get to know each other.
2. NO extra credit. Don’t even think about it within a hundred yards of the instructor.
3. It is rude to arrive to class late or to leave early. If tardiness is unavoidable, please enter quietly and with as little disruption as possible. If you have to leave early, please sit near a door so that you can exit quietly.
4. If you have to leave early, please sit near a door so that you can exit quietly.
5. Please turn off cell phones before the start of class. Please do not insult the instructor by text messaging or by using laptops for anything but taking class notes. In turn, I promise not to interrupt class by sending my own text messages.
6. Try not to laugh out loud at the instructor when he is attempting to make audiovisual equipment work properly.

Required texts

Kenneth C. Davis, Don’t Know Much about History: Everything You Need to Know about American History but Never Learned, revised ed. (referenced below simply as “Davis”) available at campus bookstore

Course Packet (abbreviated as CP) available at Mr. Kopy, 119 Main St. (ask for packet #32)

Special note to students: Due to extraordinary budget cuts to the CSU, fees to students have been increased 32%, many class sections have been cut, and faculty are required to take nine (9) furlough days each semester in school year 2009-10. These furlough days will unfortunately mean that I will be unable to include all elements of this class that would provide the best educational experience. This is the result of the state’s dramatic cut to the CSU budget this year, after already underfunding the system for a number of years.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

SEGMENT ONE  FROM COLONIES TO NATION (15th century to mid-19th century)

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<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Lecture topic and reading assignment:</th>
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| Jan. 25 | COURSE INTRODUCTION; EUROPEANS INVADE AMERICA  
Read Davis: Preface, Introduction, Author’s Note, chapter 1  
CP: Jules Benjamin on how to take class notes  
“Practical Tips for Reading Critically” (posted on course website) |
| Feb. 1  | INVASION—continued  
CP: Colin Calloway on how Indians’ daily lives changed with contact with Europeans  
Peter Nabokov with Dean Snow on Algonquians and Iroquoians, circa 1492  
Davis: ch. 2, to pg. 63, “What do sugar and stamps have to do with revolutions?”  
**quiz. Friday, Feb. 5, on all assigned reading for weeks of Jan. 25-Feb. 1; additionally, a few questions will address the syllabus contents (please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E to class)
Feb. 8  AMERICAN REVOLUTION: INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM—FOR SOME, 1750s-80s  
Read Davis: the rest of ch. 2; ch. 3, to pg. 134, “The 1790 Census”  
Read the copies of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights found at http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/freedom  
(No class Fri., Feb. 12, due to campus-wide mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Feb. 15  SLAVERY IN THE LAND OF THE FREE  
Davis: the rest of ch. 3  
quiz, Friday, Feb. 19, on all assigned reading for weeks of Feb. 8-Feb. 15 (please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E to class)  
(No class Mon., Feb. 15, due to campus-wide mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Feb. 22  SLAVERY—continued  
CP: excerpt from Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass  
**EXAM, Friday, Feb. 26, on all course material since start of semester (please bring a Scantron Form 882-E or 882ES to class)

SEGMENT TWO  CIVIL WAR TO WORLD WAR II (mid-19th century to 1940s)

Week of:  Lecture topic and reading assignment:
Mar. 1  CIVIL WAR: THE AMERICAN TRAGEDY, 1850s-60s  
Davis: ch. 4  
(No office hours Tues., Mar. 2, due to instructor’s mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Mar. 8  ORIGINS OF MODERN AMERICA: FACTORIES, GHETTOS, IMMIGRANTS, late 19th-early 20th centuries  
Davis: ch. 5, to p. 303, “How did a dead archduke in Sarajevo start a world war?”  
quiz, Friday, Mar. 12, on all assigned reading for weeks of Mar. 1-Mar. 8 (please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E to class)  
(No class Wed., Mar. 10, due to instructor’s mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Mar. 15  SPRING BREAK

Mar. 22  FIRST WORLD WAR: WOODROW WILSON, DISSENTERS, AND 100% AMERICANISM, 1910s  
Davis: the rest of ch. 5  
CP: Ronald Schaffer on censorship and repression during the war  
**One-page writing assignment due Friday, Mar. 26, at beginning of class

Mar. 29  DEPRESSION AND FDR’S NEW DEAL, 1929-41  
Davis: ch. 6, to pg. 358, “What was Lend-Lease?”  
quiz, Friday, Apr. 2, on all assigned reading for weeks of Mar. 22-Mar. 29 (please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E to class)  
No class Wed., Mar. 31, campus closed for Cesar Chavez Day; no office hours Thurs., Apr. 1, due to campus-wide Mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Apr. 5  SECOND WORLD WAR, 1930s-40s  
Davis: rest of ch. 6  
**EXAM, Friday, Apr. 9, on all course material since first exam (bring a Scantron Form 882-E or 882ES to class)

SEGMENT THREE  RECENT U.S. (1950s to the early 21st century)

Week of:  Lecture topic and reading assignment:
Apr. 12  THE FIFTIES: CONSENSUS, CONFORMITY, AND ROCK ‘N’ ROLL  
Davis: ch. 7

Apr. 19  VIETNAM WAR: AMERICA’S LONGEST WAR, 1950-1975  
Davis: ch. 8, to pg. 494, “Why did ‘Jane Roe’ sue Wade?”  
CP: Christian Appy on Vietnam War  
quiz, Friday, Apr. 23, on all assigned reading for weeks of Apr. 12-Apr. 19 (please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E to class)  
(No office hours Tues., Apr. 20, due to instructor’s mandatory unpaid furlough day)

Apr. 26  THE MOVEMENT: NEW LEFT AND COUNTERCULTURE, 1960s-70s  
CP: David Farber on Haight-Ashbury and hippies  
Charles Perry on Haight-Ashbury and hippie movement
May 3  SECOND WAVE FEMINISM, 1950s-1980s
  Davis: rest of ch. 8  CP: Flora Davis on feminism’s second wave
**One-page writing assignment due Monday, May 3, at beginning of class
quiz** Friday, May 7, on all assigned reading for weeks of Apr. 26-May 3 (please bring a you-know-what)
  (No class Wed., May 5, due to instructor’s mandatory unpaid furlough day)

May 10  CONTEMPORARY AMERICA, 1970s-2010
  Davis: ch. 9, Afterword

**FINAL EXAM. Monday, May 17, 10-11:50, on all course material since second exam (bring a Scantron Form 882-E or 882ES to class).

"Historical phenomena always happen twice—the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce.” —Karl Marx, German philosopher
"History is more or less bunk.” —Henry Ford, American inventor, manufacturer, and anti-Semite

Grades
Your final grade will be based on:
three exams totaling 400 points
first two worth 100 points each
final worth 200 points (final not comprehensive)
six bi-weekly quizzes, totaling 100 points
each worth 20 points, lowest score dropped
two 1-page writing assignments, each worth 25 points
additional information to be furnished at appropriate time during semester
four unannounced quick-writes/pop quizzes, totaling 50 points
each worth 16.67 points, one will be dropped

This comes to a total of 600 possible points. Final grades will break down as follows:
540-600 points A  90-100%  (540-549 A-)
480-539 points B  80-89%  (530-539 B+, 480-489 B-)
390-479 points C  65-79%  (470-479 C+, 390-399 C-)
330-389 points D  55-64%  (380-389 D+)
0-329 points F

Exams
All three will be objective—multiple choice and true/false. Unless otherwise announced, please bring a Scantron Form 882-E or 882ES (available at the A.S. Bookstore) to each of the tests.

Makeup exams are not automatic. If due to illness or emergency you are unable to take an exam, you must contact me (898-6251; jlivingston@csuchico.edu) or the Department of History (898-5366) before the test is given. I reserve the right to request documentation confirming the reason for your absence.

Quizzes
There are six quizzes scheduled, all multiple choice. All quizzes will be 20 points each. I will drop your lowest quiz score and will not offer any makeup quizzes. Unless otherwise announced, please bring a Scantron Quizzstrip Form 815-E (available at the A.S. Bookstore) to class on the day a quiz is scheduled.

Short writing assignments
Information on each will be furnished in a timely manner during the semester.
Unannounced quick-writes/pop quizzes
Four times in class during the semester, I will ask you to jot down a few sentences on an issue or question. If you are present and give an honest effort, you will receive full credit for your quick-write. I will drop one, so if you miss a pop quiz your overall course grade need not suffer.

“Those who do not learn from the past are condemned to repeat it.” —George Santayana, American philosopher

“That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons that history has to teach.” —Aldous Huxley, English novelist and essayist

Academic Dishonesty
I am very old school when it comes to cheating— I have a zero-tolerance policy. If you are caught cheating on a quiz or exam, or plagiarizing on a writing assignment, you will be given an F for the course and will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. It is your responsibility to understand the University’s policies on academic dishonesty. Consult the relevant portions of the University Catalog or check with me if you’re unclear on what constitutes cheating and plagiarizing.

“The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there.” —Leslie Poles Hartley, English writer

"The past is never dead; it's not even past." —William Faulkner, American novelist

History Department Student Learning Outcomes
1. Student’s work demonstrates critical use and proper citation of both primary and secondary sources.
2. Student’s work employs the formal styles of writing, argumentation, and presentation that historians use.
3. Student’s work demonstrates a basic mastery of research techniques that historians use.
4. Oral presentations are clear and comprehensive.
5. Student’s work reflects an understanding of historiographic traditions.
6. Student’s work reflects an understanding of the intellectual, political, economic, social, and cultural history of the United States, Europe, Classical Civilization, the Near East, or one “Non-Western” area.
7. Student’s work reflects an understanding of the roles of race, class, gender, or ethnicity in history.