

# Course Expectations Letter

**Subject:** History 143

**E-Mail Contact Information:**

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**Catalog Course Description:**

Advisory: ENGL 030 or ENLA 034 or appropriate assessment; READ 023 or appropriate assessment  
Transfers to: UC, CSU.

This course is a survey of United States history from Native American origins to post Civil War Reconstruction. Social, economic, political and cultural developments are explored with an emphasis on the independence movement, Revolutionary War, the new Republic, westward expansion and the Civil War. This course is designed for students interested in the foundational history of the United States. It is recommended for all history majors and fulfills the CSU/UC American Institutions requirement and the American Institutions requirement for the Associate degree. This course also satisfies a requirement for the History for Transfer (AA-T) degree.

3 Units

54 Lecture hours

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Given a primary or secondary source relating to the history of the United States, students will accurately identify the source and then apply appropriate historical methods to explain what the source reveals about its historical context.
- Given a specific historical subject, students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical significance of the topic.
- Given a specific historical topic, students will analyze the causes and consequences of significant historical events/ terms as specified by the instructor.
- Students will describe, compare, and evaluate historical interpretations (secondary sources) of the period studied, judging them for their relative quality, accuracy, and persuasiveness.
- Given a specific historical topic, students will support generalizations with concrete historical evidence and draw relevant conclusions in a written or oral assignment.
- Student will accurately identify and explain the historical facts of a specific historical period or topic.

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in [BP 5500 \(Standards of Conduct\)](#) and [AP 5520 \(Student Conduct Procedures\)](#) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is **NOT** a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

**Textbook:** Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to [Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore](#)

**This course will include regular instructor student contact. Methods of regular instructor student contact include:**

- Announcements
- Email Correspondence
- Discussion Boards
- Timely feedback on assignments

**STUDENT ASSESSMENT:**

**1. PRIMARY SOURCE EVALUATION & GROUP DISCUSSION FORUMS:**

Requirement: In the discussion forum you are expected to answer questions based on the week's assigned primary source(s) and contribute to the larger class discussion. You are expected to read and examine the source(s) prior to contributing to the discussion as well as respond to other classmates' discussion posts. The discussion questions will ask you to identify the purpose, argument, and evidence of the source. The discussion prompts and forums are accessible both in the "discussion" link and the corresponding week's folder, both on Canvas.

**2. QUIZZES:**

Requirement: You will complete 3 brief quizzes that will assess your understanding of the key concepts from the Tools for Course Success supplemental materials. On our Canvas course shell, you will find four short videos that examine the topics: studying history, how to take notes in class, summary to analysis in history, and reading history for comprehension- followed by the corresponding quizzes.

**3. MY STORY PAPER:**

Requirement: In this paper (3-4 pages), you will complete three tasks, with the intent to contemplate your own history within the context of larger American history and society. First, you will give a brief summary of any aspect of your family's collective or individual history that illustrates your/their experience(s) in the United States. Secondly, you will compare and contrast your unique story with the overarching experiences of any group and/or person that is covered in the first half of the semester (time period 1400- 1700s). In comparing and contrasting the experiences of historical actors, you are required to select a minimum of 2 primary sources from our Hoffman- Cobbs reader to use as evidence to support your claims. A handout with more in-depth instructions is posted on our Canvas course shell.

**4. MID-TERM EXAMINATION AND FINAL EXAMINATION:**

Requirement: The mid-term and final examinations will both consist of 20 multiple choice questions and an essay component. The final exam will include an additional short-answer component. You can find the study guides, for both exams, in our course shell on Canvas. In preparation of the exams you should review the study guides, assigned readings from the Faragher textbook, the Hoffman- Cobbs Reader, historical videos, your notes and recorded lectures.

***The instructor may drop you for non-participation.***

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientations can be found at: <http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation//>

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](#) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

*Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.*