



STARK STATE COLLEGE

GENERAL SYLLABUS

Course Information

Course Name: American Civic Literacy
Course Number: HIS100

Required Materials

Textbook(s): OpenStax College. (2013). U.S. History. Houston, TX: OpenStax CNX. Retrieved from <https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history>

Required Readings:

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>

<https://guides.loc.gov/federalist-papers/full-text>

The Bill of Rights Institute. Federalist 39. <https://billofrightsinstitute.org/primary-sources/federalist-no-39>

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/bill-of-rights-transcript>

<https://billofrightsinstitute.org/>

USHistory.org. Hamilton's Financial Plan. <https://www.ushistory.org/US/18b.asp>

Economicshelp.org. Mercantilism theory and examples.

<https://www.economicshelp.org/blog/17553/trade/mercantilism-theory-and-examples/>

Economicshelp.org. Advantages of Free Trade. <https://www.economicshelp.org/blog/1941/trade/advantages-of-free-trade/>

Wilkinson, Freddie. National Geographic. (May 30, 2025) Industrialization, Labor and Life.

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/industrialization-labor-and-life/>

Wilkinson, Freddie. National Geographic. (Nov. 15, 2025) Industrial Revolution and Technology

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/industrial-revolution-and-technology/>

History In Charts. (Sept. 14, 2022) Why was the Dred Scott Supreme Court Decision Important?

<https://historyincharts.com/dred-scott-supreme-court-decision-important/>

Jefferson Davis, in The War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Fourth Series (1900), I, 104-106. <https://archive.org/details/americanhistoryt00ivunse/page/188/mode/2up> as included in Allosso, Dan.

American History Told By Contemporaries.

<https://minnstate.pressbooks.pub/ushistory1/chapter/principles-of-the-confederacy-1861/>

Hale, Benjamin. (Nov. 14, 2023). Emancipation Proclamation: Effects, Impacts and Outcomes. History Cooperative.

<https://historycooperative.org/effects-emancipation-proclamation/>

<https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/emancipation-proclamation/transcript.html>

American Battlefield Trust. Gettysburg. <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/gettysburg>

National Constitution Center. The Gettysburg Address (1863). <https://constitutioncenter.org/the-constitution/historic->

document-library/detail/abraham-lincoln-the-gettysburg-address-1863

Lincoln, A. Gettysburg address delivered at Gettysburg Pa. Nov. 19th, 1863 [Pdf] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/rbpe.24404500/>.

History.com Editors. The Gettysburg Address. <https://www.history.com/articles/gettysburg-address>
<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/amendments-11-27>

Southern Poverty Law Center: Learning for Justice. Strategies of the Civil Rights Movement.
<https://www.learningforjustice.org/strategies-of-the-civil-rights-movement>

Emilye Crosby. Civil Rights Movement Tactics. <https://www.civilrightsteaching.org/resource/civil-rights-movement-tactics>

King Jr., Dr.Martin Luther, as published in The Atlantic. (June 1963). Martin Luther King’s ‘Letter From Birmingham Jail’.
https://library.stlawu.edu/system/files/2021-03/martin_luther_king_letter_from_birmingham_jail_in_atlantic.pdf

Additional Materials: None

Course Outline/Calendar

The date of coverage and order of coverage may be modified based on the faculty member and events beyond the control of faculty members that interfere with class times and teaching.

16 Week Calendar

Week	Chapter/Topic/Lab
1	English Colonization of North America · Section 3.3, “English Settlements in America”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 4.3, “An Empire of Slavery and the Consumer Revolution”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 1 · Quiz Week 1
2	The Growth of the American Colonies · Section 4.4, “Great Awakening and Enlightenment”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 4.5, “Wars for Empire”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 2 · Quiz Week 2
3	Colonial Protests and the Desire for Self-Government · All of Chapter 5, “Imperial Reforms and Colonial Protests”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 3 · Quiz Week 3 · Assignment 1
4	The Declaration of Independence · Section 6.1, “Britain’s Law-and-Order Strategy and Its Consequences”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: The Declaration of Independence · Discussion Question 4 · Quiz Week 4
5	The Failure of the Articles of Confederation and the Drive Towards Federalism · Section 7.3, “Debating Democracy”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 7.4, “The Constitutional Convention and Constitution”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 5 · Quiz Week 5
6	The Constitution and the Federalist Rationale · Document: U.S. Constitution · Discussion Question 6 · Quiz Week 6 · Assignment 2
7	The Reasoning Behind the Constitution · Federalist Papers #10 · Federalist Papers #51 · Federalist Papers #39 · Federalist Papers #78 · Federalist Papers #29 · Discussion Question 7
8	The Bill of Rights · Section 8.1, “Competing Visions: Federalists and Democratic-Republicans” U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Bill of Rights · Discussion Question 8 · Quiz Week 8
9	Adam Smith and the Wealth of Nations in the United States · Section 2.4, “New Worlds in the Americas: Labor, Commerce, and the Columbian Exchange, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 9.1, “Early Industrialization in the Northeast”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 9.2, “A Vibrant Capitalists Republic”, U.S History, OpenStax · Document: Selected readings concerning The Wealth of Nations · Discussion Question 9 · Quiz Week 9 · Assignment 3

Week	Chapter/Topic/Lab
10	The Economics of Cotton and Slavery in the Antebellum South · Section 12.1, “The Economics of Cotton”, U.S History, OpenStax · Section 12.2, “African-Americans in the Antebellum United States”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 10 · Quiz Week 10
11	Slavery and the Civil War · Section 14.3, “The Dred Scott Decision and Sectional Strife”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 15.1, “The Origins and Outbreak of the Civil War”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 11
12	The Emancipation Proclamation · Section 15.3, subsection “Emancipation”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Emancipation Proclamation · Discussion Question 12 · Quiz Week 12 · Assignment 4
13	The Gettysburg Address · Section 15.3, subsection “Union Advances”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Gettysburg Address · Discussion Question 13 · Quiz Week 13
14	Reconstruction and the Collapse of Reconstruction · Document: 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution · Section 16.4, “The Collapse of Reconstruction”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 14 · Quiz Week 14
15	The Civil Rights Struggle · Section 28.5, “The African American Struggle for Civil Rights”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 29.3, “The Civil Rights Movement Marches On”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Letter from a Birmingham Jail · Discussion Question 15 · Quiz Week 15 · Assignment 5
16	Class Summary and Final Exam · Comprehensive Final Exam

8 Week Calendar

Week	Chapter/Topic/Lab
1	English Colonization of North America · Section 3.3, “English Settlements in America”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 4.3, “An Empire of Slavery and the Consumer Revolution”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 1 The Growth of the American Colonies · Section 4.4, “Great Awakening and Enlightenment”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 4.5, “Wars for Empire”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 2 · Quiz
2	Colonial Protests and the Desire for Self-Government · All of Chapter 5, “Imperial Reforms and Colonial Protests”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 3 · Assignment The Declaration of Independence · Section 6.1, “Britain’s Law-and-Order Strategy and Its Consequences”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: The Declaration of Independence · Discussion Question 4 · Quiz
3	The Failure of the Articles of Confederation and the Drive Towards Federalism · Section 7.3, “Debating Democracy”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 7.4, “The Constitutional Convention and Constitution”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 5 · The Constitution and the Federalist Rationale · Document: U.S. Constitution · Discussion Question 6 · Quiz · Assignment 2
4	The Reasoning Behind the Constitution · Federalist Papers #10 · Federalist Papers #51 · Federalist Papers #39 · Federalist Papers #78 · Federalist Papers #29 · Discussion Question 7 The Bill of Rights · Section 8.1, “Competing Visions: Federalists and Democratic-Republicans” U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Bill of Rights · Discussion Question 8 · Quiz
5	Adam Smith and the Wealth of Nations in the United States · Section 2.4, “New Worlds in the Americas: Labor, Commerce, and the Columbian Exchange, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 9.1, “Early Industrialization in the Northeast”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 9.2, “A Vibrant Capitalists Republic”, U.S History, OpenStax · Document: Selected readings concerning The

Week	Chapter/Topic/Lab
	Wealth of Nations · Discussion Question 9 · Assignment 3 The Economics of Cotton and Slavery in the Antebellum South · Section 12.1, “The Economics of Cotton”, U.S History, OpenStax · Section 12.2, “African-Americans in the Antebellum United States”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 10 · Quiz
6	Slavery and the Civil War · Section 14.3, “The Dred Scott Decision and Sectional Strife”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 15.1, “The Origins and Outbreak of the Civil War”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 11 The Emancipation Proclamation · Section 15.3, subsection “Emancipation”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Emancipation Proclamation · Discussion Question 12 · Quiz · Assignment 4
7	The Gettysburg Address · Section 15.3, subsection “Union Advances”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Gettysburg Address · Discussion Question 13 · Reconstruction and the Collapse of Reconstruction · Document: 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution · Section 16.4, “The Collapse of Reconstruction”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Discussion Question 14 · Quiz
8	The Civil Rights Struggle · Section 28.5, “The African American Struggle for Civil Rights”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Section 29.3, “The Civil Rights Movement Marches On”, U.S. History, OpenStax · Document: Letter from a Birmingham Jail · Discussion Question 15 · Quiz · Assignment 5 Class Summary and Final Exam · Comprehensive Final Exam