

History 211-12
Fall 2001
McIver 232
TTH 12:30-1:45

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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. Eighth Edition. You must buy the 8th edition of the Cary book: older versions contain different essays. 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.
3. Journals: In a spiral notebook you are to write a one- page summary of each Cary essay assigned on the class schedule. Write this summary immediately after reading the essay, summarizing what it is the author wants you to understand about the subject of the essay. Don't use the introduction to the essay in your summary. These pages should be torn out, stapled together and turned in on September 27 and December 4. Be sure to read the essays before the day assigned, so you can participate in discussion of them.
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 sets of journal articles are each 10%, and the exam is 40%. Your contribution to class discussions will also affect your grade.
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.

*Whenever you need a conference, I am available. Ask me, and we will set up a mutually convenient time. The easiest way to contact me between classes is by e-mail.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Aug.21 Introduction

Aug.23 Ch.1 Pre-Columbian America; Conquistadors

Aug.28 Ch.1 Why the English came

*Aug.30 Ch.2 Chesapeake and New England colonies. Cary, Ch.1, *Native Americans and the Environment*

Sept.4 Ch.2 Restoration colonies; Empire

*Sept.6 Ch.3 Colonial life. Cary, Ch.4, *The Witchcraft Scare*.

Sept.11 Ch.3 Slavery; the Great Awakening
Sept.13 Ch.4 English-colonial relations; struggle for the continent
*Sept.18 Ch.4 Revolt flares. Cary, Ch.7, *Building an Army*
Sept.20 Ch.5 The American Revolution
*Sept.25 Ch.5 War and society. Cary, Ch.8, *Social War*
*Sept.27 Ch.6 The Constitution of 1787. Turn in Cary essays.
Oct.2 TEST
Oct.4 Ch.6 The Federalists in power
Oct.9 FALL BREAK
Oct.11 Ch.7 Jeffersonian era; Jefferson as president
Oct.16 Ch.7 Madison; the War of 1812
Oct.18 Ch.8 American nationalism; Panic of 1819
Oct.23 Ch.8 Missouri compromise; the “Corrupt Bargain”
*Oct.25 Ch.9 Mass politics; the Nullification Crisis; Indian removal. Cary, Ch.11, *Trail of Tears*
Oct.30 Ch.9 Jackson’s war on the Bank; Van Buren
Nov.1 Ch.10 America’s economic revolution
Nov.6 TEST
*Nov.8 Ch.11 Cotton; the Old South. Cary, Ch.9, *Frontier Fighting*
*Nov.13 Ch.11 Slavery. Cary, Ch.16, *The African American Family*.
Nov.15 Ch.12 Whole chapter.
Nov.22 Ch.13 Manifest Destiny; sectionalism
THANKSGIVING
Nov.27 Ch.13 Crises of the 1850s
*Nov.29 Ch.14 Civil War. Cary, Ch.21, *Why Soldiers Went to War*
*Dec.4 Video: *The Civil War*
Dec.6 Ch.14 The Civil War

Exam: Dec.13 12-3:00