Course Objectives: This semester we will explore important political, cultural, social and economic themes in United States history to 1865. This course will focus less on specific dates and figures and more on changes and trends over time as well as the causes and effects of those changes. Topics of study will include but are not limited to:

* cultures in contact and conflict  * colonization  * expansion  
* warfare  * slavery/slave trade  * emancipation  
* immigration  * industrialization

We will spend time considering the importance of objectivity and critical thinking in the study of history. Additionally, we will focus on the Atlantic World, so that we can gain an understanding of the people, events and cultures at play in American history through the end of the Civil War.

Learning Outcomes: HIST 2111 explores broad themes and major developments in American history from the pre-Colombian era through the conclusion of the Civil War. Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically about history by understanding political, social, cultural and economic facets of United States history. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the causal effects and changing trends as well as the social implications of ethnicity, gender, race and class in historical events and development of the people and institutions in America.

In addition to historical content, students will learn to use primary and secondary sources and to analyze them critically; to properly cite sources; to write and speak clearly and to construct an historical argument that is supported by evidence cited.

Required Books and Resources:
http://americanyawp.com/ Online resource for additional information; FREE access

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is an essential component of each student’s mastery of the subject matter and by extension his or her grade. Students are expected to arrive on time and to remain in class until class ends. Students leaving during class without an excuse, obtained before the beginning of class, will be counted absent regardless of how much time is spent in class before leaving. *If you sleep during class, I will wake you up and send you home. You will be counted absent for the day.* I do not allow sleeping in class. It shows blatant disrespect for the rest of us and a general lack of caring on your part.

*There will be a sign-in sheet for each class to document class attendance.*
If you must miss class, please email me or alert me ahead of time; I suggest you borrow notes from another student. (I realize emergencies arise, but thankfully they are few and far between. I can be accommodating as long as it doesn’t become a problem.)

You have three (3) absences with no questions asked. Any absences in excess of three (3) will result in a deduction of points from your participation grade.

**Electronic Devices Policy:** Please turn off all cell phones and other devices, except laptops, before entering class. Laptops are to be used for note-taking only. Any students found using laptops for non-class purposes will lose the right to use their laptops for all remaining classes. Students found texting in class will be asked to leave class immediately. If a student is found texting again, the student will be asked to leave the course permanently.

**In-class Participation and Discussion:** The exchange of ideas is a major part of learning and historical understanding. Students will maintain a friendly, non-threatening, non-bullying environment that is conducive to respectful discussion and debate. Healthy debate is acceptable; however, disrespect is not.

**Grading:**

**Exams (3):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>20% (9/23)</td>
<td>90%+ A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>20% (10/28)</td>
<td>80%+ B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Final)</td>
<td>25% (12/7)</td>
<td>70%+ C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Movie Review:** 10% 60%+ D 59% F

**Quizzes:** 10%

**Participation:** 15%

Per university policy, I cannot discuss grades via e-mail. I can discuss questions about assignments, but not actual grades. If you have a question about your grade or your progress in the course, please come see me during office hours.

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

**Exams:** There will be three non-cumulative exams given in the course. These exams will be a mix of short identifications and essay questions. You will need to bring your own blue books which can be purchased throughout campus.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** There will be two extra credit questions on each exam.

**Quizzes:** There will be 4 pop quizzes given during the semester. **They cannot be made up if you are absent without a doctor’s excuse or medical documentation. I will drop the lowest quiz score at the end of the semester.** (If you missed one and scored a zero, then that score will be dropped. If your attendance is really lacking and you miss two quizzes, then one zero will be dropped and you will have to keep the other one. **Class attendance is important!**)
Late Assignments: All assignments must be turned in during class on the dates given below. One letter grade will be deducted per day (including weekends) for all assignments turned in after class time on the assigned due date. Students turning in assignments late must submit both a paper and an electronic (email attachment sent from your MyUWG student account) copy.

Academic Honesty: Cheating Policy and Plagiarism: Students will comply with the University of West Georgia's policies on Academic Honor and Academic Dishonesty. Anyone caught cheating or helping someone to cheat will be asked to leave the class and will receive a course grade of “F.” If you plagiarize, you will be removed from the course and your name will be reported through the appropriate channels. I will recommend that UWG administrators take action.

Tentative Class Schedule and Reading Assignments

Part 1: American Colonies to 1763

**August 24-26**
- **Introduction/Chapter 1:** A New World
  - pp. 4-17; 21-33; 35-47

**August 31-September 2**
- **Chapter 2:** Beginnings of English America, 1607-1660
  - pp. 48-85

**September 7**
- Labor Day Holiday-No Class

**September 9**
- **Chapter 3:** Creating Anglo-America, 1660-1750
  - pp. 86-125

**September 14-16**
- **Chapter 4:** Slavery, Freedom and the Struggle for Empire to 1763
  - pp. 128-139; 143-166

Part 2: A New Nation, 1763-1840

**September 21-23**
- **Chapter 5:** The American Revolution, 1763-1783
  - pp. 170-203

***Exam 1: September 23***

**September 28-30**
- **Chapter 6:** The Revolution Within
  - pp. 204-237

**October 5-7**
- **Chapter 7:** The Founding of a Nation, 1783-1791
  - pp. 238-271

**October 12-14**
- **Chapter 8:** Securing the Republic
  - Pp. 273-305

**October 19-21**
- **Chapter 9:** The Market Revolution, 1800-1840
  - pp. 306-345

**October 26-28**
- **Chapter 10:** Democracy in America, 1815-1840
  - pp. 353-361; 367-374; 377-381

***Exam 2: October 28***
### Part 3: Slavery, Freedom and the Crisis of the Union, 1840-1877

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 2-4</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 11: The Peculiar Institution</strong></td>
<td>pp. 388-423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9-11</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 12: An Age of Reform, 1820-1840</strong></td>
<td>pp. 435-457</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 13: A House Divided, 1840-1861</strong></td>
<td>pp. 473-501</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16-18</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 14: A New Birth of Freedom, the Civil War, 1861-1865</strong></td>
<td>pp. 503-537; 541-544</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30-December 2</td>
<td><strong>Continue Discussion of Civil War</strong></td>
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***Research Project Due in CourseDen Dropbox Sunday, November 15***

**Writing Assistance:** Writing does not come easily to most people. If you are struggling in this or any other course, I suggest that you seek help sooner rather than later. Suggestions include:

*The UWG Library website* (includes citation and style guides as well as important history databases such as America: History and Life.)

*The Writing Center:* TLC 1201

*Peers:* It is always a good idea to have a friend read your writing for clarity, grammar and punctuation.

*Class Instructor:* I am happy to give any help I can. Email is the best way to reach me for writing help. I will read through your rough drafts for blatant errors if you email your papers to me at least 10 days before the due date.