

This is a general course preview. The actual course syllabus may change each term.

Course Details

Format

- 15-week course
- Not self-paced: Assignments have specific weekly deadlines
- Students login when convenient

Orientation

Before Class Begins

- New students must complete an online student orientation in Blackboard BEFORE the class begins.
- Students will be emailed a login link.
- Allow 2 hours to complete.

Email

- New students must set-up a Concordia email account
- During a term, all communication is through Concordia email

Attendance

- Attendance is recorded when a discussion or assignment is posted.
- Login at least 5 times per week.

Payment

- Students are emailed an invoice
- Payments online, by mail, or by phone
- Concordia processes invoices for state funded students.

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Drop Policy

- After a course begins, the student will pay for a course, even if dropped.
 - The student pays based on the number of weeks completed.
 - Week 1-5 : A percent refund
 - Week 6-10 0% and 'W' grade
 - Week 11-16 0% and 'F' grade
- "W" Withdraw does not count in GPA
"F" Counts as a 0.0 in GPA

Course Overview:

HIST 153 American Civilization is a survey of the history of the United States from pre-Columbian America to the present. It will explore the political, economic, religious, social, ideological, and artistic influences in the American story. It is designed to help students develop knowledge of broad areas of history; an appreciation of the major events in U.S. history; and the skills necessary to read, write, and speak about U.S. history and historical writing. 3 credits.

Course Evaluation and Grading

Weekly Quizzes	30%
Weekly Discussions	30%
Primary Source Essays (Submit 7)	30%
Final Activity	10%

Each week's activities will require:

- **Weekly Quizzes** 75-minute open book quizzes covering the assigned reading material will be administered through Blackboard.
- **Weekly Videos & Discussions** Online videos, from the Annenberg/CPB series [A Biography of America](#), will be used as the basis for weekly discussions examining our attitudes and behaviors.
- **Primary Source Essays** Students must submit 7 of the possible 14 primary source essays to analyze a document or media element. The 5-paragraph essay must summarize and analyze the artifact in historical context.
- **Final Activity** The final activity will require students to compose a 5-paragraph essay addressing a specific question about American Exceptionalism and its relevance to present day realities.



Counts as... HIST 153 counts in the Society and Culture category of the Concordia Liberal Arts Core Curriculum.

Technology Requirements

Hardware

- Students need a laptop or desktop with reliable broadband internet access.
- The Blackboard App should be used on tablets and mobile devices.
- (Some courses) Camera & microphone may be needed for video conferencing.
- Speakers or headphones.

Browser

- Concordia uses **Blackboard Learn** which runs best in **Firefox** or **Chrome**.
 - Disable pop-up blockers and ENABLE cookies.
 - Check your browser compliance at: bit.ly/cuwaachek  
- Errors are OK if they are for compliance of Java, Shockwave, and Flash.

Software

- A word processor is required. Office, Pages, Google docs will work.
- Some courses will require presentation or video software (PowerPoint or equivalent).
- Students have FREE access to Microsoft Office 365 ([download / instructions](#))

HIST 153 Course Schedule

Week One: New World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The New World; Colliding Cultures • Video/Online Discussion: New World Encounters/The Beginnings of America • Primary Source assignment: Document regarding the Indies
Week Two: Colonial World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: British North America; Colonial Society • Video/Online Discussion: English Settlement/New England and Virginia • Primary Source assignment: Document regarding witchcraft
Week Three: Independence & Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The American Revolution; A New Nation • Video/Online Discussion: A New System of Government • Primary Source assignment: Political Cartoon analysis
Week Four: Jefferson & Jackson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Early Republic; Democracy in America • Video/Online Discussion: Thomas Jefferson • Primary Source assignment: Political Cartoon analysis
Week Five: Slavery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: Religion and Reform; The Old South • Video/Online Discussion: Slavery • Primary Source assignment: Slave Spirituals
Week Six: Civil War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Sectional Crisis; The Civil War • Video/Online Discussion: The Coming of the Civil War • Primary Source assignment: Photos dead soldiers
Week Seven: Reconstruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: Reconstruction • Video/Online Discussion: Reconstruction • Primary Source assignment: The Klan in Political Cartoons
Week Eight: Westward Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: Manifest Destiny; Conquering the West • Video/Online Discussion: The West • Primary Source assignment: Pres. Jackson views on American Indians
Week Nine: Gilded Age & Progressivism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: Industrial America; The Progressive Era • Video/Online Discussion: Industrial Supremacy • Primary Source assignment: Gilded Age cartoons
Week Ten: World War I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: World War I & Its Aftermath • Video/Online Discussion: TR and Wilson • Primary Source assignment: WWI songs
Week Eleven: The New Era	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Roaring Twenties (The New Era) • Video/Online Discussion: The Twenties: The Tensions of Prosperity • Primary Source assignment: "Modern youth"
Week Twelve: Great Depression & New Deal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Great Depression • Video/Online Discussion: FDR and The Depression • Primary Source assignment: Dear Mrs. Roosevelt
Week Thirteen: World War II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: World War II • Video/Online Discussion: World War II/Total War • Primary Source assignment: Poster Art from World War II
Week Fourteen: Cold War Era	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Cold War; The Affluent Society; The Sixties • Video/Online Discussion: The Cold War • Primary Source assignment: Consumerism & Gender Roles
Week Fifteen: 1970's & Beyond / Final Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook chapters & quizzes: The Unraveling; The Rise of the Right; The Recent Past • Video/Online Discussion: Contemporary History • Final Activity assignment: American Exceptionalism