

HIST 2111 B – U.S. History to 1877

Instructor: Dr. Carla Gerona

Semester and Meeting Time

Fall 2026

Online Synchronous, Tuesday/Thursday, 2:00–3:15 PM

Course Description

This course is a survey of United States history from colonial settlement through the post–Civil War period. Topics include colonial settlement, the American Revolution and the U.S. Constitution, antebellum expansion, slavery and the plantation economy, sectional conflict and the Civil War, and Reconstruction. The course also includes focused study of Georgia history during this period.

Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop core research skills, including historical reading, written and oral communication, and critical thinking.
 - Build a body of historical knowledge with both breadth (across time and place) and depth (detailed understanding of key events and themes).
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Required Course Materials

- Eric Foner, Kathleen DuVal, and Lisa McGirr, *Give Me Liberty! An American History* (Brief Volume, Eighth Edition), Volume 1.
 - Selections from “Visions of America: The Revolution as You’ve Never Seen It Before”
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Grading Policy and Weighting

- Reading quizzes: **10%**
(Usually one per week)

- Synchronous class discussions and in-class coursework: **30%**
(Four or five per module – and will include participation in a scheduled talk -- for 10%)
 - Test 1 (Module 1): **20%**
 - Test 2 (Module 2): **20%**
 - Test 3 (Module 3): **20%**
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Attendance Policy

This is a synchronous course. Attendance is required for synchronous class discussions but not pre-recorded presentations.

Academic Integrity

Students must adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. All issues of academic integrity will be governed by the Georgia Tech Honor Code.

- **Georgia Tech Honor Code:**
<https://osi.gatech.edu/resource-guide>
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Disability Services and Accommodations

This course follows Georgia Tech guidelines for providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who require accommodations should be registered with the Office of Disability Services and communicate their needs as early as possible.

Core IMPACTS: Social Sciences Area

This course fulfills a **Core IMPACTS requirement in the Social Sciences area**. Core IMPACTS courses provide students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas and support broad academic and career goals.

Orienting Question

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior and explain how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Career-Ready Competencies Developed

- Intercultural competence
 - Perspective-taking
 - Persuasion
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Core IMPACTS: Citizenship Area

This course also fulfills a **Core IMPACTS requirement in the Citizenship area**.

Orienting Question

- How do I prepare for my responsibilities as an engaged citizen?

Learning Outcome

Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the history of the United States and Georgia, and understanding of the principles and provisions of the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of Georgia.

Career-Ready Competencies Developed

- Critical thinking
 - Intercultural competence
 - Persuasion
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