

# U.S. History I

## U.S. History to 1877: Regime Change in the New World

### Fall 2021

21:512:201  
Rutgers University-Newark  
Online Format – Asynchronous

Prof. Brian Murphy  
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Virtual Office Hours via Zoom by appointment

For most of you, this is likely the first course you have ever taken about American history. This course is a *survey*, designed to help you develop an understanding of the events and debates which led to the founding of the United States as a nation in 1776 and the Civil War that divided it from 1861 until 1865.

During the semester, we will visit the cultural, political, social, and economic changes and which define these centuries. We will look at these developments through the eyes of both political leaders and the ordinary people who played a vital role in U.S. history. We will become more familiar with the debates that these participants engaged in over independence, slavery, rights, religion, and labor.

#### **Learning Goals and Course Objectives:**

Your objective in this course is to develop the skills necessary to interpret and analyze sources and information. You will do this by examining historical events following the settlement of North America by European colonists until the aftermath of the U.S. Civil War. This will be accomplished through close readings of documents, written responses to those readings, and discussions about the presented material.

- Learn the basic facts (who, what, when, where) of early American history
- Recognize and analyze a variety of historical documents known as "primary sources"
- Assess primary sources in terms of their reliability, veracity, and bias
- Evaluate how historians use primary sources to build their own interpretations of the past
- Generate original historical arguments using evidence gleaned from reading primary sources
- Improve your critical thinking and written skills through a critical engagement with early American history

By the end of the semester, you will be familiar with the major periods and themes of 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century U.S. history, the Constitution and form of government established after Independence, and the individuals who participated in its creation. You will be able to look at history more critically, engage in present-day historical debates with more

knowledge and confidence, and be better able to present arguments and evidence in your writing.

**Textbook:**

To guide the professor's lectures and provide context to your readings, the following textbook is *required* and will be made available in segments on the Blackboard site:

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History Volume 1(2017)*

**Canvas:**

Because this course is being conducted entirely online, all students must be able to use an internet-connected computer to access the course information system.

**Email:**

My email address is [bm628@rutgers.edu](mailto:bm628@rutgers.edu).

**Quizzes:**

In this class, I will assign quizzes on the assigned readings and source material to help students keep up with their work. There will be a quiz each week starting in Week 3.

**Midterm and Final Exams:**

This course will also have a midterm and final examination that will cover material assigned up to that point. Please see the schedule for those dates.

Both exams will be conducted online.

**Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:**

*As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University's educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>*

**Assignments:**

Students **MUST** complete the readings each week and to listen to the lecture each week about the assigned material to pass this course.

**Grades:**

Grades will be based on the following:

Quizzes (8)	40%
Midterm Exam:	30%
Final Exam:	30%
TOTAL:	100%

Students who perform the readings and study carefully should have no difficulty earning an “A” in this class.

**Technology Resources for Students:**

<https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu/technology-resources-for-students/>

**Counseling Center:**

The Rutgers-Newark Counseling Center provides a number of counseling and consultative services to enrolled and eligible undergraduate and graduate students. For students, if you are seeking individual or group therapy, you can expect to find a safe, supportive space to collaboratively identify and begin to change the thoughts, behaviors, and beliefs that prevent you from being your best self. <http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>

**Disabilities:**

Rutgers welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form: <https://webapps.rutgers.edu/student-ods/forms/registration>.

**Students with Temporary Conditions/Injuries:**

Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury that is adversely affecting their ability to fully participate in their courses should submit a request for assistance at: <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu>.

**Students Who are Pregnant:**

The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist students with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy: (973) 353-1906 or [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu).

### **Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:**

Students experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, should know that help and support are available. To report an incident, contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance: (973) 353-1906 or [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu). To submit an incident report: [tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm](https://tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm). To speak with a staff member who is confidential and does **NOT** have a reporting responsibility, contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance: (973) 353-1918 or [run.vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run.vpva@rutgers.edu).

### **Food:**

PantryRUN, the campus food pantry, helps students who have difficulty affording enough healthy food to remain focused on their studies and stay healthy. You can find hours and information here: <https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/pantryrun>.

### **Writing:**

The Rutgers University-Newark Writing Center provides tutoring for students who want to strengthen their reading, writing, and research skills and offers individual sessions and writing workshops to all undergraduate students currently enrolled in classes on the Rutgers University-Newark campus. More details here: <https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center>.

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS STATEMENT:**

“Lectures and materials utilized in this course, including but not limited to videocasts, podcasts, visual presentations, assessments, and assignments, are protected by United States copyright laws as well as Rutgers University policy. As the instructor of this course, I possess sole copyright ownership. You are permitted to take notes for personal use or to provide to a classmate also currently enrolled in this course. Under no other circumstances is distribution of recorded or written materials associated with this course permitted to any internet site or similar information-sharing platform without my express written consent. Doing so is a violation of the university’s [Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Similarly, these copyright protections extend to original papers you produce for this course. In the event that I seek to share your work further, I will first obtain your written consent to do so. Finally, as the instructor for this course, I have the responsibility to protect students’ right to privacy. Classroom recordings of students will therefore be treated as educational records under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the U.S. federal law that governs access to educational information and records.

Instructors and students must provide notification if any part of online sessions are to be recorded, and such recordings cannot be circulated outside the course.”

### **SEMESTER SCHEDULE**

*All assignments will be posted on Canvas. See due dates for each assignment.*

#### **Week 1&2**

##### **Overview of 1491 and English Colonization**

##### **New England, New France, the Caribbean, and a New Virginia**

Textbook and Lectures, Chapters, 1-2

#### **Week 3**

##### **Global Competition for Empires**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 3

Primary Source: Memorial Against Non-English Immigration

*Online Quiz*

#### **Week 4**

##### **Slavery and the Great Awakening,**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 4

Primary Source: Slave Codes

*Online Quiz*

#### **Week 5**

##### **War = Money = Problems**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 5

Primary Sources: Official Stamp, “Join Or Die,” and The Declaration of Independence

*Online Quiz*

**Week 6**

**What Now? Creating a Republic**

Textbook, Chapter 6

Primary Source: U.S. Constitution

*Online Quiz*

**Week 7**

**MIDTERM EXAM (Posted on Canvas on October 18 to be completed by October 22)**

**The Early American Republic**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 7

Primary Sources: Whiskey Rebellion

**Week 8**

**The Antebellum (Pre-War) 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 8

Primary Source: Selections from the Burr-Hamilton duel correspondence

*Online Quiz*

**Week 9**

**The Market Revolution**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 9

Primary Sources: Cotton Gin and Voice for the Erie Canal

*Online Quiz*

**Week 10**

**Jacksonian Democracy (!!?)**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 10

Primary Source: Memorial of the Non-Freeholders of the City of Richmond

*Online Quiz*

### **Week 11**

#### **Slavery**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 11

Primary Source: Daniel Drayton's *Memoir*

*Online Quiz*

### **Week 12**

#### **Reform**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 12

Primary Source: Grimke letter in *The Liberator*

### **Week 13**

#### **Isn't It Funny That There Seems To Be A Crisis Every 2 Years?**

Textbook and Lecture, Chapter 13

Primary Source: Lincoln-Douglas Debates

### **Week 14**

#### **The Civil War and Reconstruction**

Textbook and Lectures, Chapters 14 and 15

Primary Sources: SC articles of secession, Gettysburg Address, Sharecropping contract

**FINAL EXAM (Posting/Due Dates TBA)**

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