

Preface

New to This Edition

This two-volume *Introduction to American History* text has undergone significant revisions for 2015 in an effort to create a more comprehensive and readable text for students. A number of chapters have been rearranged so that discussions of culture follow discussions of major events rather than vice versa and some redundancy has been eliminated. Key terms are now in bold in the body text so that they are easier to find, and definitions of the key terms appear on the outside margins of the pages. Selected bibliographies have been included so that readers know where the material is coming from and where to go for further reading. New material has been added throughout the text, including new material on the French colonial experience; expanded discussions of slavery and the slave trade; the “New South”; the nineteenth century West; the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire; the Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918, crime in the Prohibition era—including Hoover’s FBI and Public Enemy #1 John Dillinger—the Baby Boom; and more recent history of the Obama administration. The brief biography of Abraham Lincoln, his reelection, and assassination are now covered in the chapter on the Civil War so that courses that end with the Civil War (rather than Reconstruction) will have the needed material. Volume II now begins with Reconstruction as “Chapter 15,” so as to preserve continuity from Volume I. The discussions of culture in the Gilded Age, Jazz Age, and cold war eras now follow the discussion of major events and international politics in these epochs. Similarly, the culture shift that occurred between 1963 and 1980 now follows the discussion of politics and events for the time period. The final result is a more readable and understandable text that better meets the needs of students in the twenty-first century.

Pedagogical Features

The text contains a number of pedagogical features that are intended to stimulate student interest and enhance learning.

Chapter Openers

Each chapter begins with a chapter opener that is intended not only to pique the reader’s attention but also preview the topics to be discussed in the chapter and provide insight into the chapter’s themes.

Chapter Summaries

At the end of each chapter is a chapter summary that provides a concise summary of the major events and themes covered in that chapter.

Timelines

Accompanying the chapter summaries are timelines that provide a chronology of the key events covered in each chapter designed to help students place the events in their proper context.

Key Terms

Each chapter is also followed by a list of key terms—each with a concise definition provided to help students understand the important people, places, and events, as well as why they are considered important. The key terms are presented in bold in the body text and their definitions appear in the outside margins of the pages.

Pop Quizzes

A pop quiz is included at the end of each chapter to help students review the material and cognitively assemble the material in a manageable way.

Bibliographies

Selected bibliographies are included at the end of each chapter to help students know where the material comes from and to assist them if they desire to pursue further reading.

Supplements & Resources

Instructors Supplements

A complete teaching package is available for instructors who adopt this book. This package includes an online lab, instructor's manual, test bank, course management software, and PowerPoint™ slides.

BVTLab	An online lab is available for this textbook at www.BVTLab.com , as described in the <i>BVTLab</i> section below.
Instructor's Manual	The instructor's manual helps first-time instructors develop the course, while offering seasoned instructors a new perspective on the material. Each section of the instructor's manual coincides with a chapter in the textbook. The user-friendly format begins by providing learning objectives and detailed outlines for each chapter. Then, the manual presents lecture discussions, class activities and/or sample answers to the end-of-chapter review questions, along with citations that provide the rationale for the answers. Lastly, additional resources—books, articles, web-sites—are listed to help instructors review the materials covered in each chapter.
Test Bank	An extensive test bank is available to instructors in both hard copy and electronic form. Each chapter has one hundred multiple choice questions ranked by difficulty and style, as well as twenty written-answer questions. Each question is referenced to the appropriate section of the text to make test creation quick and easy.
Course Management Software	BVT's course management software, Respondus, allows for the creation of tests and quizzes that can be downloaded directly into a wide variety of course management environments such as Blackboard, WebCT, Desire2Learn, ANGEL, E-Learning, eCollege, Canvas, Moodle, and others.
PowerPoint Slides	A set of PowerPoint slides includes about forty slides per chapter, comprising a chapter overview, learning objectives, slides covering all key topics, key figures and charts, as well as summary and conclusion slides.

Student Resources

Student resources are available for this textbook at www.BVTLab.com. These resources are geared toward students needing additional assistance, as well as those seeking complete mastery of the content. The following resources are available:

Study Guide	For each chapter, the study guide includes a chapter summary, learning objectives, key terms, and a generous set of review questions (essay, multiple choice, true or false, and fill in the blank) referenced to the subsections of the chapter.
Practice Questions	Students can work through hundreds of practice questions online. Questions are multiple choice or true/false in format and are graded instantly for immediate feedback.
Flashcards	<i>BVTLab</i> includes sets of flashcards that reinforce the key terms and concepts from each chapter.
Chapter Summaries	A convenient and concise chapter summary is available as a study aid.
PowerPoint Slides	All instructor PowerPoints are available for convenient lecture preparation and for students to view online for a study recap.

BVTLab

BVTLab is an affordable online lab for instructors and their students. It includes an online classroom with a grade book and chat room, a homework grading system, extensive test banks for quizzes and exams, and a host of student study resources. Even if a class is not taught in the lab, students can still utilize the resources described below.

Course Setup	BVTLab has an easy-to-use, intuitive interface that allows instructors to quickly set up their courses and grade books, and to replicate them from section to section and semester to semester.
Grade Book	Using an assigned passcode, students register for the grade book, which automatically grades and records all homework, quizzes, and tests.
Chat Room	Instructors can post discussion threads to a class forum and then monitor and moderate student replies.
Student Resources	All student resources for this textbook are available in BVTLab in digital form.
eBook	Students who have purchased a product that includes an eBook can download the eBook from a link in the lab. A web-based eBook is also available within the lab for easy reference during online classes, homework, and study sessions.

Customization

BVT's Custom Publishing Division can help you modify this book's content to satisfy your specific instructional needs. The following are examples of customization:

- Rearrangement of chapters to follow the order of your syllabus
- Deletion of chapters not covered in your course
- Addition of paragraphs, sections, or chapters you or your colleagues have written for this course
- Editing of the existing content, down to the word level
- Customization of the accompanying student resources and online lab
- Addition of handouts, lecture notes, syllabus, etc.
- Incorporation of student worksheets into the textbook

All of these customizations will be professionally typeset to produce a seamless textbook of the highest quality, with an updated table of contents and index to reflect the customized content.