



UNITED STATES HISTORY

THE UNITED STATES, 1492-1865 THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865

“American history,” wrote James Baldwin, “is longer, larger, more various, more beautiful, and more terrible than anything anyone has said about it.” In these two sequential first-year college courses, students study significant themes to uncover the range and depth of the American story. Using lectures, primary and secondary readings, videos, maps, and other graphics, students work both independently and collaboratively to develop the critical thinking skills to evaluate the historical record. History 315K surveys America from the colonial beginnings through the Civil War, and History 315L considers the post-Civil War era to the end of the 20th century. Students are assessed in multiple formats. The Research Enhanced Timeline project (RET) challenges students to engage with primary sources and practice archival research in order to make an argument about an episode in US History. Midterm and Final Exams include essay questions that require students to craft well-written narratives and arguments that set events in historical context, engage the complexity of cause and consequence, and make connections that reveal the dynamic of change over time.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

BIG IDEAS



AMERICAN IDENTITIES

Since its colonial beginnings, the American identity has been formed by sometimes uneasy and evolving relationships among many people.

LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

New machines and technologies have expanded America's agricultural and industrial productivity, but often at the expense of workers, both free and enslaved.

AMERICA AND THE WORLD

America's role in the world began on the periphery and has moved to take a central place.

REFORM AND RENEWAL

The Puritan mission to create a City on a Hill has been adopted in many forms throughout America's history, resulting in social and political movements that reinvigorate and often challenge Americans to reflect on their future.

SELF AND SOCIETY

Our increasingly participatory democracy reflects a changing and carefully negotiated balance between individual freedoms and the social and political structures intended to protect the best interests of community and nation.

TRANSFERABILITY

6 College Credits (3 per course)

UT Course Codes: HIS 315K + HIS 315L

TCCNs: HIST 1301 + HIST 1302

PRE-REQUISITES

High School English II (concurrent or pre-requisite)

TECHNOLOGY

Computer, Laptop, Chromebook, or Tablet Access

PEDAGOGY

Team-Based Learning

Socratic Questioning