United States History I (to 1865)
HIST 2111
Section 98
TR 7:30-8:45
Fall 2019
Newnan 140

Instructor Information:
Dr. Stephanie Laffer
Office: Newnan 225
Office Hours: TR 9:00-11:00 or by appointment
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Course Description:
This course explores the major themes and issues in American history from early settlement through the end of the American Civil War. It emphasizes the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of United States history; causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; and the significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events.

Course Learning Objectives:
The general learning outcome for all courses on American History is:
• Students will be able to identify and explain the political, social, economic, or cultural dimensions of US history.

In addition, by the end of this course:
• Students will demonstrate introductory knowledge of pivotal trends and issues in American History to 1865.
• Students will demonstrate improved abilities in processing and analyzing information from primary historical sources.
• Students will demonstrate improved skills at crafting written arguments based on primary sources.

Course Requirements:
This class has a required textbook:
It is an eBook which can be accessed via a link on CourseDen or by clicking below:
You can also rent this book for 6 months as an affordable option!

In addition, there will be a variety of primary sources available via the textbook and CourseDen.
Course Expectations:

Attendance:
Attendance will not be taken every course period, but it is your responsibility to attend class and get notes from a classmate if you miss a class. There will be four in-class assignments throughout the semester. If you are not present, there will be no opportunities to make these assignments up, but they are only a part of your participation grade. In addition, there will also be several opinion papers given at the end of class. These randomly scheduled papers will be used both as a mechanism for attendance and an opportunity to show understanding of course material.

Exams:
There will be 3 exams in this course. Those exams are non-cumulative and will consist of a mixture of questions including multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions. The exams are scheduled throughout the semester on weeks 6, 11 and a final exam during Finals Week.

Writing Assignments:
History is a reading and writing based discipline. This course will feature multiple assignments based off of the documents from the time period (primary sources). You can find those primary sources in your textbook or via links posted to CourseDen. There are 4 Writing Assignments for this course. These assignments are all between 2 and 4 pages long, double spaced. Two assignments are creative, and two are more analytical. In order to pass this course, you must complete at least two of the Writing Assignments. The directions for each assignment will be available on CourseDen two weeks before the assignment is due. If you choose to complete all 4 assignments, then the two best grades will be used to determine the final grade.

Make Up Exams, Late Work, and Extra Credit:
I will accept late work for this class, but with a penalty of one half of a letter grade for every class section late (so, if the paper would have earned a B-, but was handed in one class late, it would become a C+).

If you need to miss an exam due to a legitimate, documented absence (I reserve the right to require proof) then a make-up exam will be administered following the same format as the exams described above.

There will be extra credit opportunities available that can be counted towards your class participation grade. Those opportunities will be announced via CourseDen.

Overview of Grades:
Your grades in this class will be calculated based off the following scale:

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<tr>
<td>First Exam:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Second Exam:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment 1:</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Writing Assignment 2: 10%
Class Participation: 20%

Please note: simply completing all of the assigned work is NOT a guarantee of a passing grade in this course. Also, as some of these grades are cumulative, the final tally will not be available until the end of the semester.

Additional Important Policies:

University-wide:
The university has several university-wide policies that apply to the syllabus. You can find all of them by clicking this link: https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php
It is your responsibility to know and follow these policies that are updated regularly.

Communication and Electronic Devices:
Email:
All University of West Georgia students are provided with a MyUWG email account. I will only answer emails sent from your University account. It is your responsibility to check your university account. Sensitive information, such as grades, will not be discussed over email and can only be discussed in person.

Technology:
You are permitted to use all forms of technology in the classroom, including cell phones/tablets/laptops for academic purposes only. However, you are not permitted to be disruptive. All devices must be set to silent, and if you are found to be disruptive, then there will be points deducted in your overall participation grade. I reserve the right to discontinue the use of technology in the classroom (except in cases where a special accommodation has been granted) if this policy is abused.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:
All work must abide by the UWG honor code that applies to all students (If you have forgotten the code, you can access it here). All work must be completed independently unless otherwise specified and must be original. To that end, all of your Writing Assignments will be monitored by Turnitin. Each student is responsible for understanding the nature of, and rules regarding, academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the course and will be reported the appropriate university authorities.
If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please click here for information from the University Writing Center on plagiarism and excessive collaboration.

Special Accommodations:
If you require accommodations, it is your responsibility to provide me with documentation from the office of accessibility services. It is also your responsibility to arrange for extra time, alternative testing locations, etc., and to remind me in advance. I cannot provide accommodations without University documentation. If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but do not have documentation, please contact the Counseling Center.
Course Schedule:
This is a guideline. I reserve the right to change the syllabus if necessary. Readings refer to your textbook, please see CourseDen for additional readings and documents throughout the semester

Week 1:
Reading: Please obtain your class textbook and familiarize yourself with CourseDen

Daily Schedule:
Thursday August 15: Introduction
In Class Activity I

Week 2:
Reading: chapter 1, pp. 1-31

Daily Schedule:
Tuesday August 20: Pre-Colombian North America I
Thursday August 22: The Earliest Years of Exploration

Week 3:
Reading: chapter 2, pp. 36-63

Daily Schedule:
Tuesday August 27: Early European Arrivals
Receive topic for Writing Assignment 1 on CourseDen
Thursday August 29: Enter the English

Week 4:
Reading: chapter 3, pp. 71-100

Daily Schedule:
Tuesday September 3: In class Activity II
Thursday September 5: English Colonies I

Week 5:
Reading: chapter 4, pp. 105-135

Daily Schedule:
Tuesday September 10: English Colonies II
Writing Assignment 1 Due on CourseDen at 7:30am
Thursday September 12: Exam I

Week 6:
Reading: chapter 5, pp. 140-168
Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday September 17:  French and Indian War
  Thursday September 19:  Years of Turmoil, 1763-1775

Week 7:
Reading:  chapter 6, pp. 174-202

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday September 24:  American Revolution Part I
  Thursday September 26:  American Revolution Part II
                Receive Writing Assignment 2 on CourseDen

Week 8:
Reading:  chapter 7, pp. 208-227

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday October 1:   A New United States
  Thursday October 3:   NO CLASS

Week 9:
Reading:  chapter 7, pp. 228-239 and chapter 9, pp. 283-287

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday October 8:   Early Republic
  Thursday October 10:  First Major Challenges/Conflicts
                Writing Assignment 2 Due on CourseDen at 9:00am

Week 10:
Reading:  chapter 8, pp. 262-274

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday October 15:   American Innovation
  Thursday October 17:  In Class Activity III

Week 11:
Reading:  chapter 9, pp. 297-309

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday October 22:  Jacksonian Democracy
  Thursday October 24:  Exam II
                Receive Writing Assignment 3 on CourseDen

Week 12:
Reading: chapter 11, pp. 352-383

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday October 29: Territorial Expansion
  Thursday October 31: Manifest Destiny

Week 13:
Reading: chapter 10, pp. 317-347

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday November 5: Abolition
  Thursday November 7: Women’s Rights?
  Writing Assignment 3 Due on CourseDen at 9:00am

Week 14:
Reading: chapter 12, pp. 390-414

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday November 12: Compromise?
  Thursday November 14: 1850s Social/Cultural Events Towards War

Week 15:
Reading: chapter 13, pp. 420-439

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday November 19: In Class Activity IV
  Receive Writing Assignment 4 on CourseDen
  Thursday November 21: Civil War I

Week 16:
Reading: review all chapters since Exam II

Daily Schedule: Thanksgiving Break
  Tuesday November 25: NO CLASS
  Thursday November 27: NO CLASS

Week 17:
Reading: chapter 13, pp. 440-449 and chapter 14, pp. 454-461

Daily Schedule:
  Tuesday December 3: Civil War II
  Writing Assignment 4 Due on CourseDen at 9:00am
  Thursday December 5: What’s Coming Next/Class Wrap Up

Final Exam: Tuesday December 10, 8:00-10:00am