Fall 9-1-2000

HIST 154.00: The Americans, 1492-1896 - Honors

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The University of Montana

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In the beginning, all America was Indian. But in 1607, English Americans began dispossessing Native Americans of their land. Quickly the English became the dominant minority in a population of Indians, Europeans, and Africans. English institutions defined America until rejected by the American Revolution. But the new America still contained one colonial survival not exorcised until the Civil War. Only with the abolition of slavery did America become one nation, indivisible.

America experienced three mighty revolutions before the 20th century. The first, the American Revolution, established both independence and republicanism. The second, the Civil War, ended slavery and promoted equality. The third, the Market Revolution, transformed the United States, economically, politically, and culturally, into a capitalist bastion.

History 151, THE AMERICANS, is a "survey" course in Colonial, Revolutionary, and 19th century American history. The course provides a broad, thematic view of the origins and development of early American society, integrating social, cultural, and economic developments into an overall political and ideological framework.

Like all History courses, THE AMERICANS is interpretive rather than narrative; conceived broadly, not narrowly. As in any discipline, "facts" or details are important not in themselves, but as building blocks for interpretations or generalizations. "What distinguishes the historian from the antiquarian," writes E. H. Carr, "is generalization." History 151 aims to conceptualize patterns of past American behavior for the edification of the present, and to help students use evidence to reach their own conclusions about American history.

This class is conducted on a lecture-section basis, with three large lecture sessions and one small discussion section per week. The course is open to all students, of whatever class or major, and may be taken on a Pass/No Pass option by all except declared History majors. Please consult discussion section leaders (and the 2000-2001 catalog) for regulations governing the P/NP system.

Required Reading

THE AMERICANS utilizes a standard American history textbook, several historiographical units, and primary sources including autobiography, propaganda, and documents. The textbook provides the basic facts necessary for an understanding of the lectures, which strive for interpretation; the other works form the literary basis of discussion sections. Reading assignments average only about 60 pages per week, but must be studied carefully in advance. Two map quizzes will be given in sections.

Buy these at the U.C. Bookstore:
Buy one (1) of these textbooks:


Buy these three paperbacks:

Benjamin Franklin. *The Autobiography and Other Writings*.
Thomas Paine. *Common Sense*.
Frederick Douglass. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*.

**Discussion Packet. UC Bookstore Faculty Pack. Contents:**

Course Syllabus, Part II: Schedule of Lectures, Assignments, and Examinations
Maps and map locations
"Indians and Europeans"
"The Visible and Invisible Worlds of Salem"
James Madison, *The Federalist No. 10*
Letters of Abigail and John Adams and Eliza Southgate; "Reform in the Early Republic"
Letters of Thomas Jefferson; "The Cherokee Removal"
Speeches of Abraham Lincoln; "The Words That Remade America"
Populist Party Platform; "The Wizard of Oz"
"The New Industrial Society"

**Grading**

There will be two (2) midterm examinations in History 151 (blue books required). The first midterm, on Monday, October 2, 2000, will last 50 minutes and cover all material assigned to date (1763). The second midterm, on Monday, October 30, will test you on Revolutionary America, 1763-1815. The final examinations, on Wednesday, December 20 and Friday, December 22, will last two hours and cover all material from Part III. All exams will have separate questions; at least one drawn primarily from lectures and text, others covering assigned discussion readings.

Early grades need not be "locked in"; we reward improvement (and punish declension!) However, here's a rough proportionate analysis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm No. 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm No. 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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DISCUSSION SECTION LEADERS WILL ANNOUNCE OFFICE LOCATIONS AND POST OFFICE HOURS FOR CONSULTATIONS!

Three separate histories collided in the Western Hemisphere half a millenium ago, and American history began.

-Edward Countryman
DISCUSSION ASSIGNMENTS: U.C. BOOKSTORE FACULTY PACKET

Table of Contents

1. Course Syllabus, Part II: Schedule of Lectures, Assignments, and Examinations.

2. Practice maps (2) and locations.


COURSE SYLLABUS. PART II

Schedule of Lectures, Assignments, and Examinations

Wed., Sept. 6      Introduction: The Americans
Sept. 8-29    INDIAN AND COLONIAL AMERICA

Read:      Textbook, to 1763

Discussions:

T TH  Sept. 5, 7       Organization
T TH  Sept. 12, 14     "Indians and Europeans"
T TH  Sept. 19, 21     "The Visible and Invisible Worlds of Salem"
T TH  Sept. 26, 28     The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

COLONIAL SOCIETY

Fri.   Sept. 8       Indian America: The Conquest of Paradise
Mon.  Sept. 11       Bacon's Rebellion in Virginia
Wed.  Sept. 13       Anglicization in the Chesapeake
Fri.  Sept. 15       Slaves and Slavery
Mon.  Sept. 18       The Puritan Pronaos
Wed.  Sept. 20       The Great Awakening

THE FIRST BRITISH EMPIRE

Fri.  Sept. 22       The Glorious Revolution and Great Reorganization
Mon.  Sept. 25       The Economic Empire: Navigation and Trade Acts
Wed.  Sept. 27       The Rise of Royal Government
Fri.  Sept. 29       Colonial Politics and Ideology

**MONDAY. OCTOBER 2. 2000**
1ST MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Oct. 4-27     REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA, 1763-1815

Read:      Textbook, 1763-1815
Discussions:

T Th  Oct. 3, 5  Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*
T Th  Oct. 10, 12  The Declaration of Independence
T Th  Oct. 17, 19  The 10th *Federalist*
T Th  Oct. 24, 26  Map Quiz, Review

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Wed.  Oct. 4  Indian and Revolutionary America
Fri.  Oct. 6  The Imperial Crisis
Mon.  Oct. 9  Constitutional Resistance
Fri.  Oct. 13  The Revolution: Republicanism
Mon.  Oct. 16  Ordeal of the Confederation
Wed.  Oct. 18  Creation of the American Republic

SECURING THE REVOLUTION

Fri.  Oct. 20  The Federalists: The Agenda of Politics
Mon.  Oct. 23  The Federalists: Peace with Honor
Fri.  Oct. 27  The Jeffersonians: The English Crisis

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2000**

2ND MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Nov. 1-Dec. 15  THE PASSAGE OF THE REPUBLIC, 1815-1896

Read: Textbook, 1815-1896: Jordan and Litwack, "The New Industrial Society"

Discussions:

T, Th  Oct. 31, Nov. 2  "The Cherokee Removal"
Th, T  Nov. 9, 14  *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*
Th, T  Nov. 16, 21  "The Seneca Falls Convention"
T, Th  Nov. 28, 30  "Lincoln at Gettysburg"
T, Th  Dec. 5, 7  "The Wizard of Oz"
T, Th  Dec. 12, 14  Map Quiz, Review

Wed.  Nov. 1  The 19th Century: Republicanism, Democracy, Slavery, and Capitalism

ANTEBELLUM AMERICA

Fri.  Nov. 3  The Market Revolution
Mon. Nov. 6  Democracy and Politics: The Second American Party System
Wed. Nov. 8  Democracy and Capitalism: The Bank War
Fri. Nov. 10 Veteran's Day: Holiday
Mon. Nov. 13  Democracy and Republicanism: Jacksonian Reform
Wed. Nov. 15  Native Americans: Philanthropy and Removal
Fri. Nov. 17  Black Americans: Democracy and Racism
Mon. Nov. 20  Women and the Family

CIVIL WAR AMERICA

Mon. Nov. 27  Nationalism and Sectionalism
Wed. Nov. 29  Abolition
Fri. Dec. 1  The Slave Power Emerges
Mon. Dec. 4  Civil War: The War for the Union
Wed. Dec. 6  Reconstruction

GILDED AGE AMERICA

Fri. Dec. 8  The Economic Reordering of America
Mon. Dec. 11  Social Change and Cultural Conflict
Wed. Dec. 13  Workers, Farmers, and Politics
Fri. Dec. 15  The Populists, the Election of 1896, and the Triumph of Capitalism

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2000
1:10 - 3:10 p.m., MST

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2000
8:00 - 10:00 a.m., MST

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

While I have often said that all men ought to be free, yet I would allow those colored persons to be slaves who want to be; and next to them those white persons who argue in favor of making other people slaves.

--Abraham Lincoln