

Lamar University
Department of History
US History 1301.40/42
Fall 2010

Instructor: Christina A. Wilbur
Office: 880-8511
E-mail: cawilbur@lamar.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 9:30-10:30
& by appointment

US History 1301: History of the United States, 1763 – 1877

Course description:

United States History 1301 surveys the social, economic, political, and diplomatic history of the United States to 1877.

Student Outcomes: Students will be able to:

- Identify the motivations for European colonization of North America and identify differences between the British and Spanish experiences of colonization.
- Compare and contrast the social, economic and political development of the British colonies in the area that became the United States.
- Describe the social and political implications of religion in America to 1877.
- Analyze the causes, consequences and meaning of the American Revolution.
- Identify the significant military and diplomatic operations of the Revolutionary War.
- Describe the development of the American economic, political and diplomatic systems during the Federalist Era.
- Discuss the factors shaping America during the early national period.
- Analyze the meaning of Jacksonian democracy and social reform in America during the 1830s and 1840s.
- Identify the concept of Manifest Destiny and describe the expansion of the United States from 1800 – 1848.
- Describe and explain the origins of racism and slavery in America and analyze the long-term effects of slavery on American society.
- Analyze the causes, consequences and meaning of the Civil War.
- Discuss the social, political, economic, diplomatic and military aspects of the Civil War.
- Identify and evaluate the meaning of Reconstruction.

Required Texts:

Roark, James L. *The American Promise: A Compact History, Vol. 1.* 4th ed. Bedford/St. Martin's.

Price, David. *Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Heart of a New Nation.* (Any edition)

Ellis, Joseph J. (Any edition) *His Excellency, George Washington.*

Oates, Stephen B. *The Fires of Jubilee: Nat Turner's Fierce Rebellion.* (Any edition)

Supplies:

3 Scantron forms – 886-E for exams

Attendance: Attendance is expected and required. I will take attendance daily and excessive absences will affect your final grade. More than three unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your grade by one (1) letter grade.

Tardiness: Arrive on time as late arrivals disrupt class. If you arrive after attendance has been taken, you will be counted absent for the day.

Electronic Devices: Cell phones will be turned off during class. Laptop computers may not be used in the classroom. No texting or e-mailing in class. Do not think I cannot see you texting under the desk. I can.

Make-Up Examinations: Students with a **valid excused** absence will be allowed a make-up examination. **All make-up examinations will be essay** - regardless of the reason for the missed exam and must be made-up with seven (7) days. It is up to the student to make arrangements for the make-up exam. If you fail to do so, it is very likely you will fail the course.

Late work: Book reviews not turned in on the assigned due date will be penalized one letter grade per day.

Class Participation: Class participation is expected. Participating in class discussions and activities will benefit those with borderline grades.

Class Policies: No eating in class. Do not leave early. Arrive on time. Do not sleep in class. If you must open a cough drop, please open it quickly. There is no need to try to open it 'quietly' while irritating your classmates and myself for an interminable amount of time.

Grading: Course grade will consist of:
Three (3) exams - 75% and three (3) book reviews - 25%

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| Grading Scale: | 100 – 90% | A |
| | 89 – 80% | B |
| | 79 – 70% | C |
| | 69 – 60% | D |
| | 59 – 0% | F |

Requirements and proper form for book review assignments will be discussed in more detail during class. Reviews will be typed in 12 pt. font (Times New Roman) and three (3) pages in length.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit.

Important Dates:

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| September 6 | Labor Day |
| September 27 | Last day to drop or withdraw with a Q/W |
| November 1 | Last day to drop or withdraw for the semester |
| November 25-25 | Thanksgiving holiday |
| TBA | Final Exam |

Drop Dates: It is your responsibility to officially drop or withdraw from the course. Failure to complete the required drop procedures may result in a failing grade. The last day to drop without academic penalty is found in the university calendar and at www.lamar.edu.

History Department Academic Dishonesty Policy: The Lamar History department considers academic dishonesty, including collusion, cheating, and plagiarism as defined in the Student Handbook, to be a serious academic offence. Students guilty of such behavior will be subject to the following penalties:

First offence: Student will receive a failing grade on the exam or assignment with no possibility for a make-up. If the offence is flagrant, the student may receive an 'F' in the course. The students name and documented offence will be forwarded to the proper university officials.

Second offence: Student will receive an 'F' in the course with no possibility for make-up. The students name and documented offence will be forwarded to the proper university officials. All accused students will be given a written notice of the offence, the penalty assessed, and the right of appeal to the department chair/advisory committee.

Disability Accommodations: It is the policy of Lamar University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law and the University's commitment to equal educational opportunities. Any student with a disability, who needs accommodation, for example, in seating placement or arrangement for examinations, notes, etc., should inform the instructor with a copy of the letter from the Office of Student Disability at the beginning of the course.

If you are having any difficulties in the class, please contact me. Do not wait until the end of the semester.

The syllabus and class schedule is subject to change. If changes are needed, students will be informed as soon as possible.

Class Schedule

Week 1: Introduction/ Europeans Encounter the New World, 1492-1600

Week 2: The Colonies in the 17th Century, 1601-1700

Week 3: Colonial America in the 18th Century, 1701-1770

Book Review Due: *Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Heart of a New Nation.*

Week 4: The British Empire and the Colonial Crisis, 1754-1775

Week 5: The War for America, 1775-1783

First Exam

Week 6: Building a Republic, 1775-1789

Week 7: The New Nation Takes Form, 1789-1800

Book Review Due: *His Excellency, George Washington.*

Week 8: Republicans in Power, 1800-1824

Week 9: An American Renaissance: Religion, Romanticism, and Reform. (Readings – will be handed out in class)

Week 10: The Expanding Republic, 1815-1840

Second Exam

Week 11: The New West and Free North, 1840-1860

Week 12: The Slave South, 1820-1860

Book Review Due: *The Fires of Jubilee: Nat Turner's Fierce Rebellion.*

Week 13: The House Divided, 1846-1861

Week 14: The Crucible of War 1846-1861

Week 15: Reconstruction, 1863-1877

Final Exam

Please note that this schedule follows the outline of the book therefore you have no excuse for not being prepared for class. Test material will also cover lecture material that is not covered in the book - so please take notes during class. A failure to do so will be detrimental to your grade. Additionally, failure to read the assigned chapter readings will almost guarantee a failing grade. The textbook is required for a reason.