

HISTORY 121  
UNITED STATES HISTORY from 1877 to Present  
August 19 2013 through December 7, 2013  
Course No. 10604- Thursday 6:30 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. Room 1600

**Instructor Contact Information:**

**Instructor:** Thomas Jones, MA

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Phone:

(Cell) 760-777-2569 (anytime)

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**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course is a survey of American history from the end of Reconstruction (1877) to the present. This course will cover the major political, economic, social, gender, racial, cultural and intellectual transformations of the modern American eras. Of special note will be an examination of America's rise to global power. At the completion of this course students will have a broad understanding of the most important ideas, personalities, movements, and events in the modern period.

**Required Textbook:**

*The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People, Vol. 2 Since 1865, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. Publisher: Wadsworth Publishing. ISBN: 9781111341572*

**Office Hours:** I am glad to meet individually with any student to discuss obstacles that might stop you from being successful in this class. You can meeting with me ½ hour after class and by pre-arranged appointment. You can also call me at (760) 777-2569 (cell) or (760)773-2548 (office) and leave me a message if we don't immediately connect, and I will set a time with you to talk via phone that works for us both. I try to respond to all phone messages or Emails within 24-48 hours.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Identify and recall key information from a historical text and/or a documentary film.
2. Describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event and
3. Explain and analyze the significance of a historical text by the end of the course.

### Teaching Methods:

Lectures, including material not covered in your readings, class discussions requiring your thoughtful participation, student oral presentations, and videos will supplement your required reading assignments. Both outside and in-class writing assignments are a component of this class. Students should actively read the textbooks, bring any questions you have about the material to class, and take careful notes in class. **Completing the assigned readings before you come to class will greatly increase your understanding and success in this class.**

### Course Requirements:

#### Required Paper:

##### Point value 100 points

There will be one research paper required for this course. Each student is asked to write a 3-4 page paper that details your lineage. This is not a legal paper. What your or your heritage legal status is/was should not be discussed unless you feel it adds value to your thesis.

Complete details for this assignment will be made available during the second week of class.

#### Format of Research Paper:

- Printed copy to be submitted. Bluebook is not required for this assignment
- Typed- Double Spaced
- No more than 2 photos permitted.
- MLA Format
- 12 pt. Font
- Work Cited page is required for all papers

Research paper must be submitted via Blackboard on or before the date indicated on the Course schedule. Late papers are subject to a 5 point reduction for each day late. No papers will be accepted 3 days after the due date listed on the Course Schedule.

#### Exams:

There will be 3 exams in this class. Each exam will be in combination of multiple choice and essay format. Each exam has a value of 100 points maximum. There are no make-up exams, unless you make arrangements with the instructor BEFORE the exam. Any uncoordinated, unexcused missed exam will result in a score of "0" for that exam. **Scantron sheets (green), Bluebooks and a No. 2 pencil must be brought to each exam.** Exam supplies can be purchased in the college bookstore. The instructor will not have any extra Scantron sheets or Bluebooks for students who forget to come to class prepared. Do not wait until the last minute to buy your test supplies. Exams not completed on these two forms **will not** be accepted.

FINAL EXAM: Not Comprehensive; DECEMBER 5, 2013

**Quizzes:**

Pop quizzes may be given based on lectures and reading assignments. There will be no advance warning of any Pop-Quizzes. They will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor. They will be primarily multiple choice, true or false, and short essay in format. Each quiz is worth 10 points each. If you are not present in class the day of the Pop Quiz, no make-ups will be given. All Pop Quizzes will be presented on an extra-credit basis.

**Other Assignments:**

Written Assignments: **(Up to 100 points)** A variety of written assignments will be given throughout the semester based on the weekly readings, class discussions, or films shown in class. Some of these assignments will be done in class, others will be outside assignments. **If you miss class, you might miss one of these assignments, and there are NO make-ups on these assignments.** Each student can expect to complete about 7 to 10 pages of written work in this class. All written assignments require students to apply critical thinking skills and support their thesis. I want to hear your thoughts in each written assignment. Students who effectively support their thesis with their own thoughts and opinions will be successful in this class.

**Grading Scale**

(%)	100-90=A	89-80=B	79-70=C	69-60=D	59 & below= F
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**Student Conduct**

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory for success in this class. Students should expect to attend every scheduled class session. Students who do not attend the first class session will be dropped. Attendance is taken every class period by way of a Sign-in sheet. There is no seating assignment. Students are responsible to make sure their signature and printed name is on the Sign-in Sheet before leaving class or you will be counted as absent. Students may only sign-in for themselves only. **DO NOT SIGN IN FOR A FRIEND.** Any instances where this occurs will be considered dishonest and will be dealt with in accordance with the college Student Code of Conduct. Students with NO absences will receive 5-points bonus added to their final point-total. More than two tardies will cause you to lose the opportunity for this extra credit. Leaving class early is considered as being tardy. Students who leave class before 2/3 of any session will be considered absent. Students are responsible for all materials, assignments and information given in class, regardless of whether you are in class or not. **Students are responsible to drop themselves from this class if they wish to stop attending or participating in class activities. If you fail to withdraw officially and stop participating or attending class, you will receive an "F."** In such classes as this, no incomplete grade will be offered.

Conduct:

All students are expected to adhere to Imperial Valley College's Code of Conduct, which can be located in the school catalog, Student Handbook, as well as on the College website.

Determining Last Date of Attendance (LDA):

Last day of attendance for any student who stopped participating in class will be determined by the assignments received by the instructor or sign-in sheet entry. All drops must be done through the college Admissions and Records Office. Please let me know about any participation problems you may have as far in advance as possible. I will work with you to be successful in this class if at all possible. If you plan to drop the course at any time, please tell me so we can explore other options in order for you to successfully complete this course. I am willing to work with any student in order to see them succeed in this class rather than see them drop. In the event that you received Financial Aid for this class and do not drop it and fail to participate, you are solely responsible for any funds owed to Financial Aid.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be permitted. To use another writer's work as your own is stealing. Whenever you use a source, for other than common knowledge, you must include a bibliography and proper academic citations. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense resulting in a failing grade and dismissal from IVC. For a complete explanation of this topic, read "Acknowledging Your Sources," on two hour reserve in the IVC library. A bibliography is required on all work submitted for a grade.

ADA Recognition:

Imperial Valley College and this instructor supports the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). I gladly work with all students so that each can achieve his or her educational objective. Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor after contacting the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. DSP&S is located in room 2117, Health Sciences Bldg, (760) 355-6312.

<b>Rubric for Grading Essays</b>	
<b>Objective Analysis</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Format	20
Punctuation and grammar	10
Focus on topic	20
Thoroughness of topic covered	20
Clearly states students opinions relative to topic	20
Fully Developed "Work Cited" page	10
<b>Total Percentage Points Possible</b>	<b>100</b>

Format:

Formatting in MLA Format  
Citations/ Reference Page follows class guidelines  
Properly cites ideas and information gained from other sources  
Paper is organized effectively –uses headers

Grammar/Punctuation/ Spelling

Rules of grammar, usage, & punctuation are followed  
Tense (past, present, future, etc.) is consistent and properly used  
Spelling is correct

Readability & Style

The topic is thoroughly covered  
Student clearly states their opinion relative to topic  
Sentences are complete, clear and concise  
Sentences are well-constructed with consistently strong, varied structure  
Transitions between sentences/ paragraphs/sections help maintain the flow of thought  
Words used are precise and unambiguous  
The tone is appropriate to the audience, content, and assignment

## Course Schedule

**All Readings Should be Completed before the date assigned.**

Week No	Date	Assignment
<b>1</b>	8/22/13	Introductions; Review of Syllabus; & Introductory review of Class format.  Lecture: American Civil War. The Path to Reconstruction and the New South.
<b>2</b>	8/29/13	Ch. 16- The Crises of Reconstruction.  Lecture Continued: The path to Reconstruction and the New South.
<b>3*</b>	9/5/13	<b>Exam 1.</b> Submitted through Blackboard.
<b>4</b>	9/12/13	Handout- The Transcontinental Railroad as a Business Lecture: Economic turmoil in America- Panics and Runs.
<b>5</b>	9/19/13	Ch. 18- The Rise of Big Business  Lecture: Big Business and the Public's reaction; The role of the Railroad as a catalyst of change.
<b>6</b>	9/26/13	Ch. 19- Immigration, Urbanization, and Everyday Life
<b>7</b>	10/3/13	Ch. 20- The Progressive Era, 1900-1917 Handout from Instructor- Posted on Blackboard
<b>8</b>	10/10/13	Ch. 22- Global Involvement and WWI, 1902-1920.  Lecture: America and Isolationism; America and WWI.
<b>9*</b>	10/17/13	<b>Exam 2.</b> Submitted through Blackboard.
<b>10</b>	10/24/13	Ch. 25- Americans and a World in Crises.  Lecture: America Leading up to WWII.
<b>11</b>	10/31/13	Lecture Continuation: The World after War.
<b>12</b>	11/7/13	Ch. 26- The Cold War Aboard and at Home.  Lecture: The World after War.

<b>13</b>	11/14/13	Ch. 28- Liberalism, Civil Rights, and War in Vietnam.  Lecture: JFK and Civil Rights; The Vietnam Conflict  <b>Research Paper on Family Heritage Due!!!</b>
<b>14</b>	11/21/13	Handout: The Iran-Contra Affair  Lecture: The Reagan Years.
<b>15</b>	11/26/13	<b>College Closed- Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!</b>
<b>16</b>	12/5/13	<b>FINAL EXAM- Bring your Bluebook!!!!</b>