Paul S. Boyer
AMERICAN
HISTORY

A Very Short Introduction

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American History A Very Short Introduction:

American History Paul S. Boyer, 2012-08-16 This volume in Oxford's A Very Short Introduction series offers a concise readable narrative of the vast span of American history from the earliest human migrations to the early twenty first century when the United States loomed as a global power and comprised a complex multi cultural society of more than 300 million people The narrative is organized around major interpretive themes with facts and dates introduced as needed to illustrate these themes The emphasis throughout is on clarity and accessibility to the interested non specialist History: A Very Short Introduction Madeline Y. Hsu, 2016-11-01 A 2012 survey by the Pew Research Center reported that Asian Americans are the best educated highest income and best assimilated racial group in the United States Before reaching this level of economic success and social assimilation however Asian immigrants path was full of difficult even demeaning moments This book provides a sweeping and nuanced history of Asian Americans revealing how and why the perception of Asian immigrants changed over time Asian migrants in large part Chinese arrived in significant numbers on the West Coast during the 1850s and 1860s to work in gold mining and on the construction of the transcontinental Railroad Unlike their contemporary European counterparts Asians often stigmatized as coolies challenged American ideals of equality with the problem of whether all racial groups could be integrated into America's democracy. The fear of the Yellow Peril soon spurred an array of legislative and institutional efforts to segregate them through immigration laws restrictions on citizenship and limits on employment property ownership access to public services and civil rights Prejudices against Asian Americans reached a peak during World War II when Japanese Americans were interned en masse It was only with changes in the immigration laws and the social and political activism of the 1960s and 1970s that Asian Americans gained ground and acceptance albeit in the still stereotyped category of model minorities Madeline Y Hsu weaves a fascinating historical narrative of this American Dream She shows how Asian American success often attributed to innate cultural values is more a result of the immigration laws which have largely pre selected immigrants of high economic and social potential Asian Americans have in turn been used by politicians to bludgeon newer and more populous immigrant groups for their purported lack of achievement Hsu deftly reveals how public policy which can restrict and also selectively promote certain immigrant populations is a key reason why some immigrant groups appear to be more naturally successful and why the identity of those groups evolves differently from others International Law: A Very Short Introduction Vaughan Lowe, 2015-11-26 Interest in international law has increased greatly over the past decade largely because of its central place in discussions such as the Iraq War and Guantanamo the World Trade Organisation the anti capitalist movement the Kyoto Convention on climate change and the apparent failure of the international system to deal with the situations in Palestine and Darfur and the plights of refugees and illegal immigrants around the world This Very Short Introduction explains what international law is what its role in international society is and how it operates Vaughan Lowe examines what international law can and cannot

do and what it is and what it isn t doing to make the world a better place Focussing on the problems the world faces Lowe uses terrorism environmental change poverty and international violence to demonstrate the theories and practice of international law and how the principles can be used for international co operation Shakespeare's Comedies: A Very Short Introduction Bart van Es, 2016-03-24 From The Two Gentlemen of Verona in the early 1590s to The Two Noble Kinsmen at the end of his career around 1614 Shakespeare wrote at least eighteen plays that can be called comedies a far higher number than that for any other genre in which he wrote So what is a Shakespearean comedy We associate these plays with such themes as mistaken identities happy marriages and exuberant cross dressing but how representative are these of the oeuvre as a whole In this Very Short Introduction Bart van Es explores the full range of the playwright's comic writing from the neat classical plotting of early works like The Comedy of Errors to the corrupt world of the so called problem plays written in the middle years of Shakespeare's life Examining Shakespeare's influences and sources van Es compares his plays to those of his rivals and looks at the history of the plays in performance from the biographies of Shakespeare's original actors to the plays endless reinvention in modern stage productions and in films Identifying the key qualities that make Shakespearean comedy distinctive van Es traces the changing nature of Shakespeare's comic writing over the course of a career that spanned nearly a quarter century of theatrical change ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area These pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly Our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable **Intellectual Property: A Very Short Introduction** Siva Vaidhyanathan, 2017-02-09 We all create intellectual property We all use intellectual property Intellectual property is the most pervasive yet least understood way we regulate expression Despite its importance to so many aspects of the global economy and daily life intellectual property policy remains a confusing and arcane subject This engaging book clarifies both the basic terms and the major conflicts surrounding these fascinating areas of law offering a layman s introduction to copyright patents trademarks and other forms of knowledge falling under the purview of intellectual property rights Using vivid examples noted media expert Siva Vaidhyanathan illustrates the powers and limits of intellectual property distilling with grace and wit the complex tangle of laws policies and values governing the dissemination of ideas expressions inventions creativity and data collection in the modern world Vaidhyanathan explains that intellectual property exists as it does because powerful interests want it to exist The strongest economies in the world have a keen interest in embedding rigid methods of control and enforcement over emerging economies to preserve the huge economic interests linked to their copyright industries film music software and publishing For this reason the fight over the global standardization of intellectual property has become one of the most important sites of tension in North South global relations Through compelling case studies including those of Starbucks Coca Cola Sony Amazon and Google Books Vaidhyanathan shows that

the modern intellectual property systems reflect three centuries of changes in politics economics technologies and social values Although it emerged from a desire to foster creativity while simultaneously protecting it intellectual property today has fundamentally shifted to a political dimension Planets: A Very Short Introduction David A. Rothery, 2010-11-25 This Very Short Introduction discusses the nature of planets and gas giants and their rings and moons It also looks beyond Pluto in the Kuiper Belt at the knowledge we have about planets around other stars With many striking photos to illustrate the details it demonstrates the unique world of every planet American Legal History: A Very Short Introduction G. Edward White, 2013-11-21 Law has played a central role in American history From colonial times to the present law has not just reflected the changing society in which legal decisions have been made it has played a powerful role in shaping that society though not always in positive ways Eminent legal scholar G Edward White author of the ongoing multi volume Law in American History offers a compact overview that sheds light on the impact of law on a number of key social issues Rather than offer a straight chronological history the book instead traces important threads woven throughout our nation s past looking at how law shaped Native American affairs slavery business and home life as well as how it has dealt with criminal and civil offenses White shows that law has not always been used to exemplary ends For instance a series of decisions by the Marshall court essentially marginalized Amerindians indigenous people of the Americas reducing tribes to wards of the government Likewise law initially legitimated slavery in the United States and legal institutions including the Supreme Court failed to resolve the tensions stirred up by the westward expansion of slavery eventually sparking the Civil War White also looks at the expansion of laws regarding property rights which were vitally important to the colonists many of whom left Europe hoping to become land owners the evolution of criminal punishment from a public display the stocks the gallows to a private prison system the rise of tort law after the Civil War and the progress in legal education moving from informal apprenticeships and lax standards to modern law schools and rigorous bar exams In this illuminating look at the pivotal role of law in American life White offers us an excellent first step to a better appreciation of the function of law in our society About the Series Oxford s Very Short Introductions series offers concise and original introductions to a wide range of subjects from Islam to Sociology Politics to Classics Literary Theory to History and Archaeology to the Bible Not simply a textbook of definitions each volume in this series provides trenchant and provocative yet always balanced and complete discussions of the central issues in a given discipline or field Every Very Short Introduction gives a readable evolution of the subject in question demonstrating how the subject has developed and how it has influenced society Eventually the series will encompass every major academic discipline offering all students an accessible and abundant reference library Whatever the area of study that one deems important or appealing whatever the topic that fascinates the general reader the Very Short Introductions series has a handy and affordable guide that will likely prove indispensable **American Intellectual** History Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, Merle Curti and Vilas-Borghesi Distinguished Achievement Professor of History Jennifer

Ratner-Rosenhagen, 2021 American Intellectual History A Very Short Introduction provides an introduction to American thought It considers how notions about freedom and belonging the market and morality have commanded generations of Americans and been the cause of fierce debate Before the United States was a nation it was a set of ideas projected onto the New World by European explorers with centuries of belief and thought in tow America and American thought grew from this foundation of expectation and experience enriched by the Enlightenment liberty and individuality religion and republicanism and democracy The VSI shows how ideas have been major forces that drove movements in American history such as transcendentalism and postmodernism The Vikings: A Very Short Introduction Julian D. Richards, 2005-09-08 The Viking reputation is of bloodthirsty seafaring warriors repeatedly plundering the British Isles and the North Atlantic throughout the early Middle Ages Yet Vikings were also traders settlers and farmers with a complex artistic and linguistic culture whose expansion overseas led them to cross the Atlantic for the first time in European history Highlighting the latest archaeological evidence Julian Richards reveals the whole Viking world their history society and culture and their expansion overseas for trade colonization and plunder We also look at the Viking identity through their artistic expression rune stones their ships and their religion The Viking story is also brought up to date by examining their legacy from the medieval Icelandic sagas to 19th Century nationalism Wagner and the Nazis ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area These pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly Our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable Christianity and Migration Peter C. Phan, Oxford Editor, 2025-10-07 This book essays a not the Christian theology of migration The phenomenon of human migration that is the movement of people to and settlement temporary or permanent in a new area or country its causes and reasons and its historical anthropological social political legal and cultural dimensions have been widely studied and reasonably well understood and the next chapter will discuss them in detail By contrast theology as an academic discipline seems least capable of illuminating this human phenomenon It appears to most people outside the church and its educational institutions to be at best an esoteric subject and at worst a convoluted and useless mumbo jumbo especially when liberally sprinkled with Greek and Latin phrases Why not leave the study of migration to scholars in history sociology anthropology economics politics and law who albeit no less infected with highfalutin language than theologians do at least try to offer practical policies and effective strategies either for or against immigration Provided by publisher

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