HIST 142 American History 1877 to the Present   **3 credits**

Prerequisites: None

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Contact Information: Faculty may be contacted through the Canvas messaging system

Additional Information: www.portagelearning.edu[1*]

Course Meeting Times: HIST 142 is offered continuously

Course Description: This course traces the historical development of the United States of America from the post-Reconstruction period through the early 2020s. It examines political, social, and cultural history, emphasizing industrialization, U.S. expansion, global conflicts, the Civil Rights movement, and the effects of social change. While recounting major events and the contributions of well-known historical figures, the course also introduces lesser-known but important personalities and happenings that formed the United States into the nation that it is today.

Course Goals: As a result of this course experience a student should be able to:

- Recall the chronology of U.S. history.
- Identify major events, ideas, and trends in American history from the late 19th century to the early 2020s.
- Recognize key characteristics of U.S. history and culture.
- Assess the contributions of central historical figures and events and explain how they shaped U.S. history.
- Describe the contributions of minorities and women to the history of the nation.
- Evaluate and apply critical thinking to the historical context of past events.

    *Please see the *Module Topics* section below for expanded course outcomes.

Each of these HIST 142 student learning outcomes is measured:

Directly by:

1) Module review questions (with instructor feedback)
2) Module exams
3) Module reflection essays
4) Cumulative final exam paper
5) Cumulative final exam

Course Delivery: This course is asynchronously delivered online. Contact hours include 40 - 50 hours of reviewed module assignments with instructor feedback and video lectures. There are 6 additional contact hours composed of secure online exams.

Course Progression: It is the policy for all Portage Learning courses that only one (module lecture/final) exam is to be completed within a 48-hour period. Research on the best practices in learning indicates that time is needed to process material for optimal learning. This means that once an exam has been completed, the next exam may not be opened or taken until 48 hours after the submission of the previous module exam. This allows for instructor feedback/class expectations as the student moves through the material. Instructors, like the College, are not available during the weekend; grading, therefore, is M-F and may take up to 72 hours during these days. Also, it is the policy of Portage Learning to support a minimum of 28 days to complete a course; this is not a negotiable time period. Please plan your time accordingly.

Note: Professors reserve the right to reset any exam taken in violation of these guidelines.

Required readings, lectures and assignments: Students are required to read the online lesson modules written by the course author which contain the standard information covered in a typical course. Please note the exam questions are based upon the readings. Video lectures which support each lesson module subject should be viewed as many times as is necessary to fully understand the material.

We do not support the use of outside resources to study, except for the ones listed in the syllabus under "Suggested External References". If you have questions about the material or would like further explanation of the concepts, please contact your instructor.

Academic Integrity is a serious matter. In the educational context, any dishonesty violates freedom and trust, which are essential for effective learning. Dishonesty limits a student's ability to reach his or her potential. Portage places a high value on honest independent work. We depend on the student's desire to succeed in the program he or she is entering. It is in a student's own best interests not to cheat on an exam or put their work into question, as this would compromise the student's preparation for future work. It is the student's responsibility to review the **Student Handbook** and all policies related to academic integrity. If clarification is necessary, the student should reach out to their instructor for further explanation **before** initiating module one.

Required Computer Accessories: It is recommended that students use a desktop or laptop computer, PC or Mac, when taking the course. Some tablet computers are potentially compatible with the course, but not all features are available for all tablet computers. The latest full version of Google Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browser is required for the optimal operation of the Canvas Learning Management System. In addition, this course will use the Respondus Lockdown Browser for exams; a strong internet connection is needed. You are also **required to use LockDown Browser with a webcam**, which will record you during an online, nonproctored exam. (The webcam feature is sometimes referred to as "Respondus Monitor.") **Your computer must have a functioning webcam and microphone. Additionally, students will need a photo ID that includes your picture and full name is required. Please note, Chromebooks and tablets (other than iPad) are not compatible on exams using the Lockdown Browser.** Instructions on downloading and installing this browser will be given at the start of the course. We highly recommend using a high-speed Internet connection to view the video lectures and labs. You may experience significant difficulties viewing the videos using a dial-up connection.

For more information on basic system and browser requirements, please reference the following:
Canvas browser and system requirements: https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66
Respondus Requirements: https://web.respondus.com/he/lockdownbrowser/resources/
Respondus Monitor Requirements: https://web.respondus.com/he/monitor/resources/

Module Topics

Module 1:   In this module, we will trace the transformation of the United States from a rural agricultural nation to an urban industrial nation.

Module 2:   In this module, we will explore the factors and events that led the United States to become a global power between 1898 and 1919.

Module 3:   In this module, we will investigate the politics, economics, and culture of the two decades between the world wars and explore how they shaped the nation.

Module 4:   In this module, we will identify the events that led to the 20th century's greatest conflict, explore the major events of the war, and probe its aftermath and consequences.

Module 5:   In this module, we will investigate the Cold War's origins and the major conflicts of the Cold War era. We'll also explore the culture of the post-World War II period, including economic expansion, the Civil Rights movement, and the domestic turmoil of the 1960s.

Module 6:   This module focuses on the major political, economic, and cultural elements of the last 50 years and seeks to understand the significance of major events such as the Gulf War, 9/11, the election of the nation's first Black president, the culture wars that erupted during the Trump presidency, and the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic of the early 2020s.

Suggested Timed Course Schedule (to complete the course within a typical college semester)

All Portage courses are offered asynchronously with no required schedule to better fit the normal routine of adult students, but the schedule below is suggested to allow a student to complete the course within a typical college semester. Students may feel free to complete the course on a schedule determined by them within the parameters outlined under "Course Progression."

Time Period	**Assignments**	**Subject Matter**
Days 1-14	Module 1 Knowledge Review Module Exam Module Essay	The Gilded Age
Days 15-28	Module 2 Knowledge Review Module Exam Module Essay	The New Empire
Days 29-42	Module 3 Knowledge Review Module Exam Module Essay	The Era of Boom & Bust

Days 43-56	Module 4	The United States at War
	Knowledge Review	
	Module Exam	
	Module Essay	
Days 57-70	Module 5	The Atomic Era
	Knowledge Review	
	Module Exam	
	Module Essay	
Days 71-84	Module 6	The Last Half Century
	Knowledge Review	
	Module Exam	
	Module Essay	
Day 85-98	Final Exam	
	Final Essay	

Grading Rubric:

Check for Understanding =   1 pt.

6 Module Knowledge Reviews = 10 pts. each x 6 =   60 pts.

6 Reflection Essays = 25 pts. each x 6 =   150 pts.

6 Module Exams = 75 pts. each x 6 =   450 pts.

Final Essay = 90 pts.   90 pts.

Final Exam = 90 pts.   90 pts.

Total   841 pts.

The current course grade and progress is continuously displayed within the student dashboard.

Grading Scale:

96.5% - 100% = A+
92.5% - 96.4% = A
89.5% - 92.4% = A-
86.5% - 89.4% = B+
82.5% - 86.4% = B
79.5% - 82.4% = B-
76.5% - 79.4% = C+
72.5% - 76.4% = C
69.5% - 72.4% = C-
66.5% - 69.4% = D+
62.5% - 66.4% = D
59.5% - 62.4% = D-
0.00% - 59.4% = F

Suggested External References:

If the student desires to consult a reference for additional information, the following textbook is recommended as providing complete treatment of the course subject matter:

P. Scott Corbett, Volker Janssen, John M. Lund, Todd Pfannestiel, Sylvie Waskiewicz, Paul Vickery. **OpenStax**. **U.S. History**. Dec 30, 2014. Houston, Texas.

NOTE: We do not support the use of outside resources to study, except those listed above.

Learning Support Services:

Each student should be sure to take advantage of and use the following learning support services provided to increase student academic performance:

Video lectures: Supports diverse learning styles in conjunction with the text material of each module

Messaging system: Provides individual instructor/student interaction

Tech support: Available by submitting a help ticket through the student dashboard

Accommodations for Students with Learning Disabilities:

Students with documented learning disabilities may receive accommodations in the form of an extended time limit on exams, when applicable. To receive the accommodations, the student should furnish documentation of the learning disability at the time of registration, if possible. Scan and e-mail the documentation to studentservices@portagelearning.edu. Upon receipt of the learning disability documentation, Portage staff will provide the student with instructions for a variation of the course containing exams with extended time limits. This accommodation does not alter the content of any assignments/exams, change what the exam is intended to measure or otherwise impact the outcomes of objectives of the course.

<u>**One-on-one Instruction:**</u>
Each student is assigned to his/her own instructor. Personalized questions are addressed via the student dashboard messaging system.

Online learning presents an opportunity for flexibility; however, a discipline to maintain connection to the course is required; therefore, communication is essential to successful learning. **Check your messages daily.** Instructors are checking messages daily Monday-Friday to be sure to answer any questions that may arise from you. It is important that you do the same, so you do not miss any pertinent information from us.

<u>**Holidays:**</u> During the following holidays, all administrative and instructional functions are suspended, including the grading of exams and issuance of transcripts.

New Year's Day	MLK Day
Easter	Memorial Day
Juneteenth	Independence Day
Labor Day	Thanksgiving weekend
Christmas Break	

The schedule of holidays for the current calendar year may be found under the Student Services menu at www.portagelearning.edu

<u>**Code of Conduct**</u>: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a way that supports learning and teaching and promotes an atmosphere of civility and respect in their interactions with others. Verbal and written aggression, abuse, or misconduct is prohibited and may be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.

This is a classroom; therefore, instructors have the academic freedom to set forth policy for their respective class. Instructors send a welcome e-mail detailing the policy of their class, which students are required to read prior to beginning the course.

<u>**Grievances:**</u> If a student has a complaint about the course, the student is advised to first consult the instructor of the course. After communicating with the instructor, if the matter is still unresolved, students may file a formal grievance for consideration by the Academic Review Committee. The process must be initiated via written communication to academics@portagelearning.edu, with "Academic Grievance" listed in the subject line of the email.

<u>**Remediation:**</u> At Portage Learning we allow a "one-time" only opportunity to re-take an alternate version of **one** module exam on which a student has earned a grade lower than 70%. This option must be exercised before the final exam is started. If an exam is retaken, the original exam grade will be erased, and the new exam grade will become a permanent part of the course grade. However, before scheduling and attempting

this retest, the student must resolve the questions they have regarding the material by reviewing both the old exam and the lesson module material. Once ready to attempt the retest of the exam they must contact their instructor to request that the exam be reset for the retest. Remember, any module retest must be requested and completed **before** the final exam is opened.

Note: Exams on which a student has been penalized for a violation of the academic integrity policy may not be re-taken.

Syllabi are subject to change as part of ongoing educational review practices. Students are responsible for accessing and using the most recent version of the course syllabus.