

HISTORY 211

United States History to 1865

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Section 211-08, TR 9:30-10:45
Room 226 McIver Building

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334-5732 (office) or 334-1397 (home)

? “In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue...”?

Who hasn't heard this little poem? But, is it true? Was King George III really insane? Were the Salem witches really demons? Did Andrew Jackson really have a big block of cheese in the White House? This course will attempt to answer these questions, and present fully the major topics in American History from Colonization to the Civil War. We will focus on diverse subjects including politics, race, gender, economics, and culture, all the while attempting to understand how historical events touched everyday citizens.

For the most part, the course format will be lecture, although I believe in open discussion and differences of opinion. Try to think of History as not solely an impressive recitation of names and dates, but rather a long, interwoven tale of complex social, cultural and political forces.

Required Text:

Liberty, Equality and Power: A History of the American People by Murrin, et. al. Volume One, Third Edition, 2002 Harcourt Publishers (*be sure to buy volume one!*)

Grading Policies and Breakdown:

Mid term exam	30%
End of term exam	30%
Reading Quizzes	30%
Class participation/Attendance	10%

Reading Quizzes are completely surprise quizzes. There will be NO MAKEUP of reading quizzes, unless you have an extraordinarily valid and well-documented reason. There will be ten reading quizzes, each worth fifteen points for a total of 150 points. If you keep up on the reading and with your attendance, these quizzes will be a very easy way to receive lots of points towards your final grade. The two term exams will be a combination of short answer and short essay. They will be based on both the lectures and the text readings.

Attendance Policy:

As this a lecture format course, class attendance is essential. Attendance will be taken each class session by sign up sheet. Class participation points will be a combination of both your attendance and your participation in lecture discussions. No points will be deducted for four (4) unexcused absences; beyond that your participation grade will suffer a ten-point deduction for each class missed. After seven unexcused absences, I reserve the right (given by the registrar's office) to drop you from the course for non-attendance. Come to class—it's not hard.

Course Schedule:

Dates	Class Discussion Topic	Readings
August 20	Intro & Discussion	Chapter Two
August 22	The Spanish and the British Empires	
August 27	The Old World Spills over to the New	Chapter Three
August 29	The Northern and Middle Colonies	
September 3	New World Slave Society	Chapter Four
September 5	French and Indian War	
September 10	Conflict with the British Empire	Chapter Five
September 12	Fighting Back against England	
September 17	Revolution & Resistance	Chapter Six
September 19	An Unbelievable Victory	
September 24	The Un-United States	Chapter Seven
September 26	The Myth & Miracle of Philadelphia	Chapter Eight
October 1	Federalists and Anti-Federalists	
October 3	One Last Issue with England	
October 8	REVIEW FOR MIDTERM	BRING QUESTIONS
October 10	MIDTERM	GOOD LUCK!
October 15	FALL BREAK	ENJOY YOURSELF!
October 17	Market Revolution	Chapter Nine
October 22	The Peculiar Institution	
October 24	Political growth	Chapter Eleven
October 29	The Politics of Slavery	
October 31	Jacksonian Democracy	Chapter Twelve
November 5	The emergence of the two parties	
November 7	Manifest Destiny	Chapter Thirteen
November 12	The Abolitionists and their power	
November 14	The Republican Ascendancy	Chapter Fourteen
November 19	Breakdown Dead Ahead	
November 21	Secession & Confederacy	Chapter Fifteen
November 26	The campaigns and battles	
November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday	Enjoy yourself!
December 3	Victory, Defeat & Reunion	Chapter Sixteen
December 5	Wrap-up and Review	Bring questions
Dec 12, 8:00 AM	FINAL EXAM	Bring blue books!

Any questions? Feel free to speak up in class at ANYTIME!