

History 111

American History to 1865

Professor: Amy Canfield
Spalding Hall 306
Office Hours: Mondays 7:45-8:30, 12:30-1:15, 2:45-3:30
 Tuesdays 11-2
 Wednesdays 7:45-8:30, 2:45-3:30
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Fall 2009
Fine Arts, 202
9-10:15, M W

Course Description

This is a survey of the major political, social, economic, and cultural developments in North America and, later, the United States from pre-contact to 1865. This course is designed to provide students with the framework and background necessary to be able to analyze the nation's history through the Civil War. By examining important events, trends, and people in America, students will learn to develop critical analytical, reading, and writing skills.

Objectives

- Gain a solid understanding of the history of America, along with major issues that different groups have faced.
- Demonstrate an understanding of both the different experiences and the commonalities people from a multitude of backgrounds faced.
- Be able to trace important events and themes in American history and critically analyze decisions affecting such events.

Readings

- Give Me Liberty: An American History*, Vol. 1, by Eric Foner
- Voices of Freedom: A Documentary History*, Vol. 1, by Eric Foner
- Class handouts

Course Requirements and Grading

Document analysis: There are fourteen different collections of primary source documents in the documentary reader (*Voices of Freedom*). You need to write a two-page, double-spaced analysis of five of these collections of your own choice. Make sure you tie the documents in with class lectures and discussions. The emphasis of these short papers is on the critical analysis and not the summary. What do the sources tell you? What do they mean? Don't just repeat what the sources said; interpret and analyze them. Don't just focus on one or two of the sources; rather, look at the larger theme within the collection. Students often confuse "summary" with "analysis" on their first attempt; consequently, I allow students to re-submit their first analysis after I have graded it and commented on it. These papers are worth twenty points each, for a total of 100 points. There are due dates (as noted on the course schedule) for each of these collections. Choose the five chapters you will be writing on and see the accompanying due date. No analyses can be handed in during finals week, and Chapter 15 is not included within the scope of this class.

Quizzes: There will be six in-class quizzes, two for every section (pre-contact through the Revolution, the Revolution through the War of 1812, and 1812 through 1865). These quizzes will be worth 20 points each, and I will drop your lowest score. The quizzes will consist of short-answer identifications (who, what, when, where, why, and significance of identification terms). You will get a study-guide one week before the quiz with potential terms. There will be four term choices on the quiz, from which you'll choose two. The quiz dates are: **Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 28, Nov. 16, and Dec. 9.**

Exams: The class will be divided into three sections (pre-contact up to the American Revolution; the Revolution through the War of 1812; and 1812 through 1865). At the end of each section, you will have a take-home exam. The exams will have at least four essay choices, from which you will write on two. Each essay needs to be at least two pages, for a total of four pages for each exam. They are each worth 100 points, and are due in-class. The first exam is due **Sept. 30**, the second is due **Nov. 2**, and the third is due by noon **December 16**. You will get the exam sheet one week before it is due. No late work is accepted on the third exam.

Participation and attendance: While this class is primarily lecture-based, I still welcome participation and discussion. Because this class is lecture-based, your attendance is necessary. I will monitor attendance with daily sign-in sheets. Your attendance will count for 100 points of your final score.

Late assignments

Assignments are due **in class** on the day noted on the syllabus. Late work will be accepted, but will lose five points for each day late, including weekends. The first five points starts as soon as class that day is over, so if you hand something in at noon on the day that it is due, you will lose five points. If you hand it in the day after it is due, you lose ten points. Assignments will **not** be accepted via email. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. I also do not accept assignments slid underneath my door. Those found in my office on the floor will be thrown away. You may hand assignments in to the marked folder attached to my office door.

Disability Statement

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course.

Email

Make sure you use my correct email (aecanfield@lcsc.edu). DO NOT just rely on the auto-complete feature; type it in fully yourself. Additionally, you must use LCMail (youraddress@lcmail.edu) for all course emailings. This is the address that I will send all email to if I need to get a hold of you. You may set your LCMail account to forward to another email, but you are still responsible for any email I send out. Do not delete any emails to me unless I have responded. I will always respond to let you know that I received your message. If I have not replied within two days, assume that I did not get the email.

Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Instances of academic dishonesty will result in the failure of the class. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism (the use of someone else’s words or ideas without acknowledgement), cheating on assignments or exams, multiple submissions, and assisting someone else in committing academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and will be treated as such. Violations of academic honesty will be reported to the appropriate school officials and the student **will fail the course**. No exceptions.

Points		Grade scale:	
Document analyses	100 points	A 552-600 points	C 432-467
Exams	300 points	A- 540-551	C- 420-431
ID Quizzes	100 points	B+ 528-539	D+ 408-419
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>100 points</u>	B 492-527	D 360-407
Total	600 points	B- 480-491	F below 359
		C+ 468-479	

Course Schedule:

Date	Lecture topic	Document readings (<i>Voices of Freedom</i>)	Doc. analysis due dates
Aug. 24	Introduction		
Aug. 26	Pre-Contact America		
Aug. 31	Pre-Contact Europe and exploration		
Sept. 2	Columbian Exchange and early colonization	Chapter 1, "A New World"	Sept. 14
Sept. 7	*NO CLASS, Labor Day*		
Sept. 9	Chesapeake vs. New England societies	Chapter 2, "Beginnings of English America"	Sept. 16
Sept. 14	Colonial Culture and early colonial rule *ID Quiz 1*	Chapter 3, "Creating Anglo-America"	Sept. 21
Sept. 16	Slavery in the colonies	Chapter 4, "Slavery, Freedom, and the Struggle for Empire"	Sept. 23
Sept. 21	Seven Years' War		
Sept. 23	Aftermath and imperial reorganization *End of section 1*		
Sept. 28	Revolutionary War *ID Quiz 2*	Chapter 5, "The American Revolution"	Oct. 5
Sept. 30	Revolutionary War *Exam 1 due*	Chapter 6, "The Revolution Within"	Oct. 7
Oct. 5	Articles of Confederation and the 1780s		
Oct. 7	Constitutional Convention, and the Federalists versus the Anti-Federalists	Chapter 7, "Founding a Nation"	Oct. 21
Oct. 12	The new nation in the 1790s *ID Quiz 3*		
Oct. 14	Jefferson versus the Federalists	Chapter 8, "Securing the Republic"	Oct. 26
Oct. 19	*NO CLASS		
Oct. 21	Lead up to War		
Oct. 26	War of 1812 *End of section 2		
Oct. 28	Era of Good Feelings; Political splits in the 1820s *ID Quiz 4*	Chapter 9, "The Market Revolution"	Nov. 4
Nov. 2	Sectionalism and slavery 1820-1840s *EXAM 2 due*	Chapter 11, "The Peculiar Institution"	Nov. 9
Nov. 4	The Age of Jackson	Chapter 10, "Democracy in America"	Nov. 11
Nov. 9	Jackson (con't) and Indian Removal		
Nov. 11	"Manifest Destiny"	Chapter 12, "An Age of Reform"	Nov. 18
Nov. 16	Mexican-American War *ID Quiz 5*		
Nov. 18	Compromises of the 1850s	Chapter 13, "A House Divided"	Dec. 2
Nov. 23, 25	*NO CLASS, Thanksgiving		
Nov. 30	1860 Election and the beginnings of the war		
Dec. 2	Civil War	Chapter 14, "A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War"	Dec. 9
Dec. 7	Civil War		
Dec. 9	Consequences of war *ID Quiz 6*		

**Take-home Exam 3 due by noon on Dec. 16 to my office.
NO LATE PAPERS ACCEPTED**