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HISTORY 30100: Early America

Term: Summer Evening 1999
Location: Chaminade Main Campus, H221
Times: Fridays 1745-2155
Instructor: Aldona Sendzikas
 955-5537 (anytime); office 956-9974 (Tues. & Thurs. 1030-1130)
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Course description: American history to 1815, analyzing the formation and growth of European colonies in America, their break with the British Empire, and the formation of the United States of America.

Course objectives: To identify and examine key issues in the early history of America, and to determine their significance to the development of the nation as well as their relevance to contemporary American issues and events.

Required texts:

- James A. Henretta & Gregory H. Nobles, *Evolution and Revolution: American Society, 1600-1800*
- additional readings/articles, to be distributed in class

Course requirements:

- regular attendance
- participation in class discussion and activities
- weekly reading assignments
- short in-class assignments
- final exam (in-class, consisting of essay questions)

In addition, each student will be asked to undertake some extra reading one week of the course, to present the material to the class, and to assist in leading the class discussion that week.

Grading:

Attendance and participation:		25%
Short in-class assignments:	25%	
Class presentation/leading discussion:		25%
Final exam:		25%

Grading scale:	90-100%	=	A+
	80-90%	=	A
	70-80%	=	B
	60-70%	=	C
	50-60%	=	D
	<50%	=	F (fail)

Absences:

To avoid losing marks for attendance, please contact the instructor if you must miss a class. A make-up assignment will be required.

COURSE SCHEDULE

- July 9th:**
- **Introduction**
 - **Heroes and Villains:**
 - Columbus and other "discoverers"
 - America before Columbus
 - the Columbus controversy
- July 16th:**
- **Indian Country:**
 - white/Indian relations
 - text: ch. 1
- July 23rd:**
- **"What then is the American, this new man?":**
 - why he came to America
 - what he left behind
 - settlement; religion; ethnicity
 - text: review ch. 1; also, pp. 88-97; 103-111; 118-124; 239-246
- July 30th:**
- **This New Woman:**
 - women in America
 - children in America
 - domestic life
 - the case of Anne Hutchinson
 - text: pp. 18-19; ch. 2 (all); pp. 66-88
 - **American Witches (and Witchhunters):**
 - text: p. 41
- August 6th:**
- **Black and White:**
 - race and racism
 - slavery in America
 - text: pp. 53-68; 90-99
- Aug. 13th:**
- **"Yankee Doodle":**
 - music in early America
 - **The Shot Heard Round the World:**
 - breaking away from Britain
 - text: ch. 6
- Aug. 20th:**
- **War and Violence in America:**
 - French and Indian Wars
 - rebellions
 - American Revolution
 - War of 1812
 - text: pp. 113-118; ch. 7 (all)
- Aug. 27th:**
- **American Politics:**
 - Declaration of Independence
 - Constitution
 - political parties
 - foreign policy
 - text: pp. 171-220
- Sept. 3rd:**
- **American Personalities:**
 - Washington, Jefferson, Franklin and others
- Sept. 10th:**
- **FINAL EXAM!**