

Assignment 1: From First Contact to the Civil War

Due Week 5 and worth 180 points

According to the textbook, from West Africa to Appomattox, the journey of the African living in America has been fraught with disappointment and misery. However, there has always been a glimmer of hope that America and its citizens would live up to the principles upon which the nation was founded.

Use the Internet or Strayer databases to research events between 1619–1860 that relate to the legal limitations of both enslaved and free Africans on American soil.

Write a five to six (5-6) page paper in which you:

1. Explain the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Support your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.
2. Investigate at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Provide your rationale for selecting the two (2) events in question.
3. Examine the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Include specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.
4. Use at least three (3) quality resources in this assignment. **Note:** Wikipedia and similar Websites do not qualify as quality resources.

Your assignment must follow these formatting requirements:

- Be typed, double spaced, using Times New Roman font (size 12), with one-inch margins on all sides; citations and references must follow APA or school-specific format. Check with your professor for any additional instructions.
- Include a cover page containing the title of the assignment, the student's name, the professor's name, the course title, and the date. The cover page and the reference page are not included in the required assignment page length.

The specific course learning outcomes associated with this assignment are:

- Discuss African-Americans' experiences for a better understanding of their relation to the national history.
- Explain the background of how slavery developed in the New World from less-severe forms of servitude into a permanent slave class based on race.
- Describe African-American history from slavery in colonial times to the present.
- Distinguish primary and secondary historical sources and evaluate them critically.
- Describe and evaluate the roles and contributions of African-American women and men in the history and culture of the U.S. and the world.
- Use technology and information resources to research issues in African-American history.
- Write clearly and concisely about African-American history using critical and analytical thought.

Grading for this assignment will be based on answer quality, logic / organization of the paper, and language and writing skills, using the following rubric.

Points: 180		Assignment 1: From First Contact to the Civil War			
Criteria	Unacceptable Below 60% F	Meets Minimum Expectations 60-69% D	Fair 70-79% C	Proficient 80-89% B	Exemplary 90-100% A
1. Explain the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Support your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans. Weight: 23%	Did not submit or incompletely explained the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Did not submit or incompletely supported your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.	Insufficiently explained the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Insufficiently supported your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.	Partially explained the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Partially supported your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.	Satisfactorily explained the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Satisfactorily supported your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.	Thoroughly explained the principal manner in which the survival of African-Americans from colonial through Civil War times is inextricably rooted in West African traditions. Thoroughly supported your response with at least two (2) aspects of African culture that had survived and manifested themselves in the daily lives of both free and enslaved African-Americans.
2. Investigate at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Provide your rationale for selecting the two (2) events in question. Weight: 24%	Did not submit or incompletely investigated at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Did not submit or incompletely provided your rationale for selecting the two (2) events in	Insufficiently investigated at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Insufficiently provided your rationale for selecting the	Partially investigated at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Partially provided your rationale for selecting the two (2) events in question.	Satisfactorily investigated at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Satisfactorily provided your rationale for	Thoroughly investigated at least two (2) events between 1619–1860 that demonstrate the ability of enslaved and free African-Americans to overcome the legal limitations on their claims to dignity and self-respect. Thoroughly provided your rationale for selecting the

	question.	two (2) events in question.		selecting the two (2) events in question.	two (2) events in question.
3. Examine the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Include specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument. Weight: 23%	Did not submit or incompletely examined the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Did not submit or incompletely included specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.	Insufficiently examined the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Insufficiently included specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.	Partially examined the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Partially included specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.	Satisfactorily examined the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Satisfactorily included specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.	Thoroughly examined the manner in which your two (2) chosen events showcase the ability of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence to live up to their promises. Thoroughly included specific examples from both documents that reinforce your argument.
4. 3 references Weight: 5%	No references provided	Does not meet the required number of references; all references poor quality choices.	Does not meet the required number of references; some references poor quality choices.	Meets number of required references; all references high quality choices.	Exceeds number of required references; all references high quality choices.
5. Writing / Support for ideas Weight: 5%	Never uses reasons and evidence that logically support ideas.	Rarely uses reasons and evidence that logically support ideas.	Partially uses reasons and evidence that logically support ideas.	Mostly uses reasons and evidence that logically support ideas.	Consistently uses reasons and evidence that logically support ideas.
6. Writing / Grammar and mechanics Weight: 5%	Serious and persistent errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	Numerous errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	Partially free of errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	Mostly free of errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	Free of errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
7. Writing and Information Literacy / Integration of Sources Weight: 5%	Serious errors in the integration of sources, such as intentional or accidental plagiarism or failure to use in-text citations.	Sources are rarely integrated using effective techniques of quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing, using in-text citations.	Sources are partially integrated using effective techniques of quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing, using in-text citations.	Sources are mostly integrated using effective techniques of quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing, using in-text citations.	Sources are consistently integrated using effective techniques of quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing, using in-text citations.
8. Information Literacy / Crediting Sources in APA Weight: 5%	Lack of citations and / or lack of reference section and / or citations don't correspond to listed references.	In-text citations and references are given, but not in APA format.	Partially shows correct (or approximately correct) use of in-text citations, with matching references.	Mostly shows correct use of in-text citations with matching references using APA format.	Consistently shows correct use of In-text citations with matching references using APA

			using APA format.		format.
9. Information Literacy / Research Weight: 5%	Quantity and / or quality of sources are unacceptable.	References are not sufficient; References are not aligned to the topic or are from sources that are not of high quality.	Some references are not aligned to the topic or are from sources that are not of high quality – or there are an insufficient number of quality references.	References are sufficient and mostly relate to the topic and are of high quality.	References are sufficient, clearly relate to the topic and are of high quality.