



COURSE: CHS American History to 1877 [SCCC HIST-227]

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

American History to 1877 introduces students to American history from the pre-Columbian period to Reconstruction. It covers political, economical, social, and cultural forces that have shaped the evolving American nation and its interactions with the world during this time. The course is designed to give students a background in the chronological development of American history and in the major interpretive questions that are derived from the study of selected themes.

The course, offered through Schenectady County Community College, is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems and resource materials in American history. Students will learn to assess historical sources – with respect to their relevance, reliability, and importance – and to weigh evidence and interpretations given by historians. This course will develop skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of informed judgment and to present ideas clearly and persuasively.

TEXTBOOK

David Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen, Thomas Andrew Bailey, *The American Pageant* Houghton Mifflin, 13th Edition, 2005 Course Requirements and Grading

COURSE OVERVIEW

Time Period #1 1491 to 1607 - On a North American continent controlled by American Indians, contact among the peoples of Europe, the Americas, and West Africa created a new world; **Time Period #2 1607 to 1754** - Europeans and American Indians maneuvered and fought for dominance, control, and security in North America, and distinctive colonial and native societies emerged; **Time Period #3 1754 to 1800** - British imperial attempts to reassert control over its colonies and the colonial reaction to these attempts produced a new American republic, along with struggles over the new nation's social, political, and economic identity; **Time Period #4 1800 to 1848** - The new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes; **Time Period #5 1848 to 1877** - As the nation expanded and its population grew, regional tensions, especially over slavery, led to a civil war — the course and aftermath of which transformed American society.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Schenectady County Community College HIST -227 is a semester long class. A student's final grade will be calculated with the First Marking Period being worth **40%** of the final grade; Second Marking Period will be worth **40%** of the final grade and Final Exam being worth **20%** of the final grade. ALL STUDENTS MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM AS REQUIRED BY SCCC. Numeric grades are converted to letter grades for SCCC based on the following scale as provided by SCCC:

Numeric Grade	Letter Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
88-89	B+
83-87	B
80-82	B-
78-79	C+
73-77	C
70-72	C-
63-69	D
60-62	D-
59 and under	F

Grading/Assessment

You will be evaluated in class based a variety of formative and summative assessments.

Formative assessments will make up **40%** of your grade. This will include timed quizzes, component essays and collaborative assignments and the corresponding feedback. I will typically drop your two lowest formative assessments each marking period.

Summative assessments will make up 60% of your grade. This will include all timed exams and select essay assignments. There will be a 20-30 minute summative assessment at the end of each module to check for student understanding of key course material. There will also be three two hour Quarterly Exams (Fall, Winter, Spring).

Class Participation

Participation in class is more than physical presence. It means making a meaningful contribution to discussions and course activities. Satisfactory class participation and cooperation is defined as being present with all required class materials, answering questions, offering constructive opinions, and generally cooperating with the teacher and other students in the class.

To practice reflective thinking, you must take the risk of sharing your views and interpretations and receive feedback from others regarding the soundness of those views and interpretations. We construct knowledge and learn from each other, and if you don't speak, others don't learn from you [and vice versa]. You need to **SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!**

Classroom Policies

1. A large degree of self-motivation is necessary to be successful in any college level class – it is very important to budget your time, meet deadlines, not fall behind in the reading, and to read your text and document books aggressively!
2. Maintain a CHS American History folder for handouts and supplemental readings.
3. You are encouraged to regularly contribute to class discussion and ask questions when something is not clear.
4. Please note that due dates and deadlines will remain firm, regardless of snow days or scheduled vacations.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

- Any student found using the work of another student will split the grade with the other student. Students using work copied from any other type of media will receive a zero.
- Each student's work will be her/his own.
- Each student will appropriately identify the work of others when it is incorporated into the writing of her/his papers, examinations, or presentations. This includes both direct quotations and paraphrased opinions and ideas.
- Each student will follow the directions of the instructor with regard to permissible materials in a room at the times of tests and examinations.
- Each student will proceed during examinations without any assistance and without communicating in any way with another student while an examination is being conducted.
- Each student will refrain from obtaining or disseminating the content of an examination prior to distribution by the instructor.

Transcripts

Upon earning SCCC credits, students can use them upon attending SCCC or request transcripts for credits to be sent to another institution. Transcripts are not sent without a request from the student. Instructions can be found at <http://www.sunysccc.edu/academic/acadser/tscript.htm>.

Withdrawals

Students must work with Guidance to ensure all Ballston Spa High School and SCCC rules are followed with respect to withdrawing from the class.

CHS – American History
2019-2020 Website Directory



This is our primary course website for daily support links and resources. This should be your first stop for questions or concerns about content and due dates.

The site is built using the three click rule. If you can find what you are looking for in three clicks, you are doing some wrong.

www.americancanvas.pbworks.com



Our Schoology website is a secondary support site. You can download original copies of class notes, homework packets, supplemental readings, and audio podcast files each Time Period. Our schoology site also hosts a digital copy of our textbook, The American Pageant, if you prefer completing the assigned readings on your device.



Our class text service is used to send, class announcements or deliver supplemental course materials. This should never be considered your primary source for information on class homework.

If you are confused about what is due and when it is due got to our primary course website www.americancanvas.pbworks.com



This secure testing site hosts all of our Regents level modular quizzes. Each multiple choice quiz counts as a formative assessment.

You get two attempts at each question. Partial credit is awarded for the second attempt.