

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

---

**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** US History Since 1865

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** HIS 1540

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Students will examine the history of the United States from the conclusion of the Civil War to the present. Using the methodology of the social sciences, students will learn and evaluate the major political, social, cultural, scientific-technological, economic, and natural developments that have shaped the recent American experience. Students will give special attention to the unique contributions made by diverse peoples and institutions, and will better understand the responsibilities of educated citizens today.

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ENG 1510.

---

**General Education Requirements Met**

**SUNY**

US History & Civic Engagement

**JCC**

Cultural Understanding

---

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Demonstrate understanding of United States' society and/or history, including the diversity of individuals and communities that make up the nation. [SUNY Gen Ed – US History & Civic Engagement]
  2. Understand the role of individual participation in US communities and government. [SUNY Gen Ed – US History & Civic Engagement]
  3. Apply historical and contemporary evidence to draw, support, or verify conclusions. [SUNY Gen Ed – US History & Civic Engagement]
  4. Demonstrate understanding of cultural similarities and differences and how cultural norms shape each person's experience of the world. [JCC Gen Ed – Cultural Understanding]
- 

**Topics Covered:**

- Brief overview of US history to 1877
  - Political focus is given to Reconstruction, the evolution of the Presidency, the role of Congress, Supreme Court decisions, and local affairs
  - Economic coverage includes agricultural change, industrialization, technological advances in manufacturing, and the rise of global trade
  - Foreign affairs include imperialism, foreign wars, Containment, and the Pax Americana
  - Family life, social class, immigration, daily life and work, and in-migration are included as social issues
  - Cultural expressions, beliefs, values, and the media are also examined
  - A connection to current events, especially the responsibilities of the US in the global age are further stressed
- 

**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)  
Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
-------	--------	-----	--------	-----	--------	-----	-----

- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
- 

**Effective Date:** Fall 2023