

**Instructor:**

Eric G. Swedin, PhD      <http://www.swedin.org/>      [eswedin@weber.edu](mailto:eswedin@weber.edu)  
 Offices: LH274 (Ogden) and D2-137L (Davis)  
 Telephone: 801-626-6692 (w)  
 Office hours: Available by appointment made via email

**Text:** Stephen Oates, *Portrait Of America: Volume I and Volume II* (10<sup>th</sup> Edition)  
 ISBN10: 0-495-79985-8 and ISBN10: 0-495-91499-1

**Objectives:** Utah State Code 53B-16-103(b) requires that “A student shall demonstrate a reasonable understanding of the history, principles, form of government, and economic system of the United States prior to receiving a bachelor’s degree or teaching credential.” Successful completion of this course will satisfy this “American Institutions” requirement.

This American Institutions (AI) course meets the following objectives. Upon completing an AI course a student shall demonstrate a reasonable understanding of:

1. The significant political, economic, and social changes in American history.
2. The major principles of American civilization, including the concepts of popular sovereignty, liberty, and equality.
3. The institutions and practices of the government provided for in the United States Constitution.
4. The basic workings and evolution of a market economy in the United States.
5. The diversity of American life and experience.

**Class Description:** An analysis of American civilization that traces social, cultural, economic, and political developments in the United States. May be taken to complete the American Institutions requirement (grade of C or better required).

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

**Grading Policies:** Grades will be determined on the following basis:

Worksheets	60%
Timeline Assignment	20%
Term Paper	20%

Grades:    A: 90 - 100%    B: 80 - 89%    C: 70 - 79%    D: 60 - 69%    E: 0 - 59%  
 (Grades at the high or low ends of these ranges will earn plus and minus grades.)

**Cheating Policy:**

Cheating and deceit are not accepted at Weber State University. *Cheating on an quiz or assignment, or turning in someone else's work as your own, will result in an E for the class.* You may work together on your assignments and papers, but you must turn in your own work. If you quote from a book, article, or web site, you must properly quote and cite your work. **Avoid even the appearance of cheating or plagiarism.**

**Student Expectations for Fall 2020 Courses:**

See this [document](#) for campus policies in light on the pandemic.

**Digital Addendum for Campus Course Policies:**

See this [document](#) for other campus course policies.

**Schedule:**

Week of	Readings/Worksheet
August 30	Worksheet #1: Before the United States. Read Oates, Chapters I: 1-6
September 6	Worksheet #2: Founding the United States. Read Oates, Chapters I: 7-10 and read the Declaration of Independence (get a copy from the Internet)
September 13	Worksheet #3: Creating a Nation. Read Oates, Chapters I: 11-17.
September 20	Worksheet #4: Constitution. Read the Constitution (get a copy from the Internet).
September 27	Worksheet #5: The Frontier. Read Oates, Chapters I: 18-22
October 4	Worksheet #6: The Civil War. Read Oates, Chapters I: 23-30
October 11	Worksheet #7: The West. Read Oates, Chapters II: 3-10
October 18	Worksheet #8: Industrial Expansion and Progressivism. Read Oates, Chapters II: 11-16
October 25	Timeline Assignment
November 1	Worksheet #9: World War II. Read Oates, Chapters II: 17-21
November 8	Worksheet #10: The Cold War. Read Oates, Chapters II: 22, 25-28
November 15	Worksheet #11: Later 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Read Oates, Chapters II: 23-24
November 22	Worksheet #12: America Today. Read Oates, Chapters II: 29-32
November 29	Thanksgiving (no readings or worksheet)
December 6	Term Paper Assignment
	No final exam