

HIST 2111-02: Survey of the United States I (Spring 2008)

University of West Georgia Department of History

1. General Information:

Instructor – Greg Fuller

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Hours – Wednesday 1-1:45pm, and by appointment

Class – Mon-Wednesdays 2:00pm-3:15pm, Pafford 206

Eric Foner: *Give Me Liberty! An American History*, One –Volume, 2nd edition
W.W. Norton Publisher

Bring the textbook to every class, too.

Handouts as needed and assigned.

History: "does not refer merely, or even principally, to the past. On the contrary, the great force of history comes from the fact that we carry it within us,..[that] history is literally present in all that we do."

-James Baldwin

3. Course Description:

This is a three credit course, which meets twice a week, is an introductory Survey of the United States history, the course examines the various social, cultural, economic, and political currents that led to the formation of the United States of America. This course will consider the first Americans, the settlement of North America by Europeans, the American Revolution, Federalism and the Constitution, slavery, the Civil War, and other key issues and events in the American past from pre-Columbian times to 1877.

"The aim of the historian, like that of the artist, is to enlarge our picture of the world, to give us a new way of looking at things."

James Joll

4. Course outcomes:

As a result of attending and actively participating in class, reading the assigned textbook, students will be able to successfully achieve the following outcomes:

1. Gain an overview of the history of the United States from the European discovery of North America through the Civil War.
2. Identify major themes and trends within American history up to 1877.

3. Recognize the major actors and groups in American history prior to 1865 and their roles in the evolution of the United States.
4. Understand why the United States developed as it did prior to 1877.
5. Understand how economic, social, and political developments interacted to create or discourage change.
6. Identify significant features on United States' maps and to comprehend the importance of chronology.
7. Sharpen academic proficiencies, including the ability to read and listen with comprehension and critical perception; to develop a larger and more varied vocabulary, while gathering information from printed sources (involving a variety of written communication forms and styles), electronic sources, and observation.
8. Learn to respond orally to questions and challenges and to recognize fallacies and inconsistencies; to distinguish knowledge, values, beliefs, and opinions; and to learn independently.
9. Develop historical perspective through learning that history is the art of interpreting an oral, written, and material record. Different historians may interpret the evidence differently.

"Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

- George Santayana

5. Course assessments:

To achieve the above outcomes, students must successfully complete the following requirements:

1. Examinations – multiple choice questions (outcomes 1-6)

Mid-term	Chapters 1-6	FEB 25
Short papers (2 1/2 pages long)		Assigned dates on syllabus
Final	Chapters 7-14	MAY 7

"There will always be a connection between the way in which men contemplate the past and the way in which they contemplate the present."

Thomas Buckle

Attendance:

This is a lecture-based course and as a result, I do not give grades for attendance or reduce grades for non-attendance. As academic students, it is your responsibility to attend classes regularly. Exams will be drawn from my lectures.

Tests – No make-up examinations are permitted except for serious personal situations. Legal or medical documentation may be requested. In instances where a make-up is appropriate, instructor approval must be granted prior to the examination.

Electronics –All electronics, including cell phones, must be turned off during class, field experiences, and examinations. You may not take phone calls during class time either.

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. This includes talking in class, habitually entering class late or leaving early, doing work for other classes, and any other behavior that is distracting to the instructor and/or other students. Repeat offenders will be asked to leave the class and dropped from the roll.

6. Course Grades:

Evaluation will include course requirements, examinations, and professionalism. No make-up examinations will be given unless arrangements are made prior to the test date. Attendance from beginning to end of every class is required except in the case of a documented medical or legal emergency.

Grades will be calculated using the following scale:

Mid-term Exam	30 points
Short essay papers	30 Points
Final Examination	40 points

Final grades will be based on:

90 – 100 points	A
80 - 89 points	B
70 – 79 points	C
60 – 69 points	D
0 – 59 points	F

7. Course Calendar:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
<u>Week 1, Jan 7</u>	Introduction Why do we study History/American History? Quick overview of the Political structure of Europe before 1500: Kings, Nobles, and Parliaments The political of power of Spain, Portugal, France, and England: Exploration, Expansion, and colonization.

Week 2, Jan 14

A New World:

Readings: Text Ch 1

Document: Magna Carta Translation (1297)

http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_documents/magna_carta/translation.html

What were the reasons for Europeans to claim possession of lands overseas?

Paper 1 due Wednesday Jan 16

Week 3, Jan 21 (No class Monday Martin Luther King Holiday)
American Beginnings, 1607-1650

Readings: Text Ch 2

Documents: John Winthrop: A Modell of Christian Charity (1630)
<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/winthmod.html>

The Massachusetts Body of Liberties, 1641
<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/masslib.html>

Paper 2 due Wednesday Jan 23

Week 4, Jan 28
Crisis and Expansion: North American Colonies

Readings: Text Ch 3
Rueblo Rebellion 1680:
http://www.desertusa.com/ind1/P_rebellion.html

Week 5, Feb 4
Slavery, Freedom, and the Struggle for Empire.

Readings: Text Ch 4

Paper 3 due Wednesday Feb 6
Olaudah Equiano: read Ch 1 to Ch 3
http://history.hanover.edu/texts/equiano/equiano_contents.html

Paper 3 due Wednesday Feb 6

Week 6, Feb 11
The American Revolution: 1763-1783

Readings Ch 5
Samuel Adams: The Rights of the Colonists
<http://history.hanover.edu/texts/adamss.html>

Week 7, Feb 18
The Revolution Within.
Paper 4 due Wednesday Feb 20

Reading Texts: Ch 6

THE RIGHTS OF MAN by Thomas Paine

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/paine/prframe.htm>

Week 8, Feb 25

Mid-Term (covers from the beginning of class to Ch 6)

Reading Text: Ch 7

Founding a Nation: 1783-1789

What were some of the issues within The Articles of Confederation?

Week 9, March 3 (Last day to withdraw with an W)

Securing the Republic

Paper 5 due Wednesday March 3

Reading Texts: Ch 8

"An Act for the Punishment of Certain Crimes Against the United States.":

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/statutes/sedact.htm>

Witch Hunt:

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/pag/burning.htm>

Week 10, March 10

The Market Revolution

Reading Texts: Ch 9

Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Austria-Hungary and the United States; August 27, 1829:

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/diplomacy/austria/aust01.htm>

The Barbary Treaties: Morocco - Treaty of Peace; September 16, 1836

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/diplomacy/barbary/bar1836t.htm>

Spring Break March 15-22

Week 11, March 24

Democracy in America: 1815-1840

Reading Text: Ch 10

Week 12, March 31

The Peculiar Institution

Reading Text: Ch. 11

Why did slavery persist so long in a country which was founded on the principle of freedom?

Week 13, April 7

An Age of Reform: 1820-1840

The Crusade against Slavery
Black and White Abolitionism

Reading Text: Ch 12

Week 14, April 14

A House Divided: 1840-1861

Fruits of Manifest Destiny

Paper 6 due Wednesday April 16

Readings Text: Ch 13

The Fugitive Slave Act 1850:

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/fugitive.htm>

What was the purpose of the Fugitive Slave Act 1850?

Week 15, April 21

A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War: 1861-1865

Readings Text: Ch 14

Time Line of the Civil War:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/tl1861.html>

Week 16, April 28

Last day of Class: Review for final exam

Final Exam: May 7 during class time. Covers material from Chapters 7-14

This schedule may be modified if deemed necessary by the instructor.