



Experiencing America Series

California and the West – Historic California EDU 590ES

Part A

All materials in Part A are for informational purposes only and are not to be mailed with the completed assignments.

A1 - Course Introduction

Welcome to the Experiencing America Series designed by the University of San Diego, Division of Continuing Education. The major focus of this Series is encouraging teachers to travel and experience our country by viewing, studying and reflecting on historical sites, museums, parks, and memorials. For complete information regarding the Experiencing America Series, please visit www.usd-online.org.

This section, California and the West, consists of 7 one semester unit courses: **Spanish Influence EDU 590ER, Historic California EDU 590ES, Gold Rush EDU 590ET, Radio, Movies and Television, EDU 590DK, Novels and Newspapers EDU 590EU, Nixon Library and Museum EDU 590EV, and Reagan Library and Museum EDU 590DJ.**

The fee for this course covers only the cost of the one semester unit tuition and one official transcript. Any travel expenses or admission fees are your responsibility. You will receive an official transcript from the University within three to four weeks of submitting satisfactory coursework. After the grade is posted, additional transcripts can be ordered online for \$5.00 at www.usd-online.org or by mail:

USD Continuing Education
Attention: Transcripts
5998 Alcala Park
San Diego, CA 92110-2492

After 3 to 4 weeks, questions regarding transcripts can be answered at (619) 260-4585. Information about other USD Independent Study Courses is available at: www.usd-online.org.

***Please note that the written assignments must be typed if possible, double-spaced on 8 ½" x 11" standard copy paper using 12 pt. font. Hand-written papers must be legible and easy to read.**

A2 - How to Proceed

- **Read the Course Objective – A3**
- **Read all Assignments**
- **Read Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – A4**
- **Visit** and investigate all required sites
- **Complete** all parts of **Assignments**
- **Make copies** of all course work for your records.
**Your mailed assignments will not be returned to you.*
- **Complete and Sign Passport/Affidavit Form** and mail with all completed

**Assignments to: USD Continuing Education
Attn: Experiencing America Grader
210 Bordeaux Court
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**

Coursework mailed requiring signature at receipt may be delayed.

Section A3 - Course Objective / Grading Rubric

I. OBJECTIVE

After viewing, studying and reflecting on the required site(s) for this course, the participant will show that due to his/her participation he/she now has a greater understanding of the “American Experience.”

II. GRADING RUBRIC

Exemplary: A+ to A-	Acceptable: B+ to B-	Unacceptable: Must be resubmitted
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated	Presents some relevant ideas and connections to the assignment	Ideas are not clear or relevant
Very well organized and assignments are well labeled	Is generally well organized and assignments are well labeled	Shows little or no organization and assignments are poorly labeled.
Reflective pieces cover numerous facts and specific details of the learning experience	Some facts and specific details of learning experiences are included	Few or no facts or specific details of the learning experience are included
Free of spelling and/or grammatical errors	Writing contains a few spelling and/or grammatical errors	Numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors. Difficult to read

Section A4 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- Q. Whom do I contact if I have a question about the content of this course?
A. **You can e-mail questions to amex@usd-online.org or phone (916) 939-2449.**
- Q. How much time do I have to complete this course?
A. **You have nine months from the time of registration to complete all coursework.**
- Q. What if an emergency occurs and I need more than 9 months to complete my coursework?
A. **Please e-mail sandiego@usd-online.org or call (619) 260-4585 to request an extension. If one is granted, *it is final*.**
- Q. What if I change my name or address during this time.
A. **Login to your account at www.usd-online.org and edit your contact information as soon as possible AND also update your address with our receptionist by calling (619) 260-4585.**
- Q. Can I use both sides of the paper in completing the assignments?
A. **No. Although it may save paper, it makes your paper more difficult to read and may lead to a second side being missed in the grading process.**
- Q. Can I send completed work via e-mail or on a disk?
A. **No. All work must be sent in as hard copies. For your own protection, please make sure to keep copies of ALL your work. Your mailed assignments will not be returned to you.**
- Q. Can I send in each assignment as I complete it?
A. **No. All assignments must be sent in together upon completion of the entire course.**
- Q. What do I do when I have completed all the required coursework?
A. **There is a list of required assignments on the Passport/Affidavit Form. Check to make sure you have completed all items listed and have placed responses on separate pages with appropriate label at the top of the page (example: B1 - Assignment Title). Fill out the Passport/Affidavit Form and sign and date the form. Arrange the Assignments in numerical order and place the Passport/Affidavit Form on top. Mail all Assignments, along with the signed Passport/Affidavit Form to:**
- USD Continuing Education
Attn: Experiencing America Grader
210 Bordeaux Court
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762**
- Q. Is there a required sequence for taking courses in the Experiencing America Series?
A. **No. Each course is independent.**

Part B - Assignments

All completed **Assignments** must be placed on separate pages with the appropriate label at the top (example B1 – Assignment title) and mailed together for grading.
Please place **Passport/ Affidavit Form** on top of all **Assignments**.

Visit the following sites:

California State Railroad Museum

125 1st Street
Old Sacramento, CA
(916) 445-7387 – live
(916) 445-6645 – recorded

California Museum for History, Women and the Arts

1020 "O" St. - one block south of Capitol Park
Sacramento, CA
(916) 653-7524

Website

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_American_Internment

Part I California State Railroad Museum

B1 – Just for Fun

Tour this world class railroad extravaganza and describe the facets of the exhibits that were the most **fun** for you.

Label Assignment B1 – Just for Fun

B2 – The Influence

How did the railroad help to civilize the American Frontier?

Label Assignment B2 –The Influence

Part II California Museum for History, Women and the Arts

B3 – Remarkable Women

Visit the Women's Gallery and describe some of the extraordinary women of California who are exhibited here.

Label Assignment B3 – Remarkable Women

B4 – John Muir

On December 6, 2006 an initial thirteen people were inducted into the California Hall of Fame. One was John Muir. Explain why he was included.

Label Assignment B4 – John Muir

B5 – Another Hall of Famer

Select another of the thirteen to investigate and describe.

Label Assignment B5 – One More

B6 – Choose One

There are several temporary exhibits in the museum. Choose one that interests you and report on it. Be sure to include its name and why you chose it as well as a description of its contents.

Label Assignment B6 – Choose One

Part III Web Site – http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_American_internment**B7 – Internment Involvement**

After reading the material in this website, point out California's involvement in this aspect of the **American Experience**.

Label Assignment B7 – Involvement

B8 – Your Soapbox

Give your opinion of this historical event.

Label Assignment B8 – Your Opinion



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Passport/Affidavit Form

Ask a representative at each site to sign/stamp and date in the space below.

In addition, attach to this page any other evidence you have to document your experience. You can use items such as tickets (or photos of tickets) and photos of you in and around the required sites.

Instructions:

- Complete the Student Information section
- Sign and date the Passport/Affidavit Form
- Place the Passport/Affidavit Form on top of all Assignments and mail to:

USD Continuing Education
 Attn: Experiencing America Grader
 210 Bordeaux Court
 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Student Information

Name _____ SS# (last 4 digits) _____

Address _____
Street _____ City _____ State/zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

District _____ School _____

Grade level/subject _____

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> B1 – Just for Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> B4 – John Muir | <input type="checkbox"/> B7 – Internment Involvement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B2 – The Influence | <input type="checkbox"/> B5 – Another Hall of Famer | <input type="checkbox"/> B8 – Your Soapbox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B3 – Remarkable Women | <input type="checkbox"/> B6 – Choose One | |

I _____ verify that I did visit **ALL REQUIRED SITES** for **Historic California EDU 590ES** and **ALL WRITTEN RESPONSES** are my own original comments.

Signature _____

Date _____

OFFICE USE: Grade _____ By _____ Date _____