

History 211-09
Fall 2002
McIver 228
TTh 11-12:15

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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the history of the United States from the first English settlement at Jamestown in 1607 through the Civil War. We will seek to understand the events of our early history in terms of individual decisions and the forces that shaped them, creating a unique American culture.

1. Required texts: Alan Brinkley, American History, A Survey. Vol. I to 1877, Tenth Edition. John H. Cary, Julius Weinberg, The Social Fabric: American Life from 1607-1877. Ninth Edition. Both texts are available in paperback from the campus and Addams bookstores. In your reading assignments, the chapters first cited refer to the Brinkley text. The dates when a Cary essay are assigned are indicated with a star.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. (You are held responsible for material presented in lectures which may not appear in your text.) More than 3 unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. After 4 unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, contact me within 48 hours of your absence. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to be in class.
3. Cary essays in The Social Fabric: Read these essays before coming to class on the day they are assigned. After you read the essay, write a one page summary of that essay. (Don't use the introduction in your summary.) I will collect the first four summaries on Oct.29 and the last four on Dec.3. We will discuss each of the essays in class, led by students assigned for that essay. The summaries and your class discussion of them are 20% of your final grade.
4. Tests and grades: There will be two one-hour tests and a final exam, which is cumulative. You will be given study guides for each. The tests are each 20% of your final grade, the essay summaries are 20%, and the exam is 40%.
5. This class follows a lecture format. You should take notes as you listen. It is very important to read your assignment BEFORE coming to class.
6. Required student conferences: I want a short conference with each of you, in my office, early in the semester. I would like to see each freshman before the first test, others shortly after the test. I will pass a sign-up sheet later. This is a required conference. You are welcome to come by for another at any time.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Aug.20 Introduction
Aug.22 Ch.1, Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans.
Aug.27 Ch.1, Why the English came.
Aug.29 Ch.2, Chesapeake colonies.
Sept.3 Ch.2, The New England and Restoration colonies.
*Sept.5 Ch.3, Colonial life. Cary, Ch.3 *Husbands and Wives*.
Sept.10 Ch.3, Colonial economies, the Great Awakening.
Sept.12 Ch.4, Struggle for the continent.
*Sept.17 Ch.4, Revolt flares. Cary, Ch.7 *Building an Army*.

Sept.19 Ch.5, The American Revolution

Sept.24 Ch.5, War and society; state governments.

Sept.26 TEST

Oct.1 Ch.6, The American constitution.

Oct.3 Ch.6, The Federalists in power.

*Oct.8 Ch.7, Jeffersonian era. Cary, Ch.9, *Frontier Fighting*.

Oct.10 Ch.7, Madison; the War of 1812.

FALL BREAK

Oct.17 Ch.8, American nationalism; Panic of 1819.

Oct.22 Ch.8, Missouri compromise; the "Corrupt Bargain."

*Oct.24 Ch.9, Mass politics, Indian Removal. Cary, Ch.11, *The Trail of Tears*.

*Oct.29 Ch.9, Bank war; Van Buren. Turn in first four Cary summaries.

*Oct.31 Ch.10, America's economic revolution. Cary, Ch.16, *Nation of Immigrants*.

*Nov.5 Ch.10, Cult of domesticity; social life. Cary, Ch.14, *Midwestern Farms*.

Nov.7 TEST

*Nov.12 Ch.11, Read whole chapter. Cary, Ch.15, *The African American family*.

Nov.14 Ch.12, Read whole chapter: culture and reform.

Nov.19 Ch.13, Manifest Destiny; sectionalism intensifies.

Nov.21 Ch.13, Crisis of the 1850s.

*Nov.26 Ch.14, Civil War: secession begins. Cary, Ch.20, *Why Soldiers Went to War*.

THANKSGIVING

*Dec.3 Video: *The Civil War*. Turn in Cary summaries.

Dec.5 Ch.14, The Civil War.

Exam: Tuesday, Dec.17, 12 noon.