

HISTORY 241
HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES to 1865

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Wednesday, 8:30-11:20 (CRN 91018) Abbotsford Campus B132
Thursday, 17:30-20:20 (CRN 91019) Abbotsford Campus D219

CONTENT:

This course presents a survey of the major developments in American history from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War. In the first half of the course, we will examine early contacts between Native Americans and European settlers, the settlement and development of new colonies, the colonists' growing dissatisfaction with their English rulers and the Revolution which led to the creation of a new nation. After the midterm we will explore how the young American nation actualized the ideals of the Revolution in the context of racial and religious diversity, the rise of a market economy, and westward expansion, before turning to the sectional conflicts and the debates over slavery that led to the Civil War of 1861-1865.

In addition to introducing students to the basic chronology, events, and interpretative issues relevant to the American past, this course seeks to develop, or enhance, students' familiarity with the basic skills employed in historical thinking and writing, specifically through the analysis of primary documents and a critical reading of secondary sources

FORMAT & TEXTS:

Class time will be divided (with variations from week to week) between lectures, assisted with Powerpoint, students' discussions of assigned readings, and screening of documentary films.

The following texts are available at the bookstore.

- Eric Foner. *Give Me Liberty!* (Volume I). Second Seagull Edition (2008).
- John Hollitz, ed. *Thinking Through the Past: A Critical Thinking Approach to U.S. History* (Volume I: To 1877). Fourth Edition (2010).

ASSIGNMENTS:

Short Essays, based on sources in Hollitz (15%; 20%; 20%)	55%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%