

HIST 1301

U.S. History to 1865

Fall 2019
Del Mar College

Section 001 MW 8:00 – 9:20 HH 120

Instructor: Dr. Bryan E. Stone
Office: HH 111
Office Hours: MW 12:30 - 1:00, TTh 11:00 - 1:00, or by appointment
Phone: 698-1988, or Social Sciences office 698-1228
E-mail: bstone@delmar.edu

Course Description

This course is a broad-based survey of the history of the United States from the first contacts between native peoples and Europeans through the American Civil War. We will explore the origins and development of the United States and its people, focusing on such pivotal events as exploration and colonization; the religious and economic motives for settling the American colonies; the origins and development of American slavery; the effort to separate the colonies from England; the formation of the American republic; westward expansion; the industrial revolution; and the causes and character of the Civil War. In addition, we will examine a number of cultural developments that profoundly affected the nation's history and identity. Among these are the creation of a distinctive American identity; immigration and assimilation; the mythic significance of the land; the crucial influences of women and minority groups; the effect of science and technology; and the tremendous impact of religion on American society.

Course Objectives

This course will emphasize the following fundamental college-level competencies:

- Critical Thinking Skills, to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills, to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- Personal Responsibility, to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- Social Responsibility, to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Text / Readings

The required text for this course is **James L. Roark, *The American Promise: A Concise History, Volume 1*** (6th edition, Bedford/St. Martin's Publishing), and readings from it will be assigned almost every week. It's available at campus bookstores and at many online booksellers. It's also fine to use an electronic version of the book if one is available.

Additional weekly readings will be assigned through Canvas, Del Mar's online course management system. These will consist of a variety of documents, videos, photo sites, and other supplementary online materials for you to view along with the textbook chapters. You can access Canvas for free at www.delmar.edu/canvas. Detailed directions for logging on and using the site are below.

You'll also need a package of Scantron 882-E (green) forms for taking the exams and a blue book for the Final Exam.

Assignments

Reading

Your primary responsibility from week to week will be keeping up with the reading assignments, which are listed on the attached schedule. Readings will come from *The American Promise* and from a selection of online materials accessible through our course page on Canvas.

To get the most from the lectures and class discussions, you should complete the reading assignments before that week's classes begin. Reading assignments on Canvas are scheduled for each week throughout the semester.

Keeping up with the assigned reading will help you better understand and remember the course material and will lead to higher grades on the exams. The readings are required, and I will expect you to complete them on time. However, they are not graded, you don't need to submit anything about them to me, and I won't give quizzes.

Attendance

I will lecture every day, and attendance is essential since I'll present a great deal of material in lectures that is not in the readings. I encourage you to stop me at any time to ask questions, contribute ideas, or challenge my statements. I strongly advise taking notes: no matter how good a listener you are, there will be far too much information for you to absorb without them. Please don't ask me for lecture notes: you are responsible for attending class or for making arrangements to get the notes. It's also fine to record the lectures if you want to.

I'll take roll every day, and excessive absences (more than seven) are grounds for failure in the course regardless of how you have done on the other assignments. It's not necessary to notify me in advance that you will miss class, but if you expect to be away for an extended period of time, please talk with me so we can try to work around your absence. Please make every effort to arrive on time for class. If you arrive late, check in with me afterward so I can correct the roll. If lateness becomes a habit, I may begin counting your late arrivals as absences.

If you wish to withdraw from the course, it is your responsibility to do so before the Registrar's deadline. *I will not withdraw you for any reason, even if you have stopped attending.*

Exams

There will be three exams spaced throughout the semester as shown on the attached schedule. These will cover the lectures, class discussions, and assigned readings. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions—40 covering the lectures and textbook chapters, and 10 over the online materials on Canvas. The tests are not cumulative (that is, each test only covers new material), but the final exam will include one comprehensive essay question.

- **Make-up Policy:** There will be no make-ups for the exams except in extreme conditions. In order to qualify for a make-up, you must contact me by phone, e-mail, or in person **before the exam begins** to let me know that you will miss it and why. If you miss an exam without contacting me in advance, you will receive a zero, regardless of your reason for missing it.

Research and writing assignments

You'll be required to complete three written assignments—two online research projects and a 3-5 page book review paper—due on the dates listed in the attached schedule. I'll bring printed instructions for each assignment to class in plenty of time for you to complete them, and the directions are also available now on Canvas under *Assignments*. You can get started on these at any time, and it's always fine to turn them in early.

You'll submit all of your written work to me through Canvas, and I'll return it to you, marked and graded, the same way. Detailed directions for submitting papers in Canvas are below.

Writing assignments are due without exception by 11:59 p.m. on the dates shown in the attached schedule and in the Canvas calendar: late submissions will be penalized 20 points (two letter grades). I'll accept penalized late papers until 11:59 p.m. on the last class day; at that point, anything still not turned in will be counted as a zero.

Briefly, the three writing assignments are:

- *Research: Art Evaluation.* You'll select a work of art from a list I'll provide, locate it online, and describe it and its historical context.
- *Research: Historic Newspapers.* You'll locate a famous person of your choice in a historic newspaper using an online database, then analyze the information you find there.
- *Book Review Paper.* You'll read a historic book of your choice from a list I'll provide and write a paper explaining what it reveals about its period in American history.

For both of the research assignments, you'll download a blank form where you can type in your responses, then save the file and submit it to me through the matching assignment page on Canvas. You'll need web access for both of these assignments, and they'll be *much* easier if you use a computer with a full-size screen—not your phone. You'll also need Word or a similar program to write your book review paper. Computers with all of these features are free for you to use at the DMC library.

The Canvas page for each project provides the rubric (scoring sheet) I'll use in assigning grades, and it would be a good idea to look these over before you begin working on the assignments.

I'll be happy to talk to you about your works-in-progress, and if you'd like additional help on written projects, please take advantage of the DMC Stone Writing Center (www.delmar.edu/swc) on the 4th floor of the White Library. They provide writing assistance for free, including online tutoring.

Rewrites

You may revise all three written assignments for a better grade *as long as you submitted the first version on time*. I'll accept rewrites for two weeks after I've returned an assignment to you, and you can rewrite a paper as many times as you wish within that two-week period.

In revising an assignment, it's fine to start with the file you originally turned in and make any changes and adjustments necessary to address the issues I noted when I graded it. See the pdf I return to you and the rubric on Canvas for details on where improvements are needed.

To submit a rewrite, use the "Re-Submit" button on that assignment's Canvas page and upload your revised paper. When you resubmit an assignment, I'll read it again, compare it to the original, regrade it, and record it with the higher of the two grades. There is no limit to how much you can improve an assignment through revision.

One note: When you submit a rewrite, because it will usually be after the original due date, Canvas will indicate that your assignment is late. Don't panic. I know when you turned the original in on time, and I won't penalize the rewrite.

Extra Credit

The DMC Library sponsors a film series throughout the semester in which little-seen classic and independent films are presented for free. The screenings are always on Wednesday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. in Room 530 of the White Library. I'll provide a complete film schedule soon, and it's also available on the DMC Library web site (library.delmar.edu).

If you wish to receive extra credit in this course, attend a movie in the series and write a one-page paper describing the film and your response to it, *due by midnight on the Thursday after the screening*. Papers should be submitted through Canvas: go to the Extra Credit page under *Assignments*, and either upload your paper or type it directly into the text box provided. If you do more than one, use the "Re-Submit" button to upload additional submissions.

If adequately done, this paper will count for **five points** applied to any of your test scores. In addition, four of the films in the series (marked "History-in-Film Series" on the series schedules) are cosponsored by the History Department and will be worth **ten points** (one full letter grade) applied to any of your test scores. See all the movies you want, but *you can only receive a total of twenty points in extra credit*. I'll add the extra credit points directly to one of your exam scores along with a comment indicating where I applied it.

Note: If you're unable to attend the Wednesday screenings, you may still receive extra credit by watching the films on your own and turning in the papers on the same schedule.

There is one other way to get a small amount of additional extra credit. If you submit a Book Review Paper that earns a perfect score on the “Grammar and Mechanics” portion of the scoring rubric the first time you submit it (not a rewrite), I’ll add five points to an exam score. I hope this will encourage you to edit your writing carefully before turning it in.

Grading

I will determine your final grade as follows:

Exams (3 averaged together, plus extra credit)	60%
Research: Art Evaluation	10%
Research: U.S. Census	10%
Book Review Paper	20%

There will be no curve on final grades, although I will round decimals up or down to the nearest whole number. Borderline grades (59, 69, 79, and 89) will be bumped up to the next letter grade *if* your class participation (attendance, alertness, preparation, responsiveness) is good.

Note that the Canvas gradebook keeps a running, calculated total of your semester grade, so you can check your progress there at any time.

Academic Honesty

I encourage you to discuss the course material or project ideas with other students and to study in groups. On written assignments, exams and homework, however, your work must be entirely your own. Any time you use another’s words or ideas, either verbatim or paraphrased, you *must* give them proper acknowledgment.

- **Plagiarism Policy:** If I catch you cheating on a test, you will receive a zero for that exam. If you plagiarize a paper, you will receive an F (50 points) for that assignment, and it can not be rewritten for a better grade. **Nevertheless, it must still be completed to my satisfaction within a week of my returning it to you or you will automatically and immediately fail the course.**

It’s very easy for you to copy passages, or even entire papers, from the web and to pass them off as your own work. But remember that it’s just as easy for me to find out. If you care about passing this course, write the papers and exam essays yourself.

Habits of Successful College Students

College is a very different experience than high school, and many new college students aren’t sure exactly what to expect or how to do well. Here are a few basic things that will help you succeed in college – at Del Mar or anywhere else.

1. **Arrive on time and remain seated until class is dismissed.** Traffic through the door is very distracting for all of us, so please try to stay put.

2. **Refrain from eating and chewing/spitting in class.** Drinks (non-alcoholic, please!) are fine, but food and tobacco are not. Smoking, including vaping, is prohibited everywhere on campus.

3. **Complete reading assignments on time.** Your grades will be better if you do the reading regularly. I provide the assignments for your benefit, not for mine.

4. **Pay attention and participate.** Listen attentively, take notes, and keep private conversations to a minimum. If you don't take notes, you'll wish you had when exam time comes. And please turn off your cell phones (including texting) when you come into the classroom – I'm so much more interesting than whoever's on the phone!

Instructions for Using Canvas

Access to Canvas is free for Del Mar students. You can enter the site at www.delmar.edu/canvas. Log on using your regular DMC logon information, then select our class under *Courses*. If this class doesn't appear there as an option, select "All Courses," find this course, and click the star next to it

We'll mostly use Canvas for four things:

1. Weekly online readings

Most weeks, as shown in the Class and Reading Schedule below, there will be assigned reading from *The American Promise*. In addition, most weeks there will be also selected items from the web for you to view. These are also required and will be included on the exams.

Upcoming readings will appear on the Canvas dashboard, with their due dates, when you log in. You can also find them on the course home page or by clicking *Assignments*. When you select a reading assignment, you'll see an entry page. Click the link to go to the readings for that week, then select the first title on the list. You will now be able to open that reading in a new browser window. View the document, then return to the assignment tab and use the "Next" button to go to the next reading, or return to the list of readings and click the next one. For a bit of a shortcut, you can also click *Modules* on the left side of the home page to see all the online readings for the whole semester. You can also access each week's readings through the Canvas calendar.

See the *Calendar* and *Assignments* pages for upcoming due dates for all the assignments and exams. You can also get the directions for the writing projects at any time by going to any assignment's Canvas page.

2. Submitting assignments and getting feedback

Instead of turning in printed papers, you'll submit all written work to me by uploading it to Canvas. I'll mark your papers electronically then post them back to Canvas where you can view or download them, along with your grade and my comments.

Here are the steps for submitting and receiving papers through Canvas:

a. For the two research assignments, go to the proper assignment page and download the instructions and answer form; you can type your responses directly into these forms. For the book review paper, use Word or another word processing program. Make sure to save your work as a **.doc**, **.docx**, or **.pdf** file.

b. On the Canvas page for the assignment you're submitting, click *Submit Assignment* in the top right corner of the screen. Browse for your file, add a comment if you want to, and click *Submit Assignment*. **WAIT A MOMENT** before closing your window. After a few seconds, you'll see a "Submitted!" notice on the assignment page that confirms that your file was uploaded. **Be sure the notice is there.** This is the only way you can know for sure that I've received your paper.

c. I'll mark your paper electronically then post it back to Canvas. When I'm finished, you'll see a note on the home page under "Recent Feedback" to show you that there's a paper waiting for you to view; you'll also receive a text or e-mail if you've requested it in your Canvas notification options. Click on the link and read your grade and my comment on the right. If you want to see all my written comments, download the marked-up pdf file attached to my post.

d. If you choose to do a rewrite, use *Re-submit Assignment* to send a revised version. Canvas stores the original, so I'll be able to see both of them together.

3. Communicating with the instructor and each other

Under *People*, on the left side of the homepage, you can find a list of all the students in the class, as well as my name. Use my link to message me through Canvas, or you can message other students in the class.

I'll also use Canvas from time to time to post documents, such as exam reviews, or any announcements I might have. These will appear under *Announcements*, and if you want to receive a text or e-mail when I post one, set your Canvas notifications accordingly.

I'll leave the *Discussions* section live, even though I don't plan on running any discussions myself. You may communicate with me and with each other through these message boards if you wish. Remember that communications posted to Canvas discussions are not private! I and your classmates will see everything you post.

4. Checking your grades

When I return graded work, your grade is immediately posted to Canvas, and an updated course grade is calculated. You can check your current course or assignment grades at any time by selecting *Grades* at the top of the screen. You can also enter "what-if" scores to see how future assignments might affect your overall grade. Of course, if you have any questions about your grades, feel free to ask me any time.

At the end of the session, when all the grades are posted, you'll be able to see your likely course grade in Canvas, but this grade will only become official when I submit it to the Registrar's Office after the final exam. You'll be able to view your official course grades on WebDMC as soon as they're submitted.

Class and Reading Schedule**Promise:** Roark, *The American Promise, A Concise History*, vol. 1; **Canvas:** www.delmar.edu/canvas

Week	Topic	Assignments	Special Dates
M 8/26 – W 8/28	Introductions / <i>Mundus Novus</i>		
M 9/2 – W 9/4	The <i>Conquistadors</i> of New Spain	Promise: Ch. 2; Canvas	M 9/2: Labor Day
M 9/9 – W 9/11	Virginia: Gentlemen and Slaves	Promise: Chs. 3 (all), 5: 126–133; Canvas	
M 9/16 – W 9/18	Massachusetts: A City Upon a Hill	Promise: Ch. 4: 82–99; Canvas	M 9/16: Art Evaluation (due midnight)
M 9/23 – W 9/25	The Coming Revolution	Promise: Chs. 5: 133–142, 6 (all); Canvas	
M 9/30 – W 10/2	The Declaration of Independence	Promise: Ch. 7: 176–183; Canvas	W 10/2: Exam 1
M 10/7–W 10/9	Creating a People: The U.S. Constitution	Promise: Ch. 8 Canvas	
M 10/14–W 10/16	Creating a People: What is an American?	Promise: Chs. 9: 238–248, 10: 264–269; Canvas	
M 10/21–W 10/23	American Empire	Promise: Chs. 10:270–273, 291–293, 11: 304–313, 12: 341–342; Canvas	M 10/21: Newspapers (due midnight)
M 10/28–W 10/30	The Peculiar Institution	Promise: Ch. 13; Canvas	
M 11/4 – W 11/6	Industry and Labor	Promise: Ch. 11: 298–304; Canvas	W 11/6: Exam 2
M 11/11–W 11/13	Antebellum Social Reform	Promise: Chs. 10: 283–286, 11: 313–321, 12: 356–359; Canvas	
M 11/18–W 11/20	A House Divided	Promise: Chs. 10: 288–289 (map on 290), 12: 345–355, 14: 392–415; Canvas	M 11/18: Book Review (due midnight)
M 11/25– W 11/27	Secession and Civil War	Promise: Chs. 14: 415–420, 15 (all); Canvas	M 11/25: Last day to drop W 11/27: Thanksgiving
M 12/2 – W 12/4	Emancipation and Freedom	Canvas	W 12/4: All late assignments (due midnight)
W 12/11	Final Exam		W 12/11, 8:00 – 10:30 a.m. Final Exam