

History 211-03
Fall Semester 2001
Robert M. Calhoun ph. 334-5709, email rmcalthoo@uncg.edu

Required Reading:

John Murrin and others, *Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People*,
vol. 1, concise second edition.
John Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive: A Family Story from Early America*
James M. McPherson, *What They Fought For, 1861-1865*
Michael J. Lyons, *World War II: A Short History*

Course Schedule:

Week One: A Family Story about Ethnicity and Force in Early America

Aug. 20 introduction to the course
Aug. 22 read Murrin 13-26 and Demos 3-39
Aug. 24 read Murrin 53-59. Bring to class a short list of suggestive details from
Demos and significant insights from Murrin.

Week Two: EuroAmerican/Native American Contact Points

Aug. 27 read Demos 40-139
Aug. 29 read Demos 140-166
Aug. 31 read Murrin 1-13, 27-34. Bring to class a list of ways in which Indians and white
settlers understood the world and each other.

Week Three: English Colonization and Settlement

Sept. 5 read Murrin 35-53
Sept. 7 read Demos 167-252. Bring to class two possible outlines of a paper on any three
characters in *The Unredeemed Captive*, one organized biographically and one
thematically.

Week Four: Foundations of Empire

Sept. 10 read Murrin 59-68
Sept. 12 read Murrin 69-84
Sept. 14 submit a 1000 word paper evaluating the historical lessons in *The Unredeemed
Captive*

Week Five: Functions of Empire

Sept. 17 read Murrin 69-84
Sept. 19 read Murrin 84-99
Sept. 21 First Essay Examination

Week Six: The Seven Years War as the First World War

Sept. 24 read Murrin 101-116
Sept. 26 read Murrin 116-133
Sept. 28 read Lyons chapter 1-3. Be prepared to discuss comparisons between 18th century
wars and World War I and its aftermath.

Week Seven: The American Revolution

Oct. 1 read Murrin chapter 5
Oct. 3 read Lyons ch. 3-4 Be prepared to discuss roads to war in 1765-1774 and
1929-1939.

Oct. 5 read Murrin chapter 6

Week Eight: The Age of the Democratic Revolution

Oct. 10 read Lyons chapters 5-9. Be prepared to compare British setbacks in 1777-1781 and in 1941

Oct. 12 read Murrin chapter 7

Week Nine: American Revolutionary Statecraft

Oct. 15 read Lyons, chapter 10, 13. Be prepared to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of nation-states in the Revolutionary era and the early stages of World War II.

Oct. 17 read Murrin chapter 8

Oct. 19 read Lyons chapter 13-16. Be prepared to discuss the resources of national power and prosperity in the era the French Revolution and during World War II.

Week Ten: The Financial and Transportation Revolutions

Oct. 22 Second Essay Examination

Oct. 24 read Murrin chapter 9

Oct. 26 read Murrin chapter 10

Week Eleven: Post-Revolutionary Society

Oct. 29 read Lyons chapter 11-12. Be prepared to discuss the concept of culture in 19th century America and in Germany and America during World War II.

Oct. 31 read Murrin chapter 11

Nov. 2 read Lyons chapters 18-20. Be prepared to discuss the homefronts during World War II and domestic politics in America from the 1820s to 1840s.

Week Twelve: Jacksonian Democracy and the Slavery Controversy

Nov. 5 read Murrin chapter 12

Nov. 7 read Murrin chapter 13

Nov. 9 read Murrin chapter 14

Week Thirteen: "And the War Came": Secession and the Union

Nov. 12 read Murrin chapter 15

Nov. 14 read Lyons chapters 21-22. Be prepared to discuss generalship in the Civil War and World War II

Nov. 16 read Murrin chapter 16

Week Fourteen: Was the Civil War the First Modern War?

Nov. 19 read Lyons chapters 23, 24, and 26, pp. 303-315. Be prepared to discuss the concept of victory in modern warfare.

Week Fifteen: The Motivation of Soldiers in the Civil War

Nov. 26 read McPherson chapter 1

Nov. 28 read McPherson chapter 2

Nov. 30 read McPherson chapter 3

Week Sixteen: Psychological Legacies of War and the Nature of Reconstruction

Dec. 3 read Lyons 315-335. Be prepared to discuss the motivations of individual soldiers in the Civil War and World War II.

Dec. 5 read Murrin chapter 17

Dec. 7 read Amendments 13, 14, and 15 of the U.S. Constitution.

Dec. 10 Review

Dec. 12 (8am) Final Examination

Attendance Policy:

More than three unexcused absences may result in a single letter grade reduction of the grade in the course. More than ten unexcused absences will result in a two letter grade penalty. Absences can be made up by consulting other students' notes and then writing a 500 word synthesis of the assigned reading, the lecture, and any discussion which ensued during the class you missed.

Films:

Students may substitute one of the following films for any assignment in Lyons, Short History of World War II:

Casablanca

Bridge over the River Kwai

A Bridge Too Far

Saving Private Ryan

Schindler's List.

The Best Years of Our Lives

Rosie, the Riveter

Write a 250 word response to the film and comment on any echoes you detect in the film of earlier events or ideas in American History. If you read all of the assignments in Lyons, reports on the films will earn extra credit.