UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877
HISTORY 161
FALL 2015

Instructor: Richard Melzer, Ph.D.
Office: Academic Building, Room #142D
Phone: 925-8620
e-mail: rmelzer@unm.edu
Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.;
Tuesdays, 1:00-1:30 p.m. & 4:15-5:00 p.m.; & by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Survey of the economic, political, intellectual, and social development of the United States, including the place of the U.S. in world affairs to 1877.

TEXTBOOKS


Not Optional: Class Binder with essential course materials

COURSE OBJECTIVES
• To introduce students to basic themes in American economic, political, intellectual, social, and diplomatic history;
• To create an awareness of different people and cultures in past environments, appreciating how they changed over the course of time;
• To relate American history to national and international geography;
• To provide, through reading primary sources and class discussions, opportunities for analysis and critical discussion of historical issues and interpretations.

COURSE SCHEDULE
Week #1 Monday, August 17:
Syllabus Review & Introduction: What is history & why study it?

Wednesday, August 19:
New World Discovery & European Expansion
Students who read about each day’s topic should find the appropriate pages in the textbook, The Brief American Pageant. If students need help in identifying the appropriate pages, they should see the instructor for assistance.
Week #2  Monday, August 24:
New World Discovery & European Expansion (continued)

Wednesday, August 26:
New World Discovery & European Expansion (continued)

Week #3  Monday, August 31:
Map Quiz (first 5 minutes of class)
English Colonial Settlement

Wednesday, September 2:
English Colonial Settlement (continued)

Week #4  Monday, September 7: Labor Day Holiday

Wednesday, September 9:
English Colonial Economics

Week #5  Monday, September 14:
English Colonial Life

Wednesday, September 16:
English Colonial Life (continued)

Week #6  Monday, September 21:
Causes of the American Revolution

Wednesday, September 23:
Causes of the American Revolution (continued)
Review Sheet #1 due

Friday, September 25:
Optional review sessions at 1:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. in A131

Week #7  Monday, September 28:
Exam #1 (first 45 minutes of class)
The American Revolution, 1776-1783

Wednesday, September 30:
The American Revolution (continued)

Week #8  Monday, October 5:
The Critical Period, 1781-1789
Reading Quiz #1 (first 5 minutes of class)
Wednesday, October 7:
Creating the U.S. Constitution

Week #9
Monday, October 12:
Creating the U.S. Constitution (continued)

Wednesday, October 14:
The Federalist Era, 1789-1801

Week #10
Monday, October 19:
The Federalist Era (continued)
Jeffersonian Democracy, 1801-1809

Wednesday, October 21:
Jeffersonian Democracy (continued)

Week #11
Monday, October 26:
James Madison & The War of 1812
James Monroe & The Era of Good Feelings, 1817-1825

Wednesday, October 28:
Jacksonian Democracy, 1829-1837
Review Sheet #2 due

Friday, October 30:
Optional review sessions at 1:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. in A131

Week #12
Monday, November 2:
Exam #2 (first 45 minutes of class)
American Expansionism, 1800-1877

Wednesday, November 4:
American Expansionism (continued)

Week #13
Monday, November 9:
Early American Reforms
Reading Quiz #2 (first 5 minutes of class)

Wednesday, November 11:
Causes of the Civil War

Week #14
Monday, November 16:
Causes of the Civil War (continued)
Wednesday, November 18:
Causes of the Civil War (continued)

******************************************************************************

Week #15 Monday, November 23:
The Civil War, 1861-1865
Reading Quiz #3 (first 5 minutes of class)

Wednesday, November 25:
The Civil War, 1861-1865 (continued)
Optional Extra Credit Papers due

******************************************************************************

Week #16 Monday, November 30:
Reconstruction, 1865-1877

Wednesday, December 2:
Reconstruction, 1865-1877
Review Sheet #3 due

Friday, December 4:
Optional review sessions at 1:30 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. in A131

******************************************************************************

Week #17 Exam #3
1:30 class on Mon., Dec. 7, 1:30 p.m.
3:00 class on Wed., Dec. 9, 3:00 p.m.

******************************************************************************

GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADED ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DATE DUE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Map Quiz</td>
<td>Monday, August 31</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quiz #1</td>
<td>Monday, October 5</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quiz #2</td>
<td>Monday, November 9</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quiz #3</td>
<td>Monday, November 23</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Sheet #1</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 23</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Sheet #2</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 28</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Sheet #3</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 2</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>Monday, September 28</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>Monday, November 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>Dec. 7 or 9</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Credit</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 25</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: ............................................................................................................ 100%

******************************************************************************
GRADE LEVELS
FOR EXAMS, ESSAYS, REPORTS, & FINAL COURSE GRADES
98-100 : A+ :Students must have a 98 or better average
& do an extra credit project to quality for an A+ in the course.
93-97 : A 70-76 : C
87-89 : B+ 63-66 : D
84-86 : B 60-62 : D-
80-83 : B- 0-59 : F
77-79 : C+
******************************************************************************
REVIEW SHEETS
Review sheets are included in your Class Blinder. Your completed review sheets are due
on the dates listed above.
Review sheets are to help you prepare for exams. They should not be done during class
instead of taking notes.
Review sheets are not corrected, but are graded in the following manner:
A: for review sheets that are completely done D: for review sheets that are partly done
C: for review sheets that are partly done F: for review sheets that are not submitted
******************************************************************************
EXAMS
Regularly scheduled exams are objective and include the following 4 parts:

Part 1: 30 Matching IDs..............30 points
Part 2: 30 Short Answer Questions.......60 points
Part 3: 5 Historical Map Questions.....5 points
Part 4: 5 Historical Periods.............5 points
TOTAL........................................100 points

Sample exams (with answer keys) are included in hour Course Binders.

Make-Up Exams:
Make-up exams are essay exams and are generally more difficult. (See LATE POLICY
statement below.)
******************************************************************************
QUIZZES
There are 4 quizzes: one map and three based on primary sources in The American
Journey. Students are responsible for reading The American Journey at their own pace in
preparation for the quizzes.
******************************************************************************
PAIR & SHARE MOMENTS
You will be asked to identify a person sitting near you to be your Pair & Share Partner.
Periodically, questions will be asked in class that you will discuss briefly with your Pair
& Share Partner. After a few moments of discussion (called Pair & Share Moments), you may be asked to share the ideas you and your partner have had a chance to discuss.

Pair & Share Partners also make helpful study partners, sources of notes (if you miss a class), and sources of morale support!

**********************************************************************
CLASS PARTICIPATION
Students are not graded on their class participation. However, those who participate regularly and well in class will certainly benefit in the learning process. They will also benefit if they are within one point of the next higher grade level. In such a case the student would receive the higher grade.

For example, if a student has an 89 final average and has participated regularly and well in class, he/she would receive an A- rather than a B+ for the course.

**********************************************************************
TUTORING
Students who seek assistance in studying should
1. ask questions in class, during office hours, via phone, or via email;
2. attend optional review sessions;
3. seek tutoring assistance at the Learning Center (925-8907).

**********************************************************************
SPECIAL NEEDS
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with special needs based on learning disabilities are encouraged to discuss them with the instructor.

To be tested for learning disabilities, contact the Student Enrichment Center in the library building or at 925-8560 or at http://www.unm.edu/~vcadvise/equalaccess.htm.

Students who have been tested and have special needs should present their documentation to the instructor as early in the semester at possible.

**********************************************************************
EXTRA CREDIT
Students can earn 1 extra credit point (to be added to your final average) in any one of the following 2 ways:
• By attending all 3 optional review sessions
• By viewing one of the following films (available to borrow from the library):
  "The Vikings"
  "The Voyage of Discovery: Spanish Colonial Exploration"
  “Surviving Columbus”
  "The Lewis and Clark Expedition"
  "Roots" (7 tapes; watch at least one)
  "Roots of Resistance: The Underground Railroad"
  "Birth of a Nation"
  "The Civil War" (9 tapes; watch at least one)
  "Glory"
  "Echoes of the Blue and Gray"
or other movies suggested by the student and agreed on by the instructor.

After viewing a film, students write a 1-page typed (or 2-page handwritten) reaction paper describing the film and relating it to our discussions in class.

Extra credit papers can be submitted no later than November 25.

******************************************************************************

ACADEMIC HONESTY
Students found cheating will receive a zero for the quiz or exam in question.

Students cannot use any electronic devises during quizzes or exams.

******************************************************************************

CELL PHONES
Students can bring cell phones to class to receive emergency calls. However the phones must be set to “discreet” and should not ring during class.

If you receive an emergency call during class you should leave, deal with the emergency, and return to class.

******************************************************************************

PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS
Students who need to have personal conversations during class will be told to leave the room and return when their conversations are over.

******************************************************************************

LATE POLICY
Students who miss the map quiz or exams will lose 5 points for every day they do not make-up the missed quiz or exam.

This penalty is not enforced only if the student lets the instructor know prior to the due date that he/she has an emergency and will be unable to take the test or submit the assignment by the scheduled time.

If the instructor agrees that there is in fact an emergency, a new due date will be scheduled as soon as possible.

******************************************************************************

ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance is taken before the start of each session. To be late is to be absent.

Students with 3 consecutive absences or 5 absences overall may be dropped from the class by the instructor. There are no excused absences.

If you are forced to miss a class due to an emergency, you are encouraged to get the notes for the day you missed from your Pair & Share Partner (or another member of the class) and carefully re-read the reading assignment for that day.