# History 17B: US History (Secession Crisis to Progressivism),

#  with Dr. Fenrich

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| TA | [Kristen Thomas-McGill](https://www.history.ucsb.edu/graduate-student/kthomasmcgill/) | Email | kthomasmcgill@ucsb.edu  |
| Office | HSSB 3223, but find me online | Student Hours | Wednesdays 2:00-4:00pm, or by appointment |

### **About Section:**

Section provides us a space in which we can discuss, critically evaluate, and digest the concepts, documents, and facts we encounter in lecture and in the readings. Section is a time to get to know our fellow scholars and listen to, learn from, and help each other. Section is not a lecture class; it allows for activities and small group work. We’ll do our best to translate this collegial atmosphere online, although Zoom sections still feel awkward for all of us. In order for us to work effectively as a section, the following will be expected of everyone:

* Be respectful of your classmates, your time, and your instructors
* Do the assigned readings and watch the lectures according to the class schedule
* Participate by asking questions, interacting with your classmates, and sharing your thoughts appropriately
* Remember that history isn’t “over,” and it isn’t neutral. The events we’ll talk about happened to real people, and these events affect people unequally today. Please think carefully about the effect of your words on your classmates and their communities.

### **Requirements:**

You are expected to attend and actively participate in section every week. I will take attendance at every section. If you cannot attend, please contact me **before** section to discuss your absence. There will be opportunities to make up missed sections, but you must communicate with me on how that can be done. **If technological or health issues prevent you from participation contact me ASAP to arrange for makeup activities. You do not have permission to record sections.**

Reading and video assignments are also an integral part of the course. Keeping up with the reading will help you with your exam, papers, section participation, and overall understanding of the course. You are expected to do ALL the week’s reading and watch all daily lectures through Wednesday before section each week. Do not fall behind in the readings; it is hard to catch up in the quarter system, and even harder in Summer Session.

### **Grading:**

Section accounts for 20% of your grade for History 17B. Grading for section will be broken into three parts:

* **Attendance**: 5% of overall grade for History 17B. Please notify me beforehand if you know you will be absent, especially if it is an ongoing issue like a lack of Internet access. Two unexcused absences will result in failing section and the course overall.
* **Participation:** 5% of grade for History 17B. Section is designed to be interactive, and it is essential that you contribute in each of our meetings. Participation includes behavior like digitally raising your hand, contributing to group discussions (verbally or in chat!), asking questions, taking notes, and demonstrating active listening. The best way to earn participation points is to answer (or ask) questions.
* **Pre-Writing Assignment:** 10% of grade for History 17B. This course requires two short papers. In Week 2, you will be required to submit a thesis statement and simple paper outline on GauchoSpace for the first paper. This pre-assignment is an opportunity for me to give you feedback to help guide you in writing your paper. More information about this assignment will be given as we approach the deadline.

*continued*

**Grading Scale:**

93-100= A 90-92= A- 87-89= B+ 83-86 = B 80-82= B- 77-79= C+

73-76= C 70-72= C- 67-69= D+ 63-66= D 60-62= D- 59 and Below= F

**Grading Appeals:**

You are welcome to appeal an assignment grade, but you must wait 24 hours after receiving the graded assignment back to begin the appeals process. Write a letter explaining why reconsideration is appropriate, attach it to the graded assignment, and email it to me. I will review your petition with the other TA for History 17B and we will collectively determine whether your grade goes up, goes down, or stays the same.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

“Papers, examinations, laboratory reports, and homework must always be your own work. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion are all forms of academic dishonesty and are violations of the Student Conduct Code. Students found responsible for these violations face possible suspension or dismissal from the University.”—from “Academic Integrity: A Student’s Guide” at <http://judicialaffairs.sa.ucsb.edu/AcademicIntegrity.aspx>.

Per Dr. Fenrich’s syllabus, “All essays, papers, quizzes, and examinations in this course must be your work alone. None of the assignments may be submitted, in whole or in part, from another course or person. You may not receive assistance from a company, such as an online term-paper mill, in preparing assigned work. Anyone suspected of cheating on an examination or plagiarizing a written assignment will be confronted and reported to the Dean of Students.” This statement is in effect for work done in or for section. Academic dishonesty will be reported.

### **Writing:**

This class requires two 1500-word essays, due July 10 (Week 3) and July 24 (Week 5). Further instructions on these projects will be given in lecture, on GauchoSpace, and in later meetings of section. There are three things you can do to set yourself up for good essays: keep up with your reading from the beginning of class; start working on your writing early; and consult with me during student hours to make sure you’re on target.

Please reach out to CLAS for help with paper organization, format, grammar, word choice, etc. Their website is <http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu/>.

**Accommodations:**

I am happy to accommodate students with disabilities and special life circumstances. I have enabled closed captioning on Zoom (I think? I tried, at least), and am happy to change font, text size, etc. Some accommodations (testing arrangements, notetaking, etc.) can only be provided after approval by the Disabled Students Program. For more information, visit the DSP office webpage at <http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu>.

### **Getting in Touch:**

Don’t hesitate to contact me! I am here to help you with questions or concerns or to chat about your insights and ideas. You can reach me by email at the address listed above. I will return all emails received from Monday at 8:00 am through Friday at 5:00 pm within 24 hours. Weekend and holiday emails will be answered on the next working day. Please also find me on Nectir and Twitter (@kthomasmcgill on both platforms). Finally, if we ever get to go back to campus, you can find me in HSSB 3223, where I have a stash of candy to share.

*This syllabus is subject to written or verbal revision at any time.*