

HISTORY 301 01: EARLY AMERICA
CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU
FALL SEMESTER 2003

Instructor: James H. Fujita
Office: To Be Announced
Phone: To Be Announced
Pager: 583-3440
Classroom: Henry 225
Class Meetings: Fridays, 2:00-4:50 pm
Office Hours: Friday, 1:00-2:00 pm

Introduction: The goal of History 301 is to introduce students to an in-depth examination of Early American History. Your university catalog defines Early America as 1492 to 1815 A.D. Our class will actually begin with an examination of the migration of peoples from the Old World to the New World in prehistoric times, the European "discovery" of America, the conquest and colonization of the New World, and finally, the founding of the United States of America. We will also examine U.S. History to about 1820. It is hoped that students will gain a better appreciation of the early history of the Americas and that of the United States. Studies have shown that most Americans have little knowledge and appreciation of the earliest decades of United States History.

Pre-requisites: Any 100 or 200 level course.

Text: Henretta, EVOLUTION AND REVOLUTION;
American Society, 1600-1820

Class Format: A mix of lectures, discussions, examinations, and writing assignments with the aid of visual resources whenever possible. Students are encouraged to attend classes regularly and read all assigned texts.

Grading: Students will be graded on a point scale.
Points will be awarded as follows:

1 Mid-Term Examination	100 Points
1 Final Examination	100 Points
1 Book Review	100 Points
Project	70 Points
Attendance	30 Points

A TOTAL OF 400 POINTS ARE POSSIBLE.

Point Scale:	A = 400-360 Points
	B = 359-320 Pointx
	C = 319-280 Points
	D = 279-240 Points
	F = 239-000 Points

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

MID-TERM EXAMINATION: The Mid-Term Examination will consist of two parts. Part One will be a Short Identification section worth 50 points. There will be about 8 terms (names of people, places, events, and things), in this section. You will be asked to pick FIVE (5) of these terms and write a detailed identification for each term selected. Include such information as who or what, where, roughly when, historical description, and historical significance for each term. Each correct answer will be worth up to 10 points for a total of 50 points. Part Two will be an essay question. There will be two questions in this section. You will be asked to pick ONE (1) and write a detailed essay worth up to 50 points. A study guide will be provided before the mid-term exam, as well as, the final exam.

Final Examination: The Final Exam will be the same format as the Mid-Term Exam. Like the Mid-Term it will consist of two parts worth a total of 100 Points. The Final Exam will not be cumulative.

The Book Review: All students will be required to pick a non-fiction, history book to read and to review. The book should fit into the scope and timeframe of this class (America, pre-1820), and be college level (approximately 200 pages of text). Books must be pre-approved by the instructor. Students are encouraged to pick a topic of interest. It could be a biography, a study of a specific event, cultural, anthropological, or technical in nature but it must deal with history. You will be asked to write a 4 to 5 page review (typed, double-spaced, 1 inch margins). The Book Review will be worth 100 Points.

Project: You will be asked to scan magazines, newspapers, and watch television shows during this semester. Your Project assignment will be to find articles or watch TV shows dealing with any topic that falls into the timeframe and category of our class topic, Early America. When you find an item you will be required to review it and turn in 10 reviews by the due date of this assignment. For each item found, you must give a complete citation (date, title of magazine or show, title of the article or episode, etc.), along with a review that includes two things: a summary of the article or show, and a detailed paragraph explaining what specific things you learned from this news item. Each review will be worth up to 7 points for a total of 70 points for the assignment. All items must be current. No article may be older than August 2003. All TV shows must be seen beginning August 2003. You may use the internet but avoid encyclopedic items. Stick to news websites like Time, Newsweek, National Geographic, CNN, etc.

Attendance: Up to 30 Points will be awarded for perfect attendance. Points will be deducted for missed classes. To avoid losing points have valid excuses with verification.

BOOK REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS

1. Your typed review should be about 1000 words in length.
(About 4 pages).
2. Your review should be headed with a full citation identifying the book.
For example: Alfred W. Crosby, Jr., The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Publishing Co. 1972.
3. Your review should touch upon the following items:
 - A. A brief statement about the author of the book. Make your comments about the author relevant to the review. Mention the author's educational background. Occupational background. Other works published. Expertise on the subject.

Some relevant questions you might consider are:
 - 1) Did the author participate in the events described?
 - 2) Is he related to any of the book's subjects?
 - 3) Is he expanding on a doctoral dissertation?
 - 4) Does he have any reason to be biased?
(Introduction, Preface, jacket-cover of the book, may be good places to find information).
You might also consult sources like Who's Who in American Education, Directory of American Scholars, Twentieth Century Authors, Current Biography, Who's Who in America, and other biographical guides.
You may also want to read other reviews of the book which can be found in newspapers and journals.
 - B. A statement on the subject and scope of the book is essential. What type of book are you reviewing? (Is it a biography, political history, memoir, military history, intellectual history)?
 - C. What is the Thesis of the book? Rare is a history book without a major theme or thesis. What is the author arguing? Trying to prove?
 - D. The Value of the Book. Did the author do everything he/she set out to do? Are his conclusions valid? Are his conclusions significant? For whom is this book intended? For Scholars? For students?
 - E. What are your criticisms of the book? Is it poorly researched?
4. Your review should represent your best writing. Proofread and edit your work before submitting it. Before writing your review you might want to go to the library and read examples of reviews in such scholarly journals as the American Historical Review, Journal of Asian Studies, Journal of World History, etc.

HISTORY 301 LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENTS
Aug. 29	Introduction The First Americans: Who Came First?	
Sep. 5	Competition For The New World	Henretta, Pages 1-28
Sep. 12	The English Experience	
Sep. 19	Mercantilism, Empire-Building, and the French and Indian Wars	P. 29-124
Sep. 26	The American Revolution	P. 125-169
Oct. 3	The Articles of Confederation and the end of the war	
Oct. 10	MID-TERM EXAMINATION	
Oct. 17	The Constitutional Convention and the Founding Fathers	P. 171-196
Oct. 24	The Federalist Era: Washington Administration	P. 197-249
Oct. 31	The Federalist Era: Adams Administration	
Nov. 7	The Revolution of 1800: Jefferson and the Democratic-Republicans	
Nov. 14	The War of 1812 PROJECTS DUE	
Nov. 21	The Era of Good Feeling BOOK REVIEWS DUE	
Nov. 28	HOLIDAY: Thanksgiving	
Dec. 5	FINAL EXAMINATION	