

UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877

HISTORY 161

FALL 2017

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, 9:30-10:00 a.m. & 4:15-5:30 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

Marsha C. Markman, Jonathan Boe, & Susan Corey, eds. *The American Journey: United States History Through Letters and Diaries* (St. James, New York: Brandywine Press, 1991), volume 1.

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 21:
Syllabus Review & Introduction: What is history & why study it?

Wednesday, August 23:
New World Discovery & European Expansion

Week #2 Monday, August 28:
New World Discovery & European Expansion (continued)

Wednesday, August 30:
New World Discovery & European Expansion (continued)

Week #3 Monday, September 4: **Labor Day Holiday**

Wednesday, September 6:
Map Quiz (first 5 minutes of class)
English Colonial Settlement

Week #4 Wednesday, September 11:
English Colonial Settlement (continued)

Wednesday, September 13:
English Colonial Economics

Week #5 Monday, September 18:
English Colonial Life

Wednesday, September 20:
English Colonial Life (continued)

Week #6 Monday, September 25:
Causes of the American Revolution

Wednesday, September 27:
Causes of the American Revolution (continued)
Review Sheet #1 due

Friday, September 29:
Optional review sessions at 3:00 & 4:30 p.m. in A131

Week #7 Monday, October 2:
Exam #1 (first 45 minutes of class)
The American Revolution, 1776-1783

Wednesday, October 4:
The American Revolution (continued)

Week #8 Monday, October 9:
The Critical Period, 1781-1789
Reading Quiz #1 (first 5 minutes of class)

Wednesday, October 11:
Creating the U.S. Constitution

Week #9 Monday, October 16:
Creating the U.S. Constitution (continued)

Wednesday, October 18:
The Federalist Era, 1789-1801

Week #10 Monday, October 23:
The Federalist Era (continued)
Jeffersonian Democracy, 1801-1809

Wednesday, October 25:
Jeffersonian Democracy (continued)

Week #11 Monday, October 30:
James Madison & The War of 1812
James Monroe & The Era of Good Feelings, 1817-1825

Wednesday, November 1:
Jacksonian Democracy, 1829-1837
Review Sheet #2 due

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

Week #12 Monday, November 8:
Exam #2 (first 45 minutes of class)
American Expansionism, 1800-1877

Wednesday, November 8:
American Expansionism (continued)

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

Wednesday, November 15:
Causes of the Civil War

Week #14 Monday, November 20:
Causes of the Civil War (continued)

Wednesday, November 22:
Causes of the Civil War (continued)

Week #15 Monday, November 27:
The Civil War, 1861-1865
Reading Quiz #3 (first 5 minutes of class)

Wednesday, November 29:
The Civil War, 1861-1865 (continued)

Optional Extra Credit Papers due

Week #16 Monday, December 4:
Reconstruction, 1865-1877

Wednesday, December 6:
Reconstruction, 1865-1877
Review Sheet #3 due

Friday, December 8:
Optional review sessions at 3:00 & 4:30 p.m. in A131

Week #17 **Exam #3**
3:00 class on Wed., Dec. 13, 3:00 p.m.
4:30 class on Mon., Dec. 11, 4:30 p.m.

GRADING

<u>GRADED ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE DUE</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE</u>
Map Quiz	Monday, September 6	5%
Reading Quiz #1	Monday, October 9	5%
Reading Quiz #2	Monday, November 13	5%
Reading Quiz #3	Monday, November 27	10%
Review Sheet #1:	Wednesday, September 27	3.3%
Review Sheet #2:	Wednesday, November 1	3.3%
Review Sheet #3:	Wednesday, December 6	3.3%
Exam #1:	Monday, October 2	20%
Exam #2:	Monday, November 1	20%
Exam #3:	Dec. 11 or 13	25%
Extra Credit	Wednesday, November 29	+1
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

90-92 : A-

67-69 : D+

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 *mostly* 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 your 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 as 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"
"12 Years a Slave"
"Twilight 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 devices 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 should not engage in personal conversations during class time. Those who do will be given a **yellow warning card**. If the conversation continues, they will be given a **red card, which means that they must leave the class for the rest of the day.**

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.