

## **DSE-I**

### **History of the USA: Independence to Civil War**

#### **Course Objective**

The course attempts to study the beginnings of the 'New World' and its diverse demography. It facilitates the understanding of the invaluable contributions of the marginalized social groups that contributed to the development of USA. It focuses on the evolution of American democracy, capitalism and its limitations along with USA's quest for dominance in world politics.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:

- Explain the evolving and changing contours of USA and its position in world politics.
- Examine the limits of American democracy in its formative stages.
- Analyse the character of early capitalism in USA and resultant inequities.
- Describe the economics of slavery in USA along with details of slave life and culture.
- Explain the main issues related with the Civil War in USA and its various interpretations

#### **Course Content:**

##### **Unit I: A New World**

[a] The Growth of American Colonies: Diverse Demography; Forms of Labour: indigenous tribes, indentured labour, slaves

[b] Revolution: sources, historiography

##### **Unit II: Limits of American democracy**

[a] The Federalist Constitution: Structure and its Critique

[b] Jeffersonian Democracy: Its Limitations

[c] Westward Expansion: Jefferson and Jackson; Marginalization, Displacement of the indigenous tribes; case histories of the Shawnee and the Cherokee tribes

##### **Unit III: Early Capitalism and its inequities**

- [a] Growth of Market Society: Industrial Labour: gender, race, ethnicity
- [b] Immigrant Labour: religious, racial, ethnic bias; case history of Irish immigrants

#### **Unit IV: U.S. quest for dominance**

- [a] Imperialism and Changing Diplomacy: Manifest Destiny, War of 1812; Monroe Doctrine

#### **Unit V: Slavery**

- [a] The economics of slavery: South vs. North/Debate
- [b] Slave life and culture; nature of female slavery; slave resistance (including female slave resistance)

#### **Unit VI: The Civil War**

- [a] Issues of the War
- [b] Interpretations

### **ESSENTIAL READINGS AND UNIT WISE TEACHING OUTCOMES:**

**Unit I:** Student will know the growth of colonies in America, its diverse demography, forms of labour and indigenous tribes. Student will also learn about American Revolution. **(Teaching time: 3 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Bailyn, B., D. Wood, J. L. Thomas et.al. (2000). *The Great Republic, A History of the American People*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company .
- Datar, K. *America Ka Itihas*. (1997). University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Grob, G.N. and G.A. Billias. (2000). *Interpretations of American History: Patterns and Perspectives*. Vol. I. New York: The Free Press.
- Billias, George A. (2005). *The American Revolution, how revolutionary was it*. (American Problem Studies). New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.
- Lemisch, Jesse. 'The American Revolution Seen From the Bottom Up'. In Barton Bernstein. ed. (1970). *Towards A New Past: Dissenting Essays in American History*. New York: Pantheon Books. 1968. Also London: Chatto & Windus.

**Unit II.** This unit will explain limits of American Democracy in its initial phase. It will also examine the westward expansion and its' implications. Unit will also highlight marginalization and displacement of the indigenous tribes.**(Teaching time: 2 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Bailyn, B., D. Wood, J. L. Thomas et.al. (2000) *The Great Republic, A History of the American People*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company.
- Datar, K. (1997). *America Ka Itihas*. University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Grob, G.N. and G.A. Billias. (2000). *Interpretations of American History: Patterns and Perspectives*. Vol. I. New York: The Free Press.
- Levy, L.W. (1987). *Essays on the Making of the American Constitution*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Beard, C. (1963). 'The Constitution as an Economic Document'. Sheehan, D. *The Making of American History: The Emergence of a Nation*. Vol. I. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.
- Diggins, J.P. (1981). 'Power and Authority in American History: The Case of Charles Beard and His Critics'. *American Historical Review*, Vol. 86, October, pp. 701-30.
- Berkhofer, R. Jr. (1989). 'The White Advance Upon Native Lands'. Paterson, T.G., *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy: Documents and Essays*. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath.
- Edmunds, R.D. (1983). 'Tecumseh, The Shawnee Prophet and American History'. *Western Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 14, No. 3, pp.261–276.
- Young, M. (1981). 'The Cherokee Nation: Mirror of the Republic'. *American Quarterly*, Vol. 33, No. 5, Special Issue: American Culture and the American Frontier. pp. 502-24.

**Unit III:** This unit will examine the growth of early Capitalism through study of growth of market society, industrial labour. It will also explore resultant inequities most visible in terms of race, migrant labour.**(Teaching time: 2 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Bailyn, B., D. Wood, J. L. Thomas et.al. (2000). *The Great Republic, A History of the American People*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company.
- Datar, K. (1997). *America Ka Itihas*. University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Bruchey, Stuart. (1990). 'The Early American Industrial Revolution'. In Stuart Bruchey. *Enterprise: The Dynamic Economy of the Free People*. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.
- Gutman, H. (1977). *Work, Culture & Society in Industrializing America*. New York: Random House Inc.
- Foner, Eric. (1981). 'Class, Ethnicity and Radicalism in the Gilded Age: The Land League and Irish America'. In Eric Foner. *Politics and Ideology in the Age of the Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Unit IV:** This unit proposes to examine U.S. quest for dominance. US Imperialism and Changing Diplomacy which was manifested in Manifest Destiny and War of 1812 and subsequent enactment of Monroe Doctrine. **(Teaching time: 2 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Bailyn, B., D. Wood, J. L. Thomas et.al. (2000). *The Great Republic, A History of the American People*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company.
- Datar, K. (1997). *America Ka Itihas*. University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Merk, F. (1995). *Manifest Destiny and Mission in American History*. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.
- Goodman, W. (1963). 'The Origins of the War of 1812: A Survey of Changing Interpretations'. Sheehan, D. (ed.), *The Making of American History: The Emergence of a Nation*. Vol. I. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.
- Perkins, D. (1963). 'The First Challenge: Monroe Hurls Defiance at Europe'. Sheehan, D. (ed.), *The Making of American History: The Emergence of a Nation*. Vol. I. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

**Unit V:** This unit examines the economics of slavery and its diverse often contradictory implications for South and North. It will also examine slave life and culture, and nature of female slavery along with a study of slave resistance (including female slave resistance).**(Teaching time: 3 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Datar, K. *America Ka Itihas*. (1997). University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Gerald N. Grob & George A. Billias. (2000). *Interpretations of American History: Patterns and Perspectives*. Vol. I. New York: The Free Press.
- Genovese, Eugene. (1968). 'Marxian Interpretation of the Slave South'. In Barton Bernstein. ed. *Towards A New Past: Dissenting Essays in American History*. New York: Pantheon Books, pp. 90-125.
- Bracey, John H., August Meier, Elliott Rudwick. (Ed.). (1971). *American Slavery: The Question of Resistance*. California: Wadsworth Publishing Co. Inc.
- White, D.B. (1985). 'The Nature of Female Slavery'. in *Ar'n't I a Woman? Female Slaves in the Plantation South*. New York: W.W. Norton.

**Unit VI:** This unit deals with the history of Civil War in the United States. Various interpretations to explain the issues involved, causes and impact will be explained.**(Teaching time: 2 weeks Approx.)**

- Foner, E. (2007). *Give Me Liberty! An American History*. Vol. I. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- Boyer, P.S., H. Sitkoff et al. (2003). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Massachusetts: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Bailyn, B., D. Wood, J. L. Thomas et.al. (2000). *The Great Republic, A History of the American People*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company.
- Datar, K. (1997). *America Ka Itihas*. University of Delhi: Directorate of Hindi Medium Implementation Board.
- Gerald N. Grob & George A. Billias. (2000). *Interpretations of American History: Patterns and Perspectives*. Vol. I. New York: The Free Press.

- Foner, E. (1981). 'The Causes of the American Civil War: Recent Interpretations and New Directions'. In Eric Foner. *Politics and Ideology in the Age of the Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Barrington, M. Jr. (2015). 'The American Civil War: The Last Capitalist Revolution'. In M. Barrington Moore Jr. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- Beale, Howard. (1963). 'What the Historians have said about the Causes of the Civil War'. In Donald Sheehan. ed. *The Making of American History: The Emergence of a Nation*. Vol. I. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

### SUGGESTED READINGS

- Barney, William L. (2000). *The Passage of the Republic: The Inter-Disciplinary History of the Nineteenth Century America*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Company.
- Beard, Charles A. (1998). *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States*. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers.
- Carnes, M.C. & J.A. Garry. (2006). *The American Nation, A History of the United States*. New York: Pearson Longman.
- Donald, David H., Jean H. Baker, Michael F. Holt. (2001). ed. *Civil War and Reconstruction*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.
- Faragher, J.M., M.J. Buhle et al. (1995). *Out of Many: A History of the American People*. Vol. I. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Faulkner, Harold U. (1978). *American Economic History*. New York: Harper & Row. (available online).
- Fitz, C.A. (2015). 'The Hemispheric Dimensions of Early U.S. Nationalism: The War of 1812, its Aftermath and Spanish American Independence'. *The Journal of American History*, Vol. 102, Issue 2, September.
- Foner, E. (1981). *Politics and Ideology in the Age of the Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Foner, E. (2010). *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*.
- Genovese, E.D. (2011). *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World The Slaves Made*. 9th edition. New York: Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group.
- Genovese, Eugene. (1989). *The Political Economy of Slavery: Studies in the Economy and Society of the Slave South*. Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press.
- Hofstadter, Richard. (1989). *The American Political Tradition and the Men who Made it*. New York: Vintage.

- McDonald, Forrest. (1992). *We The People: The Economic Origins of the Constitution*. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers.
- Randall, James G. & David H. Donald. (1969). *The Civil War and Reconstruction*. Massachusetts: D.C. Heath & Co.
- Remini, Robert V. (1989). 'Andrew Jackson and Indian Removal'. In T.G. Paterson. ed. *Major Problems in American Foreign Policy: Documents and Essays*. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath. pp. 222-239.
- Stampp, K. *The Peculiar Institution: Slavery in the Ante-Bellum South*. New York: Vintage, 1989.
- Stampp, Kenneth. (1980). *The Imperilled Union: Essays on the Background of the Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Stephanie M.H. Camp. (2002). *Closer to Freedom: Enslaved women and everyday resistance in the Plantation South*. Review of this is available in *American Historical Review*. Vol. III Issue 1. February 1, 2006.
- Vinovskis, Maris A. (Ed.). (1990). *Towards A Social History of The American Civil War: Explanatory Essays*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Wallace, A.F.C. and E. Foner. (1996). *The Long, Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*. New York: Hill and Wang.
- Zinn, H. (2003). *A People's History of the United States, 1492-Present*. New York: Harper Collins.

### **Selected Films**

- 'Lincoln' Directed and Co-produced by Steven Spielberg, 2012.
- 'The Birth of a Nation' (based on slave Nat Turner, who led a rebellion in Southampton, Virginia in 1831) Directed and Co-produced by D.W. Griffith, 2016.
- 'The Birth of a Nation' (showcases assassination of Lincoln; originally based on 'The Clansman' and 'The Leopard's Spots' by T.F. Dixon Jr.) Directed and Co-produced by D.W. Griffith, 1915.
- 'Glory' (set during the Civil War) Directed by Edward Zwick, Produced by Freddie Fields, 1989.
- '12 Years a Slave' Directed and Co-produced by Steve McQueen, 2013.
- 'Django Unchained' (set in Old West and Ante-Bellum South) Directed by Quentin Tarantino, Produced by Stacey Sher and others, 2012.
- 'Amistad' (based on events in 1839 aboard the slave ship Le Amistad) Directed and Produced by Steven Spielberg, 1997.

- ‘Gone with the Wind’ (set in the Civil War era) Directed by Victor Fleming and Produced by David Selznick, 1939.
- ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’ (set in 1856) Directed by Stan Lathan and Produced by Jeffrey A. Nelson and Others, 1987.
- ‘Roots’ (based on Alex Haley, ‘Roots: The Saga of American Family, 1976) Directed by Bruce Beresford and Produced by Ann Kindberg and others, 2016.

### **Teaching Learning Process:**

Classroom teaching, classroom discussions and student presentations in class and/or in tutorials. Presentations shall focus either on important themes covered in the class lectures, or on specific readings. As this is a paper tracing the history of regions outside the Indian subcontinent, supporting audio-visual aids like documentaries, maps and power point presentations shall be used widely. Overall, the Teaching Learning Process shall emphasise the interconnect- edness of issues within the different rubrics to build a holistic view of the time period and re- gion under study.

### **Assessment Methods:**

Students will be regularly assessed for their grasp on debates and discussions covered in class. Two written assignments will be used for final grading of the students. As this is a discipline- specific elective paper actively chosen by the student, his/her engagement with the paper shall be assessed, preferably, through at least one project as a written submission. Overall, students will be assessed on their ability to engage with a sizeable corpus of readings assigned to the theme for written submissions, and to draw concrete connections between issues/events/debates discussed in this paper and the corresponding issues/events/debates discussed in their Core his- tory papers.

Internal Assessment: 25 Marks

Written Exam: 75 Marks

Total: 100 Marks

### **Keywords:**

Colonies, Revolution, Federalist Constitution, Jeffersonian Democracy, Westward Expansion, Indigenous tribes, Capitalism, Labour, Gender, Race, Manifest Destiny, 1812, Monroe Doc- trine, Slavery, The Civil War