



## Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

---

**Semester:** Spring

**Course Prefix:** Hist

**Course Title:** U.S. History to 1877

**Year:** 2025

**Course and Section #:** 2700-X01

**Credits:** 3

---

### ***Course Description***

Surveys the origins of the United States from the Pre-Columbian era and early colonization through Reconstruction. Focuses on encounters among indigenous, African and European peoples; gender, race, and Atlantic slavery; the causes and consequences of the American Revolution; the westward expansion of the United States; and the sectional crisis that lead to the American Civil War.

---

### ***Course Attributes***

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

---

### ***Instructor Information***

**Instructor Name:** Lyn Ellen Bennett, PhD

---

### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

Demonstrate knowledge of chronology, key terms, themes, patterns, individuals, and turning points in American History to 1877.

Differentiate between primary and secondary sources and understand their value in the study of history.

Demonstrate the ability to read, understand, and analyze an historical document in an informed manner.

Develop critical thinking, writing, and oral communication skills in the content area.

Demonstrate an understanding of the different perspectives, interpretations, and methodologies that appear and have been used in the study of American History to 1877.

---

### ***Course Materials and Texts***

***Making America: A History of the United States, Volume 1: to 1877, Brief 6<sup>th</sup> Edition***, by Carol Berkin, et.al.

---

### ***Course Requirements***

## Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Syllabus Quiz	5 points
Video Introduction	5 points
15 Textbook Quizzes (TQ)	75 points (5 pts each)
3 Reflection Posts	15 points (5 pts each)
2 Low-stake Assignments (LWA)	30 points (15 pts each)
4/5 Module Exams (EX)*	200 points (50 pts each)
Total	<hr/> 330 points

\* At the end of the semester, *the lowest exam score will be dropped automatically.*

**Grading System.** You will have access to your **raw points** via **CV** throughout the semester so you can keep track of your progress. Note: if you missed an assignment and a “-“ appears in the column, the CV gradebook will not accurately calculate your grade until I put a “0” in the column. To calculate your % standing in the class throughout the semester use this formula:

$$\% \text{ Formula} = \frac{\text{your total points to date} \times 100}{\text{maximum points assigned to date}}$$

Final grades will be calculated and assigned at the end of the semester based on the standard scale: A=100-94, A-=93-90, B+=89-87, B=86-84, B-=83-80, C+=79-77, C=76-74, C-=73-70, D+=69-67, D=66-64, D-=63-60, F=59-0. If you have any questions about your grade or calculation of your grade, see me.

---

## Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

*Click here to enter text.*

---

## General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

### MODULE ONE

Jan 6

Segment 1.0: Course Orientation

Assignment: Review Syllabus & Course Resources Module

Jan 8

Segment 1.1: Paleo Indian Cultures

Assignment: Lecture – Paleo Indians Part 1

*Paleo-Indians Materials*

Reading Guide: *Paleo-Indian Materials*

Jan 10

Segment 1.2: Paleo Indian Cultures  
Assignment: Lecture – Paleo Indians Part 2

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Jan 12:**

**Syllabus Quiz**

**Video Introduction**

**RP1**

Jan 13

Segment 1.3: Paleo Indian Cultures  
Assignment : Lecture – Paleo Indians Part 3  
*Making America*, ch.1

Jan 15

Segment 1.4: Paleo Indian Cultures  
Assignment: Lecture – Paleo Indians Part 4  
*Making America*, ch. 2

Jan 17

Segment 1.5 Spain in America  
Assignment: Lecture  
*Making America*, ch. 3  
*New World Colonization Model*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Jan 19:**

**TQ Ch. 1**

**TQ Ch. 2**

**RP2**

Jan 22

Segment 1.6: England in America: Chesapeake Bay  
Assignment: Lecture  
*Smoke and Greed on the Tobacco Coast*  
Reading Guide: *Smoke and Greed on the Tobacco Coast*  
*New World Colonization Model*

Jan 24

Segment 1.7: England in America: New England  
Assignment: *Cities on a Hill*  
Reading Guide: *Cities on a Hill*  
*New World Colonization Model*

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Jan 26:**

**TQ Ch. 3**

**EXAM 1 Opens Friday, Jan 24, 12 p.m.**

**Complete before Sunday, Jan 26, 11:59 p.m.**

## MODULE TWO

Jan 27

Segment 2.0: Road to Revolution: Imperial Wars Part I

Assignment: Lecture

*Making America*, ch. 4

Jan 29

Segment 2.1: Road to Revolution: Imperial Wars Part II

Assignment: Lecture

*Making America*, ch. 5

Jan 31

Segment 2.2: Road to Revolution: Enlightenment & Great Awakening

Assignment: Lecture

*Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 1: The Reluctant Revolutionaries* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *The Reluctant Revolutionaries*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Feb 2:**

**TQ Ch. 4**

**TQ Ch. 5**

**RP3**

Feb 3

Segment 2.3: Road to Revolution: British Intervention & Colonial  
Contravention

Assignment: Lecture

Feb 5

Segment 2.4: Road to Revolution

Assignment: Lecture

*Declaration of Independence* [*Making America*, A14-A15]

Reading Guide: *Declaration of Independence*

Feb 7

Segment 2.5 Road to Revolution

Assignment: *Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 2: Blows Must Decide* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *Blows Must Decide*

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Feb 9:  
OPTIONAL LWA1 Revolutionary Diary**

Feb 10

Segment 2.6: Revolution

Assignment: *Making America*, Ch. 6

*Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 3: The Times That Try Men's Souls* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *The Times That Try Men's Souls*

Feb 12

Segment 2.7: Revolution

Assignment: *Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 4, Oh, Fatal Ambition!* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *Oh, Fatal Ambition!*

Feb 14

Segment 2.8: Revolution

Assignment: *Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 5: The World Turned Upside Down* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *The World Turned Upside Down*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Feb 16:  
TQ Ch. 6**

**EXAM 2 Opens, Feb 14 12:00 pm**

**Complete before Sunday, Feb 16, 11:59 p.m.**

### MODULE THREE

Feb 19

Segment 3.0: Creating Governments

Assignment: Lecture

*Making America*, ch. 7

*The Articles of Confederation*

Feb 21

Segment 3.1: Creating Governments

Assignment: Lecture  
*U.S. Constitution & Bill of Rights [Making America, A16-A21]*  
*Hamilton's 4 Economic Plans*

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Feb 23:  
TQ Ch. 7**

Feb 24  
Segment 3.2: Constitutional Ratification  
Assignment: *An Empire of Reason* (video)  
Viewing Prompts: *An Empire of Reason*

Feb 26  
Segment 3.3: The New Republic: Party Politics  
Assignment: *Making America*, ch. 8  
*The Unfinished Nation: Rivals and Friends* (video)  
*Alien & Sedition Acts*  
*Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions*

Feb 28  
Segment 3.4 The New Republic: Exploring the West  
Assignment: Lecture  
*PBS Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery, Part 1*(video)  
Viewing Prompts: *Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery, Part 1*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Mar 2:  
TQ Ch. 8  
OPTIONAL LWA2 Corps of Discovery Journal**

Mar 3  
Segment 3.5: The New Republic: Race  
Assignment: *Race and Slavery*  
Reading Guide: *Race and Slavery*

Mar 5  
Segment 3.6: The New Republic: Road to War of 1812 & Consequences  
Assignment: Lecture  
*Making America*, Ch. 9

Mar 7  
Segment 3.7: The New Republic: War of 1812  
Assignment: *PBS The War of 1812* (video)  
Viewing Prompts: *The War of 1812*

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Mar 9:**

**TQ Ch. 9**

**EXAM 3** Opens Friday, Mar 7, 12:00 p.m.  
Complete before Sunday, Mar 9, 11:59 p.m.

**MODULE FOUR**

Mar 17

Segment 4.0: Antebellum Reform: Slavery

Assignment: *Making America*, ch. 10

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, by Linda Brent, Chs. 5-6 & 9-10 at:

<https://docsouth.unc.Chapedu/fpn/jacobs/jacobs.html>

Mar 19

Segment 4.1: Antebellum Reform: Federal Indian Policy

Assignment: Lecture

Mar 21

Segment 4.2: Antebellum Reform: Impact of Federal Indian Policy

Assignment: *The Trail of Tears*

Reading Guide: *The Trail of Tears*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Mar 23:**

**TQ Ch. 10**

**OPTIONAL LWA3 Winter Count**

Mar 24

Segment 4.3: Antebellum Reform: Second Great Awakening

Assignment: Lecture

*Making America*, ch. 11

Mar 26

Segment 4.4: Antebellum Reform: Abolitionism

Assignment: *Making America*, ch. 12

*The Abolitionists, Part 1* (PBS)

Viewing Prompts: *The Abolitionists*

Mar 28

Segment 4.5: Manifest Destiny

Assignment: Lecture

*The Alamo* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *The Alamo*

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Mar 30:**

**TQ Ch. 11**

## TQ Ch. 12

Mar 31

Segment 4.6: Manifest Destiny

Assignment: *Making America*, ch. 13

PBS *US-Mexican War 1846-1848*, Disc 1 Part II (video) **from** 54:28 to end

Viewing Prompts: *US-Mexican War 1846-1848 Excerpt 1*

Apr 2

Segment 4.7: Manifest Destiny

Assignment: PBS *US-Mexican War 1846-1848*, Disc 2 Part III (video) **to** 53:25

Viewing Prompts: *US-Mexican War 1846-1848 Excerpt 2*

Apr 4

Segment 4.8: The End of Compromise 1850s

Assignment: Lecture

PBS *Civil War* series: Episode 1 *The Cause* (video)

Viewing Prompts: *The Cause*

## ASSIGNMENTS DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Apr 6:

### TQ: Ch. 13

**EXAM #4** Opens Friday, Apr 4, 12:00 p.m.

Complete before Sunday, Apr 6, 11:59 p.m.

## MODULE FIVE

Apr 7

Segment 5.0: Civil War, Unraveling of the Union Begins

Assignment: Lecture

*Making America*, ch. 14

Apr 9

Segment 5.1: Civil War, 1862-1863

Assignment: Lecture

PBS *Civil War* series: “Shiloh” & “Antietam” (video clips)

Viewing Prompts: “Shiloh” & “Antietam”

Apr 11

Segment 5.2: Civil War, Turning Points

Assignment: Lecture

PBS *Civil War* series: “Vicksburg Campaign” & “Gettysburg Days 1-3”



Viewing Prompts: “Vicksburg Campaign” & “Gettysburg Days 1-3”

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Apr 13:**

**TQ Ch. 14**

**OPTIONAL LWA4 DUE Periodical**

Apr 14

Segment 5.3: Civil War, Consequences

Assignment: Lecture

PBS *Civil War* series: “Can those be Men?” & “Appomattox” (video clips)

Viewing Prompts: “Can those be Men?” & “Appomattox”

Apr 16

Segment 5.4: Reconstruction – Presidential & Judicial

Assignment: Lectures

*Making America*, ch. 15

Apr 18

Segment 5.5: Reconstruction – Legislative

Assignment: Lecture

*Major Congressional Reconstruction Legislation*

**ASSIGNMENT DUE/COMPLETED BEFORE 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Apr 20:**

**TQ Ch. 15**

Apr 21

Segment 5.6: Reconstruction Consequences - The Rise and Expansion of the Ku Klux Klan

Assignment: Lecture (includes embedded video)

**Exam #5\* Opens Friday, Apr 25, 12:00 p.m.**

**Complete before Monday, Apr 28, 11:59 p.m.**

---

## ***Required Course Syllabus Statements***

### **Generative AI**

### **Academic Integrity**

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for a free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. UVU’s goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged

and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work. Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in an act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, faculty are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices. See [Student Rights & Accountability](#) for definitions and examples of what constitutes cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication. If you are ever in doubt about citing or citations, please contact me prior to submission of your written work. **Please note, that all written work in this class is run through the UVU anti-plagiarism/AI/Chatbot tool (CopyLeaks). It is expected that all work you submit for this class is your own work. If the CopyLeaks tool flags your work for cheating or any AI-use, including editing, you will automatically fail the assignment and possibly face further academic disciplinary actions.**

---

### **Using Remote Testing Software**

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

---

### ***Required University Syllabus Statements***

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibit Utah Valley University from engaging in discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity. Discrimination is also prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of a job.

Students who believe s/he has been denied program access or otherwise discriminated against because of a disability is encouraged to initiate a grievance by contacting the Accessibility Services Director, Sherry Page at 801-863-8747. If you have a disability that may impair your ability to successfully complete this course, please contact the Accessibility Services Department at [Accessibility Services Accommodations](#). Academic accommodations are granted for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the Accessibility Services Department.

---

Regarding exams, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with Accommodative Testing Services and notify me of your arrangements one week prior to any exam.

### **Title IX.**

Title IX make it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has experienced or experiences harassment or sexual assault including, dating and domestic violence, stalking or sexual exploitation, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, BA-203, (801)863-7999 or [UVU Equity & Title IX](#). Please be aware that all faculty members and university employees are considered "Responsible Employees" and are required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and relationship violence and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. Please know that you can seek confidential resources at UVU Student Health Services, SC-221, (801)863-8876. Please visit: [Student Health Services](#)

### **Religious Accommodation.**

UVU values and acknowledges a wide range of faiths and religions as part of our student body, and as such provides accommodations for students. Religious belief includes the student's faith or conscience as well as the student's participation in an organized activity conducted under the auspices of the student's religious tradition or religious organization. The accommodations include reasonable student absences from scheduled examinations or academic requirements if they create an undue hardship for sincerely held religious beliefs. For this to occur, the student must provide a written notice to the instructor of the course for which the student seeks said accommodation prior to the event.

Guidelines for religious accommodation can be found at [Religious Accommodations](#)  
A religious accommodation request form can be found here [UVU Student Religious Accommodation Request Form](#)

### **University Statement on Engagement & Effectiveness**

UVU aspires to foster an engaging and supportive campus that empowers students, embraces all differences, and nurtures a strong sense of belonging, enabling the UVU community to grow and thrive. Its mission is to cultivate a campus that exemplifies collaboration, embraces innovation, and values respect, to provide exceptional care for students, faculty, and staff. For more information see [UVU Engagement Plan](#)

---

---