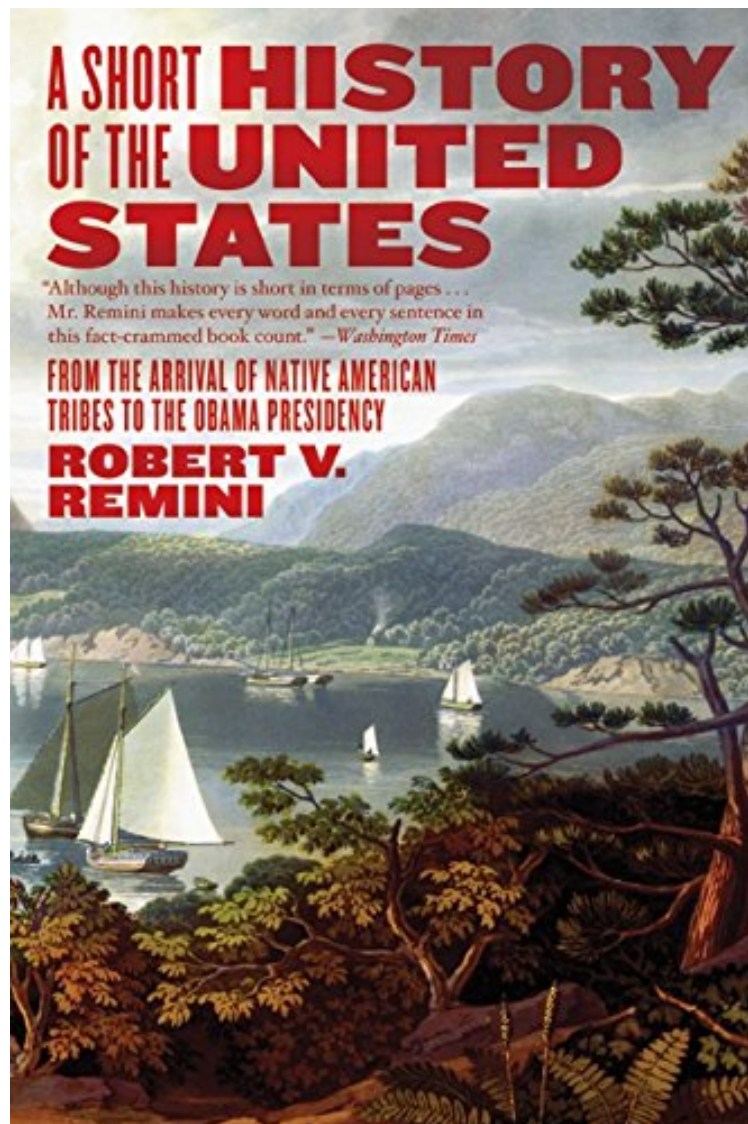


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## A Short History of the United States: From the Arrival of Native American Tribes to the Obama Presidency

Robert V. Remini

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Short History of the US lives up to the publisher's blurb: "an objective narrative of the nation's history ..." and through a lively, erudite style of writing, it is indeed "fact-crammed" ... and with reliable facts. In short, a most welcome addition to so much else of contemporary writing of history.<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good survey for who like me wants to have a ...By Raffaello MonachettiGood survey for who like me wants to have a shallow overview of the American history.Not for students or researchers obviously.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerEasy accurate read

In *A Short History of the United States*, National Book Award winner Robert V. Remini offers a much-needed, concise history of our country. This accessible and lively volume contains the essential facts about the discovery, settlement, growth, and development of the American nation and its institutions, including the arrival and migration of Native Americans, the founding of a republic under the Constitution, the emergence of the United States as a world power, the outbreak of terrorism here and abroad, the Obama presidency, and everything in between.

From Publishers WeeklyTo write a thorough, balanced history of the United States in under 400 pages is no mean feat. Remini, professor of history emeritus at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a National Book Award winner for his work on Andrew Jackson, deftly wraps his expertise and deep knowledge of his subject in stripped-down prose that provides everything a casual (or bewildered) reader needs to know about the United States from the first English colonists until the beginning of 2008. Remini's final chapters are slightly rushed and his judgments too general to be useful, but these flaws are easily overshadowed by his masterful middle sections focusing on the 19th century (his scholarly specialty). In contrast to some surveys of American history, like Howard Zinn's *People's History of the United States* or William Bennett's *America: The Last Best Hope*, Remini delivers an objective narrative of this nation's history that readers of all political stripes will appreciate. 16 pages of bw illus., 14 maps. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistThe reigning scholarly biographer of Andrew Jackson, Remini has been a frequent writer of popular works on American history; his topics have ranged from *The Battle of New Orleans* (1999) and *Joseph Smith* (2002) to presidential inaugural speeches (*Fellow Citizens*, 2008). Here, Remini covers the whole American shebang in 368 pages, yielding a parsimonious narrative that to regular readers of American history resembles an outlinebut they aren't Remini's audience. He seems to be writing for those who need anchorage in the major events in the development of the U.S., a large target indeed considering the gaps in the public's knowledge of U.S. history as revealed by occasional surveys. An instructive technique Remini uses is to emphasize a precedent in history, such as the Mayflower Compact or the legislation of the First Congress under the Constitution, whose influence extends up to the present. Besides government, Remini applies this method to economics, civil rights, and foreign affairs. A good choice for general circulation needs. --Gilbert Taylor A masterful recounting of the American experience from the discovery of the New World to the present. . . . It is a perfect history for our times. (Robert Dallek, author of *Nixon and Kissinger*) In 2008, Americans face war, terrorism, recession and the rising economies of China and India. Yet the author avers there is still reason to hope for good leadership. Astute assessments of an evolving nation and ideal reading for November voters. (Kirkus s) Provides everything a casual (or bewildered) reader needs to know about the United States from the first English colonists until the beginning of 2008. . . . An objective narrative of this nation's history that readers of all political stripes will appreciate. (Publishers Weekly) One of our great historians has now given us yet another great work. . . . [It] may be brief, but it is wise, eloquent and authoritative. Readers in search of a sprightly tour of the nation's lives and times need look no farther than Remini's latest achievement. (Jon Meacham, author of *American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House*)