



HIST-1010: History of the United States to 1877

An asynchronous online course during Summer Mini-C

This class examines the early history of the United States to 1877. Organized around the paradoxical dynamics of separatism/unity (rebellion/loyalty) that pervade this history, the course begins with the colonial era—a period that completely transformed the North American continent as rival European empires competed for control of the rich resources of North America, creating “New Worlds” for Europeans, Africans, and Native Americans. Within this context, we turn to examine the two founding movements of the nation—namely, the American Revolution to secure the independence of the former thirteen British colonies in North America followed by the unification of the states under the Constitution. In the final segment of the course, we consider a young nation riven by longstanding internal tensions that would fuel the expansion to the Pacific Coast—a development that many hoped would release the tensions over slavery, instead set in motion the violent confrontations that would nearly destroy the nation in civil war.

The course satisfies the General Education Competency: Social Sciences