

**History 2111-Honors Fall 2009**  
**American History to 1877**

**Instructor:** Keith S. Bohannon

**Office:** Room 3247, History Department, 3d Floor, Technology Learning Center

**Office Hours:** Monday and Wednesday, 8:30-9; 10-11, 1:30-3:30; Friday, 8:30-9:00,  
10-11 and by appointment

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**Course Meetings:** This class meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:00 to 11:50 A.M. in the Technology Learning Center (TLC) 3205.

**Learning Outcomes:** History 2111 examines major developments and themes in American History from the pre-Columbian era through the end of the Civil War. The course is designed to increase the student's understanding of America's past and foster an appreciation of history as a branch of knowledge. A variety of assignments- including exams, classroom discussions, a research paper, and in-class analytical papers on assigned readings- are used to assist students in developing writing, analytical, and verbal skills.

**Grading/Course Requirements**

Midterm . . . . 25%

Final Exam . . . . 25% of grade

Book review (Tocqueville) . . . . 10%

Response Papers (in class) . . . . 25%

Research Paper . . . . 15%

There is no extra credit in this course.

**Midterm and Final exam-** These essay tests will cover material from classroom lectures and assigned texts.

**Book review-** Students will write an analytical paper (three to four pages, typed, double-spaced) on Tocqueville. The instructor will provide questions for students to consider when reading these books.

**Response papers-** Unannounced response papers will be written in class throughout the semester on material from the week's assigned texts.

**Research paper-** Students will write an 8 page, typed (12 pt. font), double-spaced research paper on a topic of their choice utilizing a minimum of four primary and secondary sources. An introduction to the paper and a bibliography will be due on

**Class participation and discussion-** This course will feature weekly discussions on the assigned texts. Students are also encouraged to ask and answer questions in class. While participation does not count a percentage of your course grade, it is taken into account at the end of the semester (along with attendance) in the case of students with borderline grades.

**Makeup tests & quizzes-** Makeups will be given only under emergency circumstances. Students who miss an in-class assignment must provide the instructor with a written excuse from a doctor, parent, coach, etc. explaining the absence. Students with valid excuses will have one week to make up assignments, after which time they will be given a zero on the test or quiz.

**Attendance-** An attendance sheet will be passed around for you to sign at the beginning of every class period. Please turn off cell phones before entering class. Students engaging in inappropriate behavior (talking during class, for example) will be asked to leave.

Students who come into class late will not be allowed to sign the roll at the end of class. Students who need to leave during class must provide an excuse to the instructor before the class begins. Anyone who leaves during class without providing an excuse will be marked absent and will receive a zero on any assignment given that day, even if the student has completed the assignment.

Attendance will be taken into consideration at the end of the semester in the case of students with borderline grades. An excessive number of absences almost always correlates with a poor or failing course grade. Students who are absent should get lecture notes from a classmate.

**Cheating-** Cheating in any form (including plagiarism- presenting someone else's words as your own without citing them) will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating on a test or paper will receive an F on that assignment and possibly an F in the course.

**Writing Center-** Students who need assistance with writing are encouraged to go to the Writing Center located in Room 1201 of the Technology Learning Center.

### **Assigned Texts**

**Madaras, Larry ed., Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in American History, Vol I Eleventh Edition**

**Maddox, Robert J. Annual Editions American History Vol. I Colonial Through Reconstruction 20<sup>th</sup> edition**

**Alcott, Louisa May, Hospital Sketches**

**Rowlandson, Mary, The Sovereignty and Goodness of God**

**Tocqueville, Alexis, Democracy in America**

**Weekly Assignments** Note: Parts and Issues can be found in Taking Sides. Articles are in Annual Editions

**Week One August 10-14**

**Introduction**

**Week Two, August 17-21**

**Part 1, Issue 1 "Is History True?" for Wednesday, August 19**

**Part 1, Issue 2 and Articles 1 and 2 due Friday, August 21**

**Week Two August 24-28**

**Part 1, Issue 3; Articles 3 and 4 due Friday, August 28**

**Week Three August 31-September 4**

**Articles 7 & 9 due Wednesday, Sept. 2; Mary Rowlandson due Friday, Sept. 4**

**Week Four September 7-11 No class on Monday, Sept. 7**

**Part 1, Issue 5 due Friday, Sept. 11**

**Week Five September 14-18**

**Part 2, Issues 6, 7; Article 13 due Friday, Sept. 18**

**Week Six September 21-25**

**Articles 14, 16, 19 due Friday, Sept. 26 Introduction and bibliography due Friday, Sept. 26**

**Week Seven September 28-October 2**

**MIDTERM on Friday, October 2**

**Week Eight October 5-9**

**Part 2, Issue 8; Articles 21, 22, 23 due Friday, Oct 9**

**Week Nine October 12-16**  
**Tocqueville paper due Wed, October 14**

**Week Ten October 19-23**  
**Article 27; Handout entitled “Did the Industrial Revolution Provide More Economic Opportunities for Women in the 1830s?” due Friday, Oct 23**

**Week Eleven October 26-30**  
**Part 3, Issue 11**

**Week Twelve November 2-6 No class on Friday, Nov. 6**  
**Part 3, Issue 13; Handout from *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* due Wed, Nov 4**

**Week Thirteen November 9-13**  
**Part 2, Issue 10; Article 29 due Friday, Nov. 13**

**Week Fourteen November 16-20**  
**Part 3, Issue 12; Handout entitled “Clash of Sections” due Friday, Nov 20**

**Week Fifteen November 23-27 No class on November 25 or 27 (Thanksgiving break) Research Paper due Monday, November 23**

**Week Sixteen November 30-Dec 4 Last day of class is Friday, December 4 Part 4, Issue 16 due Wednesday, Dec. 2 Alcott due Friday, Dec 4**

**FINAL EXAM on Monday, December 7, 11-1**