

History 2111: American History to 1865
Fall 2011 T/TH 11:00-12:15

Instructor: Dr. Colleen A. Vasconcellos
Office Hours: TR: 1-2p; W: 10a-2p; or by appointment
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Course Objectives:

This semester, we will explore the major social, cultural, political, and economic themes in American history to 1865. This class puts less emphasis on dates and figures and more focus on change over time, the cause and effects of those changes, and specifically why those changes took place. Topics include but are not restricted to cultures in contact, colonization, expansion, warfare, slavery and the slave trade, emancipation, immigration, industrialization, and the changing role of the United States in foreign affairs. In order to examine American History from a well-rounded point of view, much of this class will take an Atlantic perspective in order to fully understand the peoples, events, and cultures that influenced and impacted this part of America's past.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate the ability to think historically through understanding of the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of United States history; comprehension of causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; or awareness of the social significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events and study. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of the social, cultural, or political development of the people and institutions of the United States.

Textbook: (on reserve in the library and in the campus bookstore)

John M. Murrin, et. al. *Liberty, Equality and Power: A History of the American People*
Vol 1: to 1865. Enhanced Concise Edition. ISBN 0-495-56634-9 Library Reserve
Password is 173473

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Exams 90 % Syllabus Quiz 10%

*****Federal Privacy Laws and Grades*****

I cannot discuss grades or course progress with any student via email or over the phone. It must be in person. Furthermore, I cannot discuss grades or your progress in the course with your parents at all. If you would like to discuss any of your exam grades, your overall grade, or your progress in the course, it must be in person and I am happy to do so at any time. Just make an appointment and we'll talk.

Exams: 90%

You will have three exams over the course of the term, with each exam consisting of 30%

of your final grade. Each exam will consist of a combination of writing and multiple choice questions. Study guides will be posted on-line a few weeks before the date of the exam to help you in your exam preparation. Each exam will begin at the start of class. If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will not be allowed to take the exam unless you have let me know ahead of time that you will be late and why.

Make-up Exams

It is your responsibility to come see me in the event that you miss an exam. If you miss an exam for any reason, the *make-up exam will be essay only. Furthermore, you have one week to make up the exam.* For those of you who miss an exam for properly documented reasons, you should make arrangements with me as soon as possible for a make-up exam. If you do not have proper documentation, you will not be allowed to make up the exam. If you do not make up the exam in one week's time, you will be given an F for that exam (unless you are still sick and then your week make-up window will begin as soon as you return to school). If you schedule a make-up exam with me but fail to show up, you will not be given another chance to make up the exam and will receive an F for the exam. If you come to me at the end of the semester and have not made up an exam and request a make-up for a previously missed exam, the answer will be NO.

Testing Center Students

If you are a student who takes exams with Mrs. Taylor over in Strozier, please bring your paperwork to me as soon as possible so that I can make a note of it. If you are reading this and you have no idea what I am talking about, then this has nothing to do with you. Just ignore it.

Syllabus Quiz 10%

Since this syllabus is online, I've decided to give you a take home quiz on various aspects of the syllabus that will force you to actually access the syllabus and use it. The quiz will be available on my faculty webpage and will be due in hard copy only. Email submissions will not be accepted. There will be no make-up opportunities either.

Class Policies

Cell Phones: TURN THEM OFF!!!! I'm serious. I don't want to hear it, see it, even know that it exists. If you need them on for emergency purposes, please set the ring to vibrate only. If I hear a phone ring, you will be asked to leave the class, and don't even let me catch you using it to text or check voicemail. **Anyone texting in class will be asked to leave immediately. If you do it again, after already being caught once, you will be asked to leave the course and never come back.**

Attendance and Tardiness: I will not be taking attendance in this class. Excessive lateness is disruptive to the class, affecting your fellow students as well as me. If for any reason, you need to leave class early, please let me know ahead of time. In short, come on time and stay for the whole class. If you miss class, I suggest you borrow notes from a classmate. My notes are not available. Study groups are also encouraged, and will be of great benefit come exam time.

A Note about Academic Honesty:

I will not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty in this class, and any student found guilty will automatically receive a failing grade for the course. Any extra assignments given in class must be written in your own words, and will not consist of information found on the internet or from any outside source. If you plagiarize, you will receive no credit for that paper and you will be ejected from the course. Your name will be forwarded to through the appropriate channels, and I will recommend that UWG administration take action. Plagiarism is a serious offense and it can lead to your expulsion and/or suspension from the University.

Tentative Course Outline and Readings Assignments

Please be advised that this schedule is tentative, and could change at any time.

Week 1: Colonial Conquest

Tuesday, Aug 22: Introduction to Course

Thursday, Aug 24: Pre Columbian Civilization: Begin Chapter 1

Week 2: A Colonial Empire

Tuesday, Aug 30: Contact to Elizabeth I: Finish Chapter 1, Begin Chapter 2

Thursday, Sept 1: Colonial Settlement: Finish Chapter 2

Week 3: Colonial Life

Tuesday, Sept 6: The Slave Trade: In class lecture only **SYLLABUS QUIZ DUE**

Thursday, Sept 8: American Slavery: Chap 4 (98-100); See my faculty page for additional readings

Week 4: The Road to Revolution

Tuesday, Sept 13: Colonial Rule to 1763: Chapter 3

Thursday, Sept 15: 1763-1773: Chapter 4

Week 5: The American Revolution and Its Aftermath

Tuesday, Sept 20: The American Revolution: Chapter 6 to page 180

Thursday, Sept 22: EXAM 1 BRING A BLUE BOOK!

Week 6: Post War America

Tuesday, Sept 27: Post War US and Government: Finish Chapter 6

Thursday, Sept 29: The Constitution Chapter 8 thru 221

Week 7: Federalism and the Early Republic

Tuesday, Oct 4: The Federalist Era: Chapter 8 continued

Thursday, Oct 6: The Early Republic: Finish Chapter 8

Week 8: Nationalism, Sectionalism, and Jackson

Tuesday, Oct 11: Nationalism and Sectionalism: Begin Chapter 12

Thursday, Oct 13: Jacksonian Politics: Finish Chapter 12

Week 9: Cotton and its Impact on the Nation

Tuesday, Oct 18: King Cotton: In class Lecture only

Thursday, Oct 20: Manifest Destiny and Westward Expansion: begin Chapter 13

Week 10: The Case of Texas

Tuesday, Oct 25: Maintaining Balance and the case of Texas: Chapter 13 continued

Thursday, Oct 27: The Mexican War: Chapter 13 to p. 344

Week 11: The Slavery Question and the South

Tuesday, Nov 1: EXAM 2—BRING A BLUE BOOK!

Thursday, Nov 3: Slavery and Abolition: Chap 7 (201-204); Chap 9 (258-262)

Week 12: The 1850s

Tuesday, Nov 8: Chapter 14

Tuesday, Nov 10: Chapter 15

Week 13: The Civil War

Tuesday, Nov 15: Begin Chapter 17

Thursday, Nov 17: Finish Chapter 17

Week 14: Nov 21-25—Thanksgiving Break!!!

Week 15: Reconstructing the South

Tuesday, Nov 29: Emancipation and Freedom for America's Slaves: Begin Chapter 18

Thursday, Dec 1: The Politics of Reconstruction: Finish Chapter 18

FINAL EXAM DEETS

According to The Scoop, our exam is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 6, 11 am-1 pm
COME ON TIME!!! BRING A BLUE BOOK!!!!

Final grades are posted on Banweb. I cannot discuss grades via email or over the phone, so please do not ask. It must be in person.