

Dear Student,

***Welcome to History 11/Political and Social History of the United States I.*** You have registered for the online section 17344 and I am writing to provide you with important information before we begin the class. The class is entirely online. Although I will be available online feel free to visit my campus office hours. The class begins February 10 so be sure to log in then.

### **Course Overview**

This course covers the main events, actors, and themes of United States History up to 1865. While doing this we hope to develop and improve critical thinking, analysis, and writing skills through the study of United States social, economic and political development.

### **Getting Started**

You will need to log on to our course website no later than February 10. If you do not log on and participate by 11:59 pm, PST, February 10, you may be dropped from the course as a no-show. Be sure to read the syllabus and posts in the Cyber Café Module in Modules in Canvas.

For those new to online classes and Canvas or for technical questions, tutorials, or other questions related to online education see Valley Virtual:

<http://lavc.edu/virtualvalley/>

### **How to Log into SIS/Canvas**

<https://mycollege.laccd.edu> [Links to an external site.](#)

**LoginID / UserID:** Your 9-digit student ID number (example: 881234567 or 900123456)

**Password:** Same as your SIS password (where you registered for the class).

### **Success:**

In order to succeed, you must have regular access to the Internet. You must log on to our class site to retrieve and submit assignments and to participate in class discussions at least twice a week. If you will not be able to participate in this manner, this is not the course for you.

Please note that we will all progress through the course together, at the same pace. This is not a class in which you can complete all the work for the semester in the first week or make it all up in the last week.

The success of this class depends on the willingness of everyone to participate in discussions regularly, and to share ideas in writing. All of our discussions will be

*asynchronous* (not at the same time), not *synchronous* (e.g., live chat, instant messaging). This will allow you to participate at times suitable for your schedule (with deadlines). Exams will be conducted online and are discussed in the syllabus.

**Technical requirements**

See Valley Virtual above.

**Required Texts:** See syllabus

If you have any questions always feel free to send me an email at the address below. I look forward to working with you over the fall semester.

Sincerely,

Rick Murray

Email: [murrayrf@lavc.edu](mailto:murrayrf@lavc.edu)

Responses to emails will be returned within 24 hours. Be sure to enter a subject (11 17344) in the subject line.