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HI 201

Course: History, Intro to United States History

Time: M-W-F, 11:00 ~~11:50~~ 1:00 - 1:50

Place: Henry Hall 221

Semester: Fall Day 2001

Instructor: Frank Bailey

Number: office: 735-488

Office Hours: M-W-F 2:00-3:00

Email: kamai@earthlink.net

America Before the Civil War

Texts: Nash, Jeffery, Howe, Davis, Fredrick, Winkler, *The American People: Creating a Nation and a Society, Volume I: To 1877*

Scope of the Course: This course will study the origins, development, achievements, and transformation of the United States, its people and their cultures from the "discovery" of the "new world," through its settlement by Europe, an up to the Civil War. This course is a general study of the social, political, and economic development of the United States from a collection of small backwater fur trading post to an independent nation. Throughout this course we will focus on several themes that have defined America, its people and the consequent interactions of its ever growing and diverse population. These themes will provide coherence, context, and some clarity in our attempt to understand the history of this complex nation. In this endeavor we will focus on changing concepts concerning topics such as race relations, work ethic, land and the role cultural conflict played in founding this nation.

Course Objectives:

- Develop a better understanding of how different cultures that were already present and that arrived here in North America have approached the universal challenges of survival and prosperity
- Develop and comprehend how history is not simply things that happened in the past, but the **study** of a knowable past and there for greatly impacted by the perspectives and ideologies of the present
- Comprehend how history contributes to and defines the present
- Develop a better understanding of the forces that shaped, defined, gave birth to and challenged the United States of America
- Better develop your writing skills as a college level student

Readings: More than anything else, this course is designed around readings and discussions. You should come to each class meeting with the reading assignment completed and with a willingness to engage in a lively discussion that focuses on the themes and content of the reading.

Requirements: There are several requirements for this course. In addition to keeping up with the background readings in the text, you are required to read six short articles drawn from the fields of biography and social and cultural history; you are expected to write on four of the articles. The writing requirements for these readings consist of a 1 to 2 page

essay that addresses key thematic concerns or questions raised by the topics being examined. I will identify these concerns for you well in advance of the assignment's date. **These essays are to be typed and double-spaced.** There will also be two examinations, the midterm and the final. These examinations will focus on key concepts covered and shall not be cumulative, in that, material on the final will consist of topics covered after the midterm.

Grading: Your examinations are worth 200 points each. The four writings are worth 25 points each for a total of 100 points. In all, the total number of points achievable is 500. The class grading goes as follows:

A = 500-450 C = 399-350
B = ~~449-400~~ D = 349-300

Any students who earn less than 300 points will receive ~~and F~~ **F** for the course.

Please note that all written assignments must be handed in on time. Those not done so shall receive a 10-point deduction per day late. For any work not turned in there shall be a penalty of double the face value of the assignment.

Attendance: Students are expected to be on time and in attendance at all class sessions. For each class missed there shall be a ten-point penalty assessed.

Class Schedule

Date	<u>In-Class</u>
Week 1	Introductions
Aug 27-31	Lecture: Three Worlds Meet Read: Chapter 1 & 2 pg.1-45
Week 2	Lecture: Colonizing a Continent
Sept 3-7	Read: Chapter 3 pg. 49-65 Handout
Week 3	Lecture: Mastering a New World
Sept 10-14	read: chapter 4 pg. 67-92
Week 4	Lecture: The Maturing of Colonial Society
Sept 17-21	read: chapter 5 pg. 95-112 Handout
Week 5	Lecture: Bursting the Colonial Bonds
Sept 24-28	Read: chapter 6 117-143
Week 6	Lecture: A People in Revolution
Oct 1-5	read: chapter 7 pg. 147-161

- Week 7 **Midterm**
Oct 8-12 Lecture: Consolidating the Revolution
 Read: chapter 8 pg. 163-176
 Handout
- Week 8 Lecture: Creating a Nation
Oct 15-19 read: chapter 9 pg. 179-207
- Week 9 Lecture: Society and Politics in the Early Republic
Oct 22-26 Read: Chapter 10 pg. 213-233
 Handout
- Week 10 Lecture: Currents of Change
Oct 29-
Nov 2 read: chapter 11 pg. 237-256
- Week 11 Lecture: Slavery and the Old South
Nov 5-9 read: chapter 12 pg. 259-279
 Handout
- Week 12 Lecture: Shaping America in the Antebellum Age
Nov 12-16 Read: chapter 13 pg. 283 302
- Week 13 Lecture: Moving West
Nov 19-23 Read: chapter 14 pg. 305-323
 Handout
- Week 14 Lecture: The Union in Peril
Nov 26-30 Read: chapter 15 pg. 325-345
- Week 15 Lecture: The Union Severed
Dec 3-7 Review

Final Exam to be announced