

# Syllabus

## HIST 12: United States History Since Reconstruction

Santa Monica College  
Spring 2022

### Course Information

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Instructor: Dr. Lauren Golder (she/they)  
Instructor email: [golder\\_lauren@smc.edu](mailto:golder_lauren@smc.edu)  
Location: Canvas / online  
Student office hours: Mondays 2:05 – 2:55pm or by appointment  
Course Section Number: 2387

### Course Description

This course surveys the United States from post-Civil War Reconstruction to the present, addressing developments in American culture; ethnic, racial, gender, and class relations; politics; and the economy. It also considers American interaction with other nations, including both foreign policy and the relationship of domestic developments to the larger history of the modern world.



### Required Texts

This course will use a free online textbook, also known as an Open Educational Resources (OER). You will be reading the following texts:

- *The American Yawp: A Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook*, edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2019).  
<http://www.americanyawp.com>. ISBN: 978-1503606883.

\*If you would prefer to have a print copy of the textbook, it is available for \$25 from [Stanford University Press](http://www.stanford.edu).

### Student Learning Outcomes

By the time you complete this course, you should be able to do the following:

1. Demonstrate factual and chronologically accurate knowledge of key events, issues, trends, and people of the relevant time period and geographic region, as designated in the Course Outline of Record.
2. Demonstrate the ability to interpret historical information by applying analytical skills used by historians--such as synthesizing evidence from both primary and secondary sources, comparing and contrasting multiple perspectives, contextualizing information, and/or identifying causes and effects of change and continuity--to the course content.
3. Demonstrate the value of historical knowledge for understanding more recent and/or comparable issues, events, and trends.

## Course Format

- This course is fully online and **asynchronous**, meaning there will be no course meetings.
- The Canvas course page will be your hub for this course. From there you can view course content and submit assignments.
- You will need a functioning computer, internet access, and basic computer literacy for this course.

## Assignments

All assignments will be due by **11:55 pm** on the due date unless otherwise stated. Additional information about assignments will be provided on Canvas. Due dates are listed in the course schedule.

- **Weekly Primary Source Annotations (due every Thursday):** Each week, you will be required to read and comment on 1-2 primary sources. Your grade will be based on the curiosity, quality, and helpfulness evident in your commentary, as well as supporting your classmates in their intellectual endeavor.
- **Weekly Reading Quizzes (due every Friday):** There will be weekly reading quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will focus on the textbook assignments, and are open-book and open-note. Your lowest quiz score will automatically be dropped.
- **Discussion Board Posts:** You will be required to participate in several discussion boards throughout the semester. To earn full credit, you must completely answer the question as well as reply to at least two of your classmates.
- **Critical Commentaries (due 3/11 and 4/8):** You will write two short essays introducing and analyzing a primary source of your choice.
- **Annotated Bibliography (due 5/13):** You will be asked to find 5 scholarly sources on a historical topic of your choosing, and write a paragraph describing each source. These sources can provide the basis for your final project.
- **Final Project (due 6/12):** Your final project is an opportunity to explore a historical issue or topic that interests you. You will have two options for this assignment, including a creative “unessay” (making a podcast, comic, video, etc.), or a traditional essay.
- **Extra credit:** there will be several extra credit opportunities throughout the semester which will be available on Canvas.

Your course grade will be calculated based on the following percentages:

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Primary Source Annotations	15%
Quizzes	20%
Discussion Board Posts	15%
Critical Commentaries	20%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Final Project	20%
Extra Credit	Up to 5%

## Grading Scale

Grades will be determined by percentage earned.

Final Grade	Percentage Earned
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

## Course Schedule

Each week you will be required to read a chapter from *The American Yawp* and one to three primary sources (available on Canvas). Your preparation and participation are necessary for us to have meaningful conversations about the topics and readings.

The schedule is subject to change at the instructor's discretion; any changes will be announced via Pronto.

Dates	Topic	Required Reading	Assignments Due
Week 1 Feb 14 – 20	Orientation, Capital and Labor	<a href="#">Chapter 16</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i>	Pre-Course Survey DB 1 Quiz 1
Week 2 Feb 21 – 27	The American West	<a href="#">Chapter 17</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Chief Joseph on Indian Affairs	DB 2 Annotations – Chief Joseph Quiz 2
Week 3 Feb 28 – Mar 6	Life in Industrial America	<a href="#">Chapter 18</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Lynch Law in America	DB 3 Annotations – Ida B. Wells Quiz 3
Week 4 Mar 7 – 13	American Empire	<a href="#">Chapter 19</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Saum Song Bo, Statue of Liberty	Annotations – Saum Song Bo Quiz 4
Week 5 Mar 14 – 20	The Progressive Era	<a href="#">Chapter 20</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Eugene V. Debs, How I Became a Socialist	Critical Commentary 1 Annotations – Eugene V. Debs Quiz 5
Week 6 Mar 21 – 27	World War I and Its Aftermath	<a href="#">Chapter 21</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: W.E.B. DuBois, Returning Soldiers	DB 4 Annotations – W.E. B. DuBois Quiz 6
Week 7 Mar 28 – Apr 3	The New Era	<a href="#">Chapter 22</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Crystal Eastman, Now We Can Begin	Annotations – Crystal Eastman Quiz 7
Week 8 Apr 4 – 10	The Great Depression	<a href="#">Chapter 23</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Lester Hunter, I'd Rather Not Be on Relief	Critical Commentary 2 Annotations – Lester Hunter Quiz 8
SPRING BREAK Apr 11 – 17	No classes	No readings	No assignments due
Week 9 Apr 18 – 24	World War II	<a href="#">Chapter 24</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i>	Annotations – Aiko Herzig Yoshinaga

		Primary Source: Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga, Japanese Internment	Quiz 9
Week 10 Apr 25 – May 1	The Cold War	<a href="#">Chapter 25</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Paul Robeson Appears before HUAC	DB 5 Annotations – Paul Robeson Quiz 10
Week 11 May 2 – 8	The Affluent Society	<a href="#">Chapter 26</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Rosa Parks on Life in Montgomery, Alabama	Annotations – Rosa Parks Quiz 11
Week 12 May 9 – 15	The Sixties	<a href="#">Chapter 27</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Martin Luther King, Jr., Letter from a Birmingham Jail	Annotated Bibliography Annotations – MLK Quiz 12
Week 13 May 16 – 22	The Unraveling	<a href="#">Chapter 28</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Native Americans Occupy Alcatraz Primary Source: Gloria Steinem on Equal Rights for Women	DB 6 Annotations – Alcatraz Occupation Quiz 13
Week 14 May 23 – 29	The Triumph of the Right	<a href="#">Chapter 29</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: Statement of AIDS Patients	Annotations – AIDS Patients Quiz 14
Week 15 May 30 – June 5	The Recent Past	<a href="#">Chapter 30</a> , <i>The American Yawp</i> Primary Source: George W. Bush on a Post-9/11 World	DB 7 Annotations – G.W. Bush Quiz 15
Week 16 June 6 – 12	Finals Week	No reading assignments	Final Project due 6/12

### Important Dates

- Last Day to Withdraw to Receive a Refund: Feb. 27, 2022
- Last Day to Withdraw to Avoid a "W": Feb. 27, 2022
- Last Day to Request for Pass/No Pass Grade: Mar 19, 2022
- Spring Break: April 11 – 17, 2022
- Last Day to Withdraw to Guarantee a "W": May 14, 2022
- End of Spring Semester: June 14, 2022

### Course Policies

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#### Late Work Policy

All assignments should be completed by their due dates, so get started early! However, I am aware that stuff happens. If you will need to turn in an assignment late, please fill out the [Extension Request Form](#) as soon as possible.

#### Communication

I welcome you to contact me outside of class. You may message me on Pronto, email me, schedule office hour meetings, or send me messages through Canvas Inbox.

- **Pronto:** We will be using Pronto as a primary communication method for this course. If you have a quick question or comment, message me on Pronto!
- **E-mail:** Please include 'HIST 12' in the subject line of the e-mail. Allow 24-48 hours for a response. I typically respond to e-mail during business hours (9:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday)—for example, if you send an e-mail at 9pm on Monday night, you will most likely receive a response the next day during these hours. Please e-mail again if you have not received a response within 2 days. A response during academic breaks may be delayed. If you have extensive questions that require a longer conversation, please e-mail me an overview of what you would like to discuss and come to office hours.
- **Student Office Hours:** Office hours are a great opportunity for us to discuss any questions or concerns you have regarding the class, the readings, the assignments, or history and college in general. If you would like to set up a time to chat, please email me to schedule an appointment. I look forward to getting to know you this semester and encourage you to come to office hours.
- **Canvas:** For this class, we will use the Canvas site regularly. All of our class material will be on Canvas. I will also deliver class announcements through Canvas. I advise you to check whether your canvas notifications are turned on for this course. All assignments should be submitted through the Canvas site. Paper copies will not be accepted.

### Discussion Policy

I expect that you will treat others with respect. We will develop our discussion guidelines in the first week of class. We are all unique and this is extremely valuable for class discussion. Please be respectful of others voicing their opinions, thoughts, and feelings in class. We can disagree, but we should work to make disagreements respectful. No personal attacks will be tolerated. Do not make side comments while someone is speaking or interrupt.

### Disability Accommodations

If you qualify for accommodations due to a disability, you must officially process your request through the [Center for Students with Disabilities \(CSD\)](#). Please submit your documentation to me as soon as possible, preferably within the first two weeks of class.

If you believe you have a disability that has not yet been documented, email CSD at [dsps@smc.edu](mailto:dsps@smc.edu) or call (310) 434-4265.

### Policy on Plagiarism

All students in this course are expected to complete their own work. Students who cheat or plagiarize will earn '0' on that assignment. The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- Use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations.
- Dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments, or acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the VVC faculty or staff.
- Cheating, plagiarism (including plagiarism in a student publication), or engaging in other academic dishonesty as defined below.

The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to:

- the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment.
- the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials

Because VVC is an institution of higher learning, plagiarism and cheating offenses are taken very seriously. A verbal warning may/or may not be issued prior to a disciplinary action. Disciplinary actions may include, short-term or long-term suspension and/or expulsion. The instructor maintains the right to give a verbal warning; give the plagiarized or cheated work a zero or an "F"; or report the student for further disciplinary action (see aforementioned actions).

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is not required in this course, and you will not be penalized for missing class meetings. However, students who do not actively participate in this course will be dropped up to the final drop date. For more information on 'active engagement', see the definition below.

### **Definition of Academic Engagement**

Faculty should document regular and substantive interaction which demonstrates students' active engagement in the online course. 'Active engagement' includes participation in electronic conversations, discussions, completed assignments or any other assessment designated by the individual instructor.

### **Pronoun and Name Guidelines**

All people deserve to be addressed in accordance with their identity, ranging from preferring a nickname to your gender pronouns. You have the right to be referred to with the pronouns you are most comfortable with (she, he, they, ze, etc.). In order to have a safe and respectful class environment, you should refer to your classmates with the names and pronouns that your classmates are most comfortable with. I encourage you to notify me of your gender pronouns either in class or by email so I can address you correctly, especially if you have reason to believe I may refer to you by the incorrect pronoun.

Additionally, you have the right to be referred to the name that you are most comfortable with. If the name listed on my roster is not the name you would like to be called, you are welcome to let me know in class or through e-mail at any time. I do my best to know student names and will call you by your name often. If I am mispronouncing your name, I encourage you to correct me as soon as possible in class or through e-mail so that I can correct my pronunciation.

### **Class Code of Conduct/"Netiquette":**

This is a **college** course, comparable in scope and expectation to the same content you would find on the university level (this is why this course transfers). The instructor expects students enrolled in this online course to behave in a mature, professional manner in the classroom. By enrolling in this course, students have agreed to respect their peers and instructor in the online "classroom" during class discussions, lectures, and all in-class assignments. As outlined in this syllabus, students recognize that they are expected to participate in the activities and assignments prepared by the instructor to assist them in completing this course successfully.

Disruptive behavior includes the following:

- Online spamming, disrespectful behavior in discussion boards or on e-mail.
- Demeaning or destructive peer comments on discussion boards or e-mail regarding posts or other work in class.
- Any communication or action the instructor determines is harmful to the 'classroom' environment.

Students who have special needs or concerns (health, employment, etc) related to participation in course must discuss these issues with the instructor in a private manner before said issues affect the student's grade in the course: the sooner the problem is identified, the sooner a solution can be reached! The instructor is willing to

work with students in these areas, unless accommodating individual needs violates academic integrity or fairness to other students.