

# **ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



## **Social Science and Public Service Division**

### **HIS 2000 - United States History to 1865**

#### **Course Syllabus**

Date: Spring 2001  
Semester Hours: 3  
Lecture hours per week: 3  
Labs hours per week:  
Seminar hours per week:  
Other hours:  
Prerequisite: None  
Semester Offered: Spring, Summer, Fall  
Instructor: S. Charry

#### **I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the history of the United States to 1865. It does this through a consideration of: European background, the Age of Exploration and Colonization, the American Revolution, the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution, Jeffersonian Democracy, Jacksonian Democracy, the coming of the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

#### **II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND RELATED COMPETENCIES:**

**Outcome #1: Students will be able to identify significant events, people, ideas and historical trends that have shaped United States History, socially, culturally and politically.**

Competency 1.1: Students will learn to identify key historical trends.

Competency 1.2: Students will learn how individual actions and historical trends are inter-related.

Competency 1.3: Students will understand and appreciate the multiple- cause and effect relationships of historical trends and events.

Competency 1.4: Students will learn to critically examine and place historical events, people, ideas and trends into a larger historical context.

Competency 1.5: Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of how the past influences the present.

**Outcome #2: Students will be able to examine historical ideals and concepts both through writing and orally.**

Competency 2.1: Students will be required to use and develop critical thinking skills.

Competency 2.2: Students will gain an understanding of historical analysis.

Competency 2.3: Students will be required to evaluate circumstances and events within the context of the times and the present.

Competency 2.4: Students will gain an ability to organize historical concepts.

**Outcome #3: Students will learn to understand and appreciate the cultural diversity of American society both historically and in the present.**

Competency 3.1: Students will come to realize that people who lived in the United States, for the most part, were immigrants or are decedents of immigrants.

Competency 3.2: Students will recognize and understand how diverse groups have been treated and perceived throughout history.

Competency 3.3: Students will recognize how and why cultural attitudes toward different groups have changed over time.

Competency 3.4: Students will gain an awareness of the historical roots and problems of intolerance, racism and bigotry.

Competency 3.5: Students will gain a historical appreciation for the contributions and perspectives of diverse members of society.

Competency 3.6: Student will be able to place their own lives within the context of the cultural diversity and history of the United States.

**Outcome #4: Students will be introduced to various perspectives of United States history.**

Competency 4.1: Students will understand the idea that history is a scholarly interpretation of the past.

Competency 4.2: Students will realize historical interpretations change over time.

Competency 4.3: Students will understand why historical interpretations change.

Competency 4.4: Students will be to think critically and explain why some historical interpretations are more convincing than others.

**Outcome #5: Students will be introduced to scholarly historical sources.**

Competency 5.1: Students will be able to explain the difference between primary and secondary historical sources.

Competency 5.2: Students will be able to identify a diversity of important historical sources.

Competency 5.3: Students will be able to historically analyze documents.

Competency 5.4: Students will be able to recognize the historical bias of documents.

**III. INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD:**

Lecture  
Discussion  
Videos  
Question and answer sessions  
Individual instruction and counseling  
In class writing  
Out of class writing

**IV. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: Current Course Text**

Nash, Gary B. and Julie Roy Jeffrey, eds., The American People: Creating a Nation and a Society. Vol. 1, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, New York: Addison-Wesley-Longman, 2001.

## **V. STUDENT ASSESSMENT:**

Written Exams

Quizzes

Papers

Book reviews

Class attendance

Graded Class participation and discussion