

U.S. History 1301 Final Exam (Chapters 10 – 16 and Primary Sources)

Short Answers: This exam is comprised of eight (8) short answers.

Students will choose **ONE** (1) question **FROM EACH SECTION** found below. Each answer is worth 12.5 points (100 points total).

Include the questions with your answers. I will deduct 10 points if not.

An acceptable short answer means to me that you do not need an introduction or a concluding paragraph. However, the question must be answered **thoroughly** to show that you understood the material and reflect your best efforts in grammar and spelling. **Make sure to include definitions, important events, laws, people, court decisions, institutions, acts, ideologies, etc. to support your answer.** Of course, you won't be able to include all these topics in an answer, but make sure to include them if they exist.

Some of these questions ask for your opinion, however, your opinion should be backed by what you read in the textbook and your analysis of the material (not just regurgitating what you read). If this was just about your opinion or regurgitation, then there would be no reason to read the textbook. Therefore, include pertinent information and analysis or you will not receive full credit.

When writing your responses – please do not copy and paste from another source (**including copying directly from the textbook**). Answers to these questions are to assess understanding. **If you study with other people, do not go to your study group deciding to answer all the same questions and share your pre-written answers. You will be flagged for plagiarism when your document is submitted, and you will receive a zero for an exam grade.**

Only submit your exam as a Word document. Do not submit your exam as a text document, google document, pages document, etc. or anything else that is not a Word document. Do not copy and paste into the Comments Window. **I will give those who submitted incorrectly a zero and ask that they be submitted correctly. If the corrected document is submitted after the due date, the exam will be late (10% deducted each day).** Make sure to read your feedback in a timely manner.

If you do not understand these instructions, please contact me with your questions well before the exam is due. If you feel that you know what you are doing, then carry on. However, I will deduct points if these instructions are not followed.

Your exam must include your name, date, and have a title of U.S. History Final Exam. **INCLUDE THE CHAPTER AND QUESTION WITH YOUR ANSWER.** It should look something like this:

Your First and Last Name

Date

U.S. History 1301 Final Exam

Section 1

Question: Answer

Section 2

Question: Answer

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Section 3

Question: Answer

Section 4

Question: Answer

Section 5

Question: Answer

Section 1

- What is South Carolina's legal argument for nullification? Summarize it. How does this act reconcile itself against Daniel Webster's speech against states' rights to nullification? How do states challenge congressional law today? Make sure to refer to the documents.
- Does Garrison's moral approach to abolition have a stronger foundation than a political approach? Do you think that Garrison, the self-described radical, was as radical compared to David Walker? Was he more radical than political abolitionist? Make sure to refer to the document in your answer.
- What is Thoreau's definition of civil disobedience? When does he say it is justifiable to break the law? How should Americans practice civil disobedience concerning the Mexican American War? Make sure to refer to the document in your answer.
- What was President Polk's reasoning for going to war with Mexico? What were Abraham Lincoln's arguments to stay out of that war? Who do you think was right and why? Make sure to refer to the documents in your answer.
- The Civil War began partly over the perceived right of a state to secede from the Union. Constitutionally speaking, it is true that there is no ordinance or amendment that allows secession. However, what was South Carolina's argument concerning this reality? What were Lincoln's rebuttals? Please refer to the documents in your response.

Section 2

- Ch. 10: What were some of the social and cultural beliefs that became widespread during the Age of Jackson? What lay behind these beliefs, and do you observe any of them in American culture today?
- Ch. 10: Were the political changes of the early nineteenth century positive or negative? Explain your answer.
- Ch. 10: If you were defending the Cherokee and other native nations before the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1830s, what arguments would you make? If you were supporting Indian removal, what arguments would you make?
- Ch. 10: How did depictions of American Indians in popular culture help to sway popular opinion? Does modern popular culture continue to wield this kind of power over us? Why or why not?

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- Ch. 10: Does Alexis de Tocqueville's argument about the tyranny of the majority reflect American democracy today? Provide examples to support your answer.

Section 3

- Ch. 11: What are the economic and political issues raised by having an imbalance between free and slave states? Why did the balance of free and slave states matter?
- Ch. 11: How did Anglo-American settlers in Texas see themselves? Did they adopt a Mexican identity because they were living in Mexican territory? Why or why not?
- Ch. 11: Consider the annexation of Texas and the Mexican-American War from a Mexican perspective. What would you find objectionable about American actions, foreign policy, and attitudes in the 1840s?
- Ch. 11: Describe the place of Texas in the history of American westward expansion by comparing Texas's early history to the Missouri Crisis in 1819–1820. What are the similarities and what are the differences?
- Ch. 11: Consider the arguments over the expansion of slavery made by both northerners and southerners in the aftermath of the U.S. victory over Mexico. Who had the more compelling case? Or did each side make equally significant arguments?

Section 4

- Ch. 12: Based on your reading of William J. Anderson's and John Brown's accounts, what types of traumas did slaves experience? How were the experiences of black women and men similar and different?
- Ch. 12: What strategies did slaves employ to resist, revolt, and sustain their own independent communities and cultures? How did slaves use white southerners' own philosophies—paternalism and Christianity, for example—to their advantage in these efforts?
- Ch. 12: What are the major arguments put forward by proslavery advocates? How would you argue against their statements?

Section 5

- Ch. 13: In what ways did the Second Great Awakening and transcendentalism reflect and react to the changes in antebellum American thought and culture?
- Ch. 13: In what ways do temperance, health reforms, and phrenology offer reflections on the changes in the United States before the Civil War? What needs did these reforms fill in the lives of antebellum Americans?
- Ch. 13: Of the various approaches to the problem of slavery, which one do you find to be the most effective and why?
- Ch. 13: In what ways were antebellum feminists radical? In what ways were they traditional?

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Section 6

- Ch. 14: Why would Americans view the Compromise of 1850 as a final solution to the sectional controversy that began with the Wilmot Proviso in 1846?
- Ch. 14: Based on the text of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, what was the position of the Republican Party in 1858? Was the Republican Party an abolitionist party? Why or why not?
- Ch. 14: Was it possible to save American democracy in 1860? What steps might have been taken to maintain unity? Why do you think these steps were not taken?
- Ch. 14: John Brown is often described as a terrorist. Do you agree with this description? Why or why not? What attributes might make him fit this profile? This is an opinion based question, but please make sure you have a good grasp of the event and the definitions of terrorist and terrorism.

Section 7

- Ch. 15: Could the differences between the North and South have been worked out in late 1860 and 1861? Could war have been avoided? Provide evidence to support your answer.
- Ch. 15: Why did the North prevail in the Civil War? What might have turned the tide of the war against the North?
- Ch. 15: If you were in charge of the Confederate war effort, what strategy or strategies would you have pursued? Conversely, if you had to devise the Union strategy, what would you propose? How does your answer depend on your knowledge of how the war actually played out?
- Ch. 15: What do you believe to be the enduring qualities of the Gettysburg Address? Why has this two-minute speech so endured?
- Ch. 15: What role did women and African Americans play in the war on both sides?

Section 8

- Ch. 16: How do you think would history have been different if Lincoln had not been assassinated? How might his leadership after (especially considering his version of Reconstruction compared to Congress's) the war have differed from that of Andrew Johnson?
- Ch. 16: Was the Thirteenth Amendment a success or a failure? Discuss the reasons for your answer.
- Ch. 16: Consider social, political, and economic equality. In what ways did Radical Reconstruction address and secure these forms of equality? Where did it fall short?
- Ch. 16: Consider the problem of terrorism during Radical Reconstruction. If you had been an adviser to President Grant, how would you propose to deal with the problem?