

Dear Students,

Welcome to **HIST 207A: History of the United States (CRN: 50004)**. My name is Professor Touryan and I will be your online instructor for the next 6 weeks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the history of the United States of America from its beginning to 1865, focusing on broad political, economic, religious, social, and cultural themes as well as how these forces interacted and often conflicted with race, ethnicity, class and gender to create the country we know today.

ONLINE FORMAT

Please note, this class is fully online, there are NO mandatory meetings for this class. Please make sure you have a reliable Internet connection, a newer computer (no older than 5 years), and a current operating system.

LENGTH OF COURSE

This class runs 6 weeks beginning on **Monday, June 17th and ending on Friday, July 26th**. You must be able to commit to all 6 weeks of class. No assignments, quizzes, exams, or other coursework may be completed early to shorten the length of this class.

TEXTBOOKS

The following textbook is required for this course:

- Main textbook Sheets, Kevin B. Sources for America's History Volume 1 To 1877 (8th Edition) (Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2014) ISBN-10:1457628902, ISBN-13:978-1457628900
 - eTextbook version available for rent or purchase: https://www.amazon.com/Sources-Americas-History-First-1877-ebook/dp/BooHQOo9S6/ref=pd_sim_351_1?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&efRID=XTVo4819JZ3XJSC8P1G1
Links to an external site.

ASSESSMENTS

There will be two types of assessments in our class: reading quizzes and exams. While this course is fully online, there are some specific due dates for the assessments mentioned above. You **MUST** be available on these dates. There are **NO** exceptions to this.

- **Reading Quizzes** - Students will complete **six (6) reading quizzes based on weekly primary source readings**. Study guides will be provided to students to help them prepare for these quizzes and will be available on Canvas. All reading quizzes must be completed by Sunday at 11:59 p.m.
- **Exams** - Students will take **two (2) exams** during the semester - 1 midterm exam and 1 final exam. The midterm exam will open on Thursday morning and close on Sunday night. The final exam will open on Tuesday morning and close on Thursday night. All exams must be completed during these timeframes. All

exams are timed. Once you begin an exam, you must complete it within the specified time limit (e.g. 2 hours for both the midterm and the final exam). For specific exam dates, please refer to the forthcoming course syllabus.

WORKLOAD

While some weeks are lighter than others, expect to spend an average of **6-8 hours** a week completing course readings, listening to weekly course lectures/taking notes on these lectures, watching any supplemental films/filling out handouts, studying for exams and completing assessments such as reading quizzes and exams.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

We will be using Canvas for our course. Please read the following instructions for logging in:

To visit Canvas, visit www.cuesta.edu and click on the word “Canvas” which is located on the upper left hand corner of Cuesta’s homepage, you can also access Canvas via your MyCuesta homepage, or type in the link below into your

browser: <http://cuesta.instructure.com/>

- Your login name matches your My.Cuesta login name: firstname_lastname
- Your Canvas password also matches your My.Cuesta password
- Once you are logged in, you will see your Canvas dashboard with a list of courses in which you are currently enrolled
- You should be automatically enrolled in HIST 207A
- If for some reason you are not, please contact me at elena_touryan@cuesta.edu and I will manually add you to the course
- If you need further technical support, please read the following Canvas Quick Reference Guide for students: https://www.cuesta.edu/student/documents/distance_ed_students/Canvas_Quick_Reference_Students.pdf [Links to an external site. Links to an external site.](#) or email: support@my.cuesta.edu (in the email, please include your name, section number (CRN), class name, instructor’s name and describe the specific problem you are having; please allow 48 hours for a response)

ACCOMODATIONS

For students with disabilities, please visit the following link to DSPS and familiarize yourself with their available

services: http://www.cuesta.edu/student/servs_classes/dsps/index.html

If you wish to contact DSPS directly with more specific questions, please email them at: dspsinfo@cuesta.edu

CONTACT

Email is the best way to reach me. If you should have any further questions regarding our course, feel free to contact me at: elena_touryan@cuesta.edu

COURSE OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of U.S. History through 1865.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of selected Native American cultures prior to European contact as well as efforts by minority groups to secure unabridged legal, political, and economic equality.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of different labor systems (ex. slavery) and social inequalities as well as their rationales (race, class, gender, etc.).
4. Explain and analyze the significance of scientific and technological developments as well as their impact on environment, economy, etc.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of America's political structure and foreign policy through 1865.
6. Demonstrate ability to interpret, analyze, and compose arguments utilizing appropriate support from primary sources (letters, diaries, speeches, etc.) and secondary sources (work produced by historians such as textbooks, articles, quotations, etc.).

I look forward to meeting each of you and learning with you this semester.

Bon Voyage,
Professor Touryan