This course is designed to provide undergraduates with a thorough background in the history of the United States from contact through 1877 including: emerging colonial societies; the roots of the American Revolution; federalism, nationalism, and Jeffersonian democracy; Jackson and democratic capitalism; expansion and imperialism; slavery and the Civil War; and Reconstruction. The breadth of the course will allow students to examine US history from many different historical perspectives such as: social, cultural, economic, political, ethical, technological, and environmental. This course emphasizes a “US in the world” perspective, highlighting the US’ emergence as a world power over time. The goal of the course is to give undergraduates a basic understanding of both pivotal events in the history of the United States and its diverse people, and to enable undergraduates to begin thinking like historians by participating in debate, weighing evidence (primary and secondary sources), and examining methodology. Students’ will be honing their writing and analytical reading skills throughout the semester.

**Required Readings:**
This book is available to rent on Amazon Prime for $19.50, through the publisher’s website (http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/search/9781111341268) for $28.49, and through various other websites. You are also welcome to purchase a new or used edition. If you choose to purchase an earlier edition such as the fourth, note that not all of the sources are the same and you are responsible for obtaining and learning the material below.

Additional readings will be available on Blackboard. Students are required to check the “Announcements” section on Blackboard prior to every class.

**Food/Drink Policy:**
Drinks of the non-alcoholic variety are allowed. Food is prohibited.

**Technology Policy:**
Cell phones must be turned off. No texting. If you must answer you phone during class, speak with me directly in advance. If you use a laptop for note-taking purposes, speak with me at the start of the semester and note that you must sit in the front of the classroom.

**Plagiarism Policy:**
Plagiarism, or the copying of someone else’s words or ideas, will not be tolerated in this class. You MUST SIGN the FORM on plagiarism electronically via Blackboard before any assignments will be accepted. Use footnotes or endnotes when citing someone else’s work at all times. See appended “Citation FAQ” and “Citation Basics.”

**Attendance Policy:**
Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend every class, arrive on time (sign-in before class), and stay for the duration of the class. Leaving early without prior permission will count as an unexcused absence. Students may be excused for illness, family emergency and similar extreme situations, and religious observance (see the Rutgers Catalog: http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nwk-ug_0608/pg23613.html). Documentation must be provided. Absences for work, job interviews, travel, and similar events will not be excused.
Unexcused absences will be penalized one (1) mark (out of ten) of the student’s attendance grade.

Six unexcused absences will result in an automatic failing grade. Students who miss eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the course.

**Participation:**
Ten percentage points of the final grade will be earned for participation. Participation during class discussion is both expected and required, for example: when the professor asks questions directly to the class; when discussing the lectures, media clips and readings; and during organized debate. Your participation grade will reflect the quality and quantity of your in-class contributions as compared with that of your classmates.

**Reading and Written Assignments:**
Students must read the assignment indicated on the syllabus before coming to class on that date, and be prepared to discuss it. Students will answer the questions in the *Voices* text each time there is a reading assignment listed on the syllabus from that text. These will be collected and graded at random times during the semester.

**Paper:**
Students will write a paper on a topic to be announced, based on the lectures and readings. This will be due at the beginning of class on November 17th. See “Submission Policy.”

**Quizzes:**
Ten percentage points of the final grade will consist of quizzes (announced or unannounced) on the lectures and readings.

**Exams:**
The Midterm Exam will cover the course materials -- all lectures, discussion, media, and reading assignments -- through October 15th. The Final Exam on Tuesday, December 15th, from 3:00PM – 6:00PM, will cover all material from October 15th through the end of the course. Review sheets will be made available on Blackboard prior to the exams. IF YOU ARE AWARE OF A CONFLICT YOU NOW HAVE WITH ANY EXAM DATE AS INDICATED ON THE SYLLABUS, DO NOT TAKE THIS COURSE. MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL ONLY BE ARRANGED IF WRITTEN, ACCEPTABLE EXCUSES ARE PROVIDED. Travel plans do not constitute sufficient reason for missing exams. Students that do not submit both exams will not pass the course.

**Extra Credit:**
No extra credit will be awarded in this class for any reason, with the following exception: We will be debating the merits of the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution in class. These documents (as well as later Amendments to the Constitution) gave some Americans the right to vote. Voting day is the Tuesday after the first Monday in November (November 3, 2015). The last day to register to vote before the General Election is October 13, 2015. At the beginning of class on October 15, 2015, and only on that date, I will accept one of the following (which should take approximately the same amount of time): 1) Proof (in the form of a copy of your voter registration card or printed confirmation of your registration) that you have gone through the process of registering to vote. 2) A typed list of the national, state, and local candidates that will appear on the ballot where you currently reside. These copies will be returned to you with your midterm exam (which you will be taking on the same date, October 15, 2015). *Note: this assignment is not mandatory, nor am I asking who you would, or will be, voting for on Election Day.* If you choose to participate in the extra credit assignment, I will add ten points to your midterm exam grade.

**Grading Policy:**
Attendance: 10%
Participation: 10%
Written Assignments: 10%
Paper: 10%
Quizzes: 10%
Midterm Exam: 20%
Final Exam: 30%
TOTAL: 100%

Class Schedule:

Week One:
Sept 1  Introduction
Sept 3  Pre-Columbian Civilizations and the Columbian Exchange
1. The Spanish Letter of Columbus to Luis Sant’ Angel (1493). 2. Images of 16th-Century Native American Life.

Week Two:
Sept 8  No Class (Monday schedule)
Sept 10 Diverse Beginnings: Introduction to the New World

Week Three:
Sept 15 Early Experiments: English, French, and Dutch

Sept 17 Early Experiments: English Settlement, Coexistence and Conflict

Week Four:
Sept 22 Imperial Connections: Emerging Colonial Societies

Sept 24 Life in the first half of the 1700s: Colonial Maturation and Conflict

Week Five:
Sept 29 Roads to Revolution

Oct 1 Roads continued

Week Six: The American Revolution
Oct 6

Oct 8
Securing Independence

Week Seven: The Federal Experiment (Debate: Articles Versus Constitution)
Oct 13

Oct 15
MIDTERM EXAM
Voluntary Extra Credit Assignment Due

Week Eight: Striving for Nationhood: The Limits of Republicanism
Oct 20

Oct 22
Continued Striving: Political Economy in Jeffersonian America

Week Nine: The Emerging Capitalist Nation, Republican Women & Families
Oct 27

Oct 29
The Rise of Democracy and the Transformation of Political Culture

Week Ten:
Nov 3    Continuing -- Jacksonian Democracy, Native American Removal
68. The Cherokee Phoenix on Georgia Policy toward the Cherokee (1832). 69. South Carolina Nullifies the Tariff (1832). 70. Images of Jacksonian Politics

Nov 5    The Market Economy and Industry in the North

Week Eleven:
Nov 10    Social Reform

Nov 12    Slavery, North and South

Week Twelve:
Nov 17    Inside the Plantation Household, Inside the Slave Community (Paper Due)

Nov 19    Manifest Destiny and the Westward Experiment

Week Thirteen:
Nov 24    The Sectional Challenge

Nov 26    THANKSGIVING RECESS – NO CLASS

Week Fourteen:
Dec 1    Origins of The Civil War (Debate: North Versus South)

Dec 3
The Civil War

Week Fifteen:
Dec 8
Reconstruction and the New South

Dec 10
Conclusion and Review

December 15th, 3:00PM – 6:00PM FINAL EXAM
CITATION FAQ

What do you need to cite?

Any phrase, sentence or paragraph that you have taken from another source, even if it’s a sentence fragment. For example, if you use the phrase "to be or not to be: that is the question," you must provide a citation to the relevant page in a published edition of William Shakespeare's play Hamlet. As a general rule, if you are using words that someone else wrote, you must cite. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Any information that you found in another source (and isn't common knowledge), even if you paraphrase. For example, if you write something like "almost ten per cent of the adult males in the United States in 1924 were members of the Ku Klux Klan," you have to say where you got that information. If you don't, how do I know that you're not making it up?

As a general rule, you don't have to provide citations for information that we covered in class.

What happens if you don't cite?

It depends. The highest grade that a term paper without citations will receive is C+. If you quote substantially from another source and do not (a) indicate that it is a quote and (b) indicate where the quote came from, I will consider this plagiarism. You will receive a zero (0) on the paper and I will submit it to the Dean's office for review.

If you don't know whether you should cite a passage, quote or information, err on the side of caution and cite it.

What do you need?

As a general rule, you will need a bibliography page, and footnotes or parenthetical notes in text for all of your references. Please use either the University of Chicago/Turabian citation style or follow the basic citation guide on the next page.

SUBMISSION POLICY

All assignments must be submitted in hard copy by the beginning of class, and the paper must also be submitted to turnitin.com on Blackboard. No assignments will be accepted after the deadline, except with prior arrangement. If you miss a class – and a deadline – due to illness or other excused absence, you must inform me, and submit the assignment to turnitin.com (to be followed with hard copy at the earliest opportunity). You will not receive credit for assignments unless they are submitted to Turnitin.

Assignments must be typed double-spaced in 12-point Times on white paper, stapled or bound in a cover. Handwritten submissions will not be accepted.

All students are required to sign the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge. To receive credit, every assignment must have your signature under the following phrase: "On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination / assignment."

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES

Historians refer to primary and secondary sources. A primary source is a document, speech, or other sort of evidence written, created or otherwise produced during the time under study, or by a participant. Primary sources offer an inside view of a particular event. Secondary sources provide interpretation and analysis of primary sources. Secondary sources are usually (though not always) written by professional historians and are one step removed from the original event.
Citation Basics

Book

Bibliography:

Footnote First Reference:

Footnote Subsequent References:
Lears, 113.
Lears, *Rebirth of a Nation,* 113. (If you cite more than one work by this author.)

Parenthetical Reference: (Lears, 236)

Parenthetical Reference (if you use more than one source by this author): (Lears 2009, 236)

Article

Bibliography:

Note that you include the volume number of the journal or publication following the title. Omit it if it is not known.

Footnote First Reference:

Footnote Subsequent References:
Rosenfeld, 318.
Rosenfeld, "On Being Heard," 320.

Parenthetical Reference: As with books.