

U.S. History To 1877

TEXTS

Eric Foner, *Give me Liberty* Volume 1, 3rd SeaGull Edition; WWNorton
ISBN: 978-0393911909

Eric Foner, *Voices of Freedom* Vol 1, 3rd edition; WWNorton
ISBN: 978-0393935660

Malcolm Gladwell, *Outliers: The Story of Success*, Little, Brown & Company, ISBN: 978-0-316-01793-0

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Learning Objectives

Welcome to History 1301. In this course we will develop and hone critical thinking skills and improve communication through a discussion of U.S. history. We will increase our knowledge and understanding of how and why the United States came to its current form. The ultimate goal of this course is to increase students' analytical and expressive abilities through the study of history. In accordance with state requirements, by the end of this course students should be able to: 1) explain an issue/problem by stating clearly and describing comprehensively, 2) develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication 3) take informed and responsible action to address ethical, social, and environmental challenges in global systems and 4) evaluates personal choices and actions and relate consequences to ethical decision making.

Office Hours

Posted inside of Virtual Campus website to reflect semester variations.

Major Topics

This course will explore: Indigenous Cultures; European Conquest and Colonization; Colonial Similarity and Discord; Social and Economic Development in the Colonies; Divergence with England; American Revolution; Nation Building; Market Revolution; First Industrial Revolution; American Democratization; Western Expansion; Southern Practices and Perspectives; Sectional Clashes; Civil War; Reconstruction

Grading

Grade Weight

Grade Scale

Exam 1	20%	100-90	A
Chapter Quizzes	20%	89-80	B
Documents	20%	79-70	C
GATOR	15%	69-60	D
Final	25%	59-0	F

Description of Grade Criteria

Exams

Examinations consist of one essay as well as multiple choice, true/false, matching and similar questions from the textbook, documents, lecture and discussion. Students

should prepare by reviewing quizzes, reading documents carefully and brainstorming answers to possible essay questions posted under "Advice and Information" in the course website.

Chapter Quizzes

Chapter quizzes use multiple choice and true/false questions to measure retention of textbook information. Students take each quiz online. Quizzes last a maximum of fifteen minutes, during which students may use the book or notes. Students may retake each chapter quiz up to three times to improve their grade. Only the highest grade counts, so there is never a penalty for re-taking a quiz.

Document Summaries

Each student will sign up for **5** readings from Voices of Freedom the first week of class. Students will make a brief **verbal summary** of the article for the class. Absence on the day the article is covered will result in a **0** for the article. Though one student will lead discussion of each article, all students read and prepare to answer questions on exams.

GATOR

GATOR (Gaining Achievement Through Organized Reading) or Book Review and Personal Applications Project

GATOR is a campus-wide program designed to engage faculty, staff and students in discussions of important issues related to student success. Students wishing to participate in the GATOR program for this portion of their grade will be required to actively participate in each of the three monthly on-campus discussion sessions for this semester. To sign up, visit the Library, call 979-230-3504 or email sasha.tarrant@brazosport.edu

What	Length	Tuesday	Wednesday	Times
Documentary & discussion Gator Hall – H-100	90 min	February 10 th	February 11 th	9:30, 11, 12:30, 4, 7
Outliers discussion #1 Intro – Chapter 5– H-100	60 min	March 17 th	March 18 th	9:30, 11, 12, 12:30, 4, 7
Outliers discussion #2 Chapter 6-end – H-100	60 min	April 14 th	April 15 th	9:30, 11, 12, 12:30, 4, 7

Sessions will contain the same information and discussion questions. Participants are free to choose a date and time that best suits their schedule. Participants may shift day and time from one month to the next as needed.

All participants must take a short 6 question quiz for entry into book discussions Four of six questions must be answered correctly for entry. This will ensure all members of each discussion group are able to contribute to conversations, making for a deeper more productive experience.

Students must attend **all three** discussion sessions in order to receive credit. At the end of the semester, students who attended the GATOR discussions will submit a **one-page** reflective paper. Specific questions will be distributed in class.

Students who opt not to participate in the GATOR discussion program will instead

read the book, submit a **3-5 page review** of the book and a **second 3-5 page** explaining their understanding of social and personal responsibilities and how they apply to each individual students' life.

Learning Environment Policies

Unless otherwise announced in class, we will follow the reading and examination schedule listed on the Tentative Course Calendar. The teacher **will not withdraw** students.

This is an adult learning environment and all students are treated accordingly. All participants should respond to one another with respect. Feel free to disagree with one another, the textbook and even me, as long as it is done appropriately. It is important to learn how to disagree with people's ideas without attacking or insulting.

Cheating & plagiarizing

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. Click on the CATALOGS AND SCHEDULES link under STUDENTS.

Cheating and plagiarizing are not tolerated. Cheating or plagiarizing will result in a minimum 0 for the entire category, and submission for disciplinary action. Thus, cheating on one quiz will result in a 0 for the entire quiz average (20% of the overall grade) not just one quiz. Possession of an electronic device during an exam is cheating. All work submitted for this course must be the sole product of each student's individual effort and unique to this course. Studying together is wise, developing group answers constitutes cheating. Submitting work that is in part or whole duplicated from work submitted to other classes, projects or efforts is plagiarizing.

The Academic Integrity team within Student Services may take action beyond the course minimum sanctions listed above.

Attendance

To learn, you must be mentally and physically present. Attendance is taken regularly. You will need to take notes and engage in discussions. ****Class notes do not duplicate the book, and will be covered on tests.**

Students with Disabilities

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. Brazosport College offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact the Special Populations Counselor, 979.230.3236, for further information.

Homework

College professors expect students to spend 2-3 hours outside of class per week preparing for each semester hour (3= 6-9 hours weekly reading, studying, researching and writing outside class).

Make-up

If students miss an exam they should immediately make arrangements with the

Exams

instructor to take a make-up in Student Services. Students must complete make-up exams within **one week** of the missed exam. No make ups are possible for the final. To schedule an exam stop by or call 230-3253 and **notify the teacher before the exam**. For LS Policies, visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

Student Services

Information about the Library is available at <http://www.brazosport.edu/library> or by calling 979.230.3310.

For assistance completing online work, an open computer lab, online and make-up testing, audio/visual services, and study skills, visit Learning Services next to the Library, call 979.230.3253, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

For drop-in math tutoring, the writing center, supplemental instruction and other tutoring including e-tutoring, visit the Student Success Center, call 979.230.3527, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/studentsuccesscenter>.

To contact the Social Sciences & Business Department call 979-320-3226

The Student Services provides assistance in the following:

Counseling and Advising	979.230.3040
Financial Aid	979.230.3294
Student Life	979.230.3355

To reach the Information Technology Department for computer, email, or other technical assistance call the Helpdesk at 979.230.3266.

Technical Difficulties

BC offers students use of numerous computers on campus in the LAC and elsewhere which are properly configured to work with course software. Staff on duty in the LAC can answer many questions about online courses. We cannot, however, ensure that the millions of possible individual variations on personal computers will work properly with this course. Although most students never encounter difficulty, if you run into problems:

- Read and follow instructions for compatible browsers found on the Log In screen for the class.
- Disable firewall or pop-up blockers. Many of these will clash with the security functions in the course software.
- Install and update **virus protection** on a regular basis.

When all else fails, contact BC Information Technology at <http://www.brazosport.edu/IT/Pages/default.aspx> Or Online Learning <http://www.brazosport.edu/bconline/Pages/default.aspx>

Please understand that we can only offer the most general advice for improving compatibility of home computers with the course because it is impossible for us to know all the details of your computer's configuration. You are responsible for knowing your Computer or for completing assignments on campus.

Midterm exam covers all readings before the first grey bar plus classroom lecture and discussion material.
Final exam covers all material after the Midterm grey bar plus classroom lecture and discussion material.

Give Me Liberty Chapter Quizzes			Voices of Freedom Document Summaries	
Ch	Start to End Dates		Document summaries from 1 , “Adam Smith, The Results of Colonization” through 43 “J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur, What, Then, Is the American?” Be ready for these summaries on any day of class during the first unit. No make-ups. Students are either present and ready (100) or not (0).	
1	1-27			
2	2-3			
3	2-10			
4	2-17			
5	2-19			
6	2-26			
7	3-3			
Midterm Exam			March 5	8-9:15 am
Spring Break March 9-13			Have Fun & Be Safe!	
8	3-6 to 3-17		44 “Benjamin F. Bache, A Defense of the French Revolution” through 98 “Robert B. Elliot on Civil Rights”	
9	3-6 to 3-24			
Last day to withdraw without a grade – Noon Friday March 27 th				
10	3-6 to 3-31		Be ready for these summaries on any day of class during the second unit. No make-ups. Students are either present and ready (100) or not (0).	
11	3-6 to 4-7			
12	3-6 to 4-14			
13	3-6 to 4-16			
14	3-6 to 4-23			
GATOR Papers Due			April 22	
15	3-6 to 4-28			
Final Exam			April 30	8-10 am

All due dates expire at 11:55pm Central Standard Time. **Due dates are not extended** except in the event of massive regional events such as hurricanes, tornadoes or freezing which create lengthy widespread power and internet outages. Individual or localized power failures are not justification for extending deadlines. Computers will fail, power will go out, human error will occur and internet service will be interrupted at inopportune moments in the semester. If students delay completion of assignments until the last day, they risk being unable to turn in work. Work not submitted by the deadlines will earn a grade of 0. Students should work a minimum of 24 hours ahead of all deadlines as insurance against technological or human failure and notify the professor immediately in the event of a problem. Students should identify alternate locations for completing assignments on time including but not limited to Brazosport College Learning Services, computer labs or regional libraries.

GATOR Discussion group schedule

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