

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
HIS 121 – UNITED STATES HISTORY I (3 CR.)

Course Description

Surveys United States history from its beginning to the present. Part I of II. **This is a Passport Transfer Course.**
Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

Surveys the general history of the United States to 1865 and allows students to reach a basic understanding of the characteristic features of the United States' early historical development. Students will learn about some of the important political, economic, social, intellectual, cultural and religious changes that shaped the development of the United States from earliest times.

Course Prerequisite/Corequisite

None

Course Objectives

Upon completion the course, the student will be able to:

- Establish a chronology of historical events in American History before 1865. (Addresses General Education Objectives c and d under information literacy.)
- Explain the changing geo-political structures of the United States up until 1865. (Addresses General Education Objective a and e under Culture and Social Understanding.)
- Define the importance of key individuals and developments in American history before 1865. (Addresses General Education Objective c and d under Information Literacy.)
- Identify the social, economic and political forces at work in the evolution of early American history. (Addresses General Education Objectives a and e under Cultural and Social Understanding.)
- Recognize and describe the significance of some of the cultural achievements of early American history. (Addresses General Education Objective c under Culture and Social Understanding.)
- Analyze complex historical sources and materials and reach conclusions based on interpretations of those materials. (Addresses General Education Objectives a and b under Communication and Objective d under Critical Thinking.)

Major Topics to be Included

- Pre-Columbian America
- The creation of European colonies in North America
- Colonial America
- The American Revolution & the creation of the Constitution
- The Early Republic
- The Transformation of the Economy/Market Revolution
- The Age of Jackson
- Westward Expansion/Manifest Destiny
- Origins & Development of American Slavery
- Coming of the Civil War
- The Civil War