

American Institutions

Course Description:

This course explores some of the major social, economic, and political developments which have shaped American Civilization from the first European contact with indigenous peoples in North America to the present. Rather than a comprehensive, narrative survey, the course will offer an introduction to selected topics or critical moments in the American past. The class will proceed chronologically through the topics, employing a combination of lecture and discussion. Students are expected (indeed required) to attend class each day, having read the assignments and fully prepared to engage in a discussion of the issues.

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