History 7A – Course Reflection

This History 7A course was simply excellent! It proved to me that not every online class is alike. I actually learned a lot of eye-opening and enlightening material about the USA. This class made me feel very confident about being able to take an American Citizenship test next year. It definitely improved my metacognition and analytical skills as well as retaining information of each chapter in order to take weekly quizzes. A few chapters in our book and The Slavery Online Exhibit in New York have opened my eyes on so many things that I didn't know before, for example that slavery lasted for 400 years and what a long road it took for African-Americans to prove themselves and earn a rightful place in American Society. I feel very academically enriched by this course and lot of that enrichment comes from our weekly document interpretations, which were challenging at times, but eventually it was a rewarding feeling when I managed to interpret the whole document and to grasp the ideas that authors tried to carry across to their audiences. Another enjoyable aspect of this course was our discussions about those interpretations; it was interesting to see, what other people wrote about the same document and how someone else perceived it. Overall, I am glad I took this course and probably this is my first online class that gave me such an extensive knowledge. Thank you, Professor Felix and everyone, for this 8-week historical journey!

As far as my goals during this class, I believe I managed to reach them with good success. Time management and metacognition skills were difficult in the beginning as I had a challenging math class, this history class, and a family to take care of. But after setting a clear schedule about what needs to be done, I decided that I need to be ahead of the game and read one chapter per day, as well as interpreted one document per day prior to the Thursdays that it was due on. That way it became quite manageable to finish everything by the end of the week. My metacognition skills improved because I wasn’t trying to memorize each assigned chapter, but tried to analyze facts and understand the events that took place. I also highlighted those passages of the book that seemed most important or challenging to understand and re-read those a few times, this technique helped me to ace every quiz. Overall, I believe I managed to meet my learning goals of this class.