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
* warfare
* immigration

* colonization
* slavery/slave trade
* emancipation
* 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In addition to historical content, students will learn to use primary and secondary sources and to analyze them critically; to properly cite sources; to write and speak clearly and to construct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.

For important policy information, i.e., the UWG Honor Code, Email, Credit Hour policies, as well as information on Academic Support and Online Courses, please review the information found in the Common Language for Course Syllabi documentation at http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf. Additions and updates are made as institutions, state and federal standards change, so please review it each semester.

Required Books and Resources:


Digital Textbook Link:

http://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-egas-us-history
**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. Students will sign in at the beginning or end of class on random days. If you must miss class, I suggest you borrow notes from another student.

**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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams</th>
<th>Weight:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Research Project:      | 20%     |
| Readings:              | 20%     |
| Quizzes:               | 10%     |
| Attendance:            | 10%     |

Per university policy, I cannot discuss grades over 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 and 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.

**Assessments:** Grades will be determined using the weights above and quizzes will be unannounced and will be online or in-class at my discretion.

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

**Extra credit questions:** There are always at least two extra credit questions on each exam.
Late Assignments: 
If you miss the reading assignment window, you will earn a zero. (I will not re-open reading assignments.)
For your research project:
One letter grade will be deducted per day (including weekends) for projects turned in after the assigned due date.

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.

Research Project: Due November 16th @ 11:59 p.m. More information to follow.

For help with bibliographies, try http://easybib.com/ or http://www.citationmachine.net/.

Tentative Class Schedule
The instructor reserves the right to revise the course schedule at her discretion as necessary.

August 10: First Day/Introductions/Overview of Course

August 15: Chapter 1: United States History Before Columbus

August 17:

August 22: Chapter 3: Initial Contact and Conquest

August 24:

August 29: Chapter 4: The Establishment of the English Colonies

September 5 Labor Day

September 7: Chapter 5: English Colonization After 1660

September 12: Chapter 6: Growing Pains in the Colonies

September 14:

September 19: Chapter 7: The Road to Revolution

September 21:
September 26: Chapter 8: The American Revolution

September 28:

October 3: Midterm Exam through the American Revolution
October 5: Chapter 9: Articles of Confederation and the Constitution

October 10: Chapter 10: The Federalist Era
October 12:

October 17: Chapter 11: The Early Republic
October 19:

October 24: Chapter 12: Jacksonian America (1815-1840)
October 26:

October 31: Chapter 13: Antebellum Revival and Reform
November 2:

November 7: Chapter 14: Westward Expansion
November 9:

November 14: Chapter 15: The Impending Crisis (1848-1861)
November 16:

November 21: Chapter 16: The Civil War
November 23:

November 28: Chapter 17: Reconstruction

November 30: Last Day of Class/Final Exam