

SYLLABUS

HISTORY 211: U.S. TO 1865

Fall 2002 MWF 12:00-12:50 pm Section 13
Instructor: Susannah J. Link McIver 225

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 334-5992 (History Dept.)-(ask whoever answers
 to leave a note in my mailbox)

E-mail: susannah_link@yahoo.com (definitely the best
 way to reach me)

Office hours: MW 1-2 pm or by appt. (McIver 334E)
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Required textbook:

- Mary Beth Norton *et al.*, A People and a Nation (Vol. 1)-(available at the UNCG Bookstore and probably at Addam's on Tate St.)

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of American history before 1865. The subject matter will be diverse and will focus chronologically on the various factors--including politics, race, economics, gender, and culture--that have combined to create the United States through the mid-19th Century.

The format of the course will consist of lectures, class discussion, and a variety of writing assignments. In addition, there will be two midterms and one final exam, each of which will be based on one third of the course material and will include both short-answer identifications and longer formal essays. The reading material is an important component in each of these assignments, so students will be expected to keep up with the reading. You will be assigned an average of one chapter per week (approximately 30 pages), and you should plan to read each chapter carefully at least two times (taking notes as you read). We will spend time throughout the course discussing not only the chronological details of American history, but also how historians do research and analyze data to create their interpretations of particular events or periods. Bring your textbook to every class, so that you will be ready to use it for class discussions.

Keep track of this syllabus; it includes reading assignments, important dates, and other pertinent information that you will need throughout the semester. In case you should lose it, you will find a copy of it linked to the webpage (see

address above). The webpage also has a list of terms to help you study for the short-answer identification section of the midterms and final exam.

Regular class attendance is required, and roll will be taken daily. Each unexcused absence beyond three will result in a five-point reduction in the attendance grade. After three consecutive unexcused absences, the student will be dropped from the class. Exam and in-class writing makeups will be granted only in rare cases, and there will be no incompletes. Students are responsible for ALL of the material in the lectures and readings. Please use bluebooks for the exams (available in the UNCG Bookstore and Addam's for a small fee).

Evaluation: In-class participation, 15 percent; attendance, 5 percent; midterms #1 and #2, 25 percent each; and the final exam (which will cover only the last third of the class material), 30 percent. Grading is on a 10-point scale: 94-100=A; 90-93=A-; 87-89=B+; 84-86=B; 80-83=B-; etc. A "C" is average, so if a student does average work, expect a "C."

Dates to note: **midterm #1**: Monday, September 23 (covers Chapters 1-5); **midterm #2**: Friday, October 25 (covers Chapters 6-10); **final exam**: Friday, December 13, 12-3 pm (covers Chapters 11-15); **no class on the following dates**: Sept.2, Oct.14, Nov.25-29; **last class**: Monday, December 9.

Reading assignments:

By Friday, Aug. 23: Chapters 1 & 2
" " Aug. 30: Chapter 3
" " Sept. 6: Chapter 4
" " Sept.13: Chapter 5
" " Sept.20: Chapter 6
" " Sept.27: Chapter 7
" " Oct. 4: Chapter 8
" " Oct. 11: Chapter 9
" " Oct. 18: Chapter 10
" " Oct. 25: Chapter 11
" " Nov. 1: Chapter 12
" " Nov. 8: Chapter 13
" " Nov. 15: Chapter 14
" " Nov. 22: Chapter 15