

History 315K-39160 (CD) MWF 1-2, Fall 2012
U.S. History: Pre-Columbus through the Civil War
Professor Seaholm, GAR 4.124, seaholm@mail.utexas.edu
Seaholm's office hours: WF, 2:30-4:00 pm

Teaching Assistants:

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Course Description: Lectures, readings, videos, maps and other graphics are used to provide students with a survey of US history from before the European encounter through the Civil War. Students will study significant aspects of the nation's political, economic, and cultural history and will be challenged to understand the **why, how, and so what** of this history. You begin with learning about **what happened** and then proceed to questions of **causality and consequences**.

Moving from **what happened** to **why or how**, and, then, to **so what** students will sharpen their skills in **critical thinking**. Both exams will include essay questions to encourage students in their **written communication skills**. Along the way, students will consider some of ethical dilemmas confronted by Americans who lived long ago. Students will examine issues of **personal responsibility** and **social responsibility** as they learn about how previous generations understood these responsibilities.

This course carries the flag for **Cultural Diversity in the United States**. Cultural Diversity courses are designed to increase your familiarity with the variety and richness of the American cultural experience. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one U.S. cultural group that experienced persistent marginalization.

Required Reading: (available at University Coop)

James Henretta, et. al., *America: A Concise History*, 3rd ed.
Joseph Ellis, *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*
Nancy Cott, *The Bonds of Womanhood: Woman's Sphere in New England, 1780-1835*
Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

Course Requirements, Grading, and Class Policies

Students are responsible for all information presented in class and for all assigned reading.

Grading: I will use the plus-minus grading system.

Final grades will be determined on the basis of the following rubric. Please note: to ensure fairness, all numbers are absolute, and will not be rounded up or down at any stage. Thus a B- will be inclusive of all scores of 80.000 through 83.999. The University does not recognize the grade of A+.

A = 94-100
A- = 90-93
B+ = 87-89
B = 84-86
B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79
C = 74-76
C- = 70-73
D+ = 67-69
D = 64-66
D- = 60-63
F = 0-60

The University's plus/minus web site is:
<http://www.utexas.edu/provost/planning/plus-minus/>

Graded Work:

- 1st Midterm Exam: Monday, 10/1, in class. (22.5% of course grade)**
- 2nd Midterm Exam: Monday, 11/5, in class. (22.5% of course grade)**
- 2 pop quizzes: 5% each (10% of course grade)**
- Final Exam: Wednesday, 12/12, 9 am – 12 noon. (35% of course grade)**

Make-up Exams: You are expected to take all tests at the scheduled time. **Only students who are unable to take the test on the scheduled day will be allowed to take a make-up exam.** Students who miss an exam because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control and who wish to take a make-up exam, must make arrangements with me within one week after the missed exam.

Questions or Complaints about grades:

If you have **questions or complaints** about your exam or essay grades, you must speak with the Teaching Assistant who graded your exam. You are welcome to speak with Dr. Seaholm after you have met with your TA. Also, you should present any questions or complaints about the first exam before the second exam. You should address any questions about the second exam before the final exam.

Scholastic Dishonesty (aka cheating): You may not refer to books, notes, electronic devices, or other students during exams. Any student caught cheating (giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during an exam) will be referred to Student Judicial Services in the Dean of Students' office. Subsequent to due process, students caught cheating on exams will receive a grade of F in the course.

University Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty:

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>.

Services for Students with Disabilities: Special testing arrangements or other accommodations recommended by Services for Students with Disabilities will, of course, be honored. Students must talk with me to discuss these arrangements at least one week before scheduled exams.

BLACKBOARD: The lecture schedule, reading assignments, announcements, reading guides, and study guides will be posted on Blackboard. You can access Blackboard, using your UT EID, through UT Direct. Study guides will be posted on Blackboard one week before each exam.

You should regularly check Blackboard for announcements.

Religious Holidays: University policy states that you should notify me of your expected absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of the observance of a religious holy day. If you miss a class due to observance of a religious holy day, please ask one of your classmates to let you make a copy of their lecture notes. If you have difficulty getting lecture notes for the day or days missed, let me know. If you miss an exam or a pop quiz because of observance of a religious holy day, you will be allowed to take a make-up exam.

FYI: 24/7 Nurse Advice: 512-475-6877 (NURS); schedule appointment at Health Center online: https://portal.uhs.utexas.edu/login_directory.aspx.
24 Hour Telephone Counseling: 471-2215 (471-CALL)

In the Classroom:

- I do not record attendance, but **students are responsible for all information presented during class.**
- Please be sure that cell phones are silenced during class.
- If you plan to attend class, please come to class on time.
- Whether you listen or don't listen, take notes or doodle, read the *Daily Texan* or play games on your laptop computer is up to you. However you spend your time during class, **do not talk.**
- Please be courteous to those around you who might wish to listen to the lecture.

Schedule: Lectures, Reading Assignments, Tests

- Reading assignments should be completed by the date listed.
- This class uses "lecture capture." An audio recording of the lecture and all slides shown during class will be available on Blackboard.
- Lecture outlines will be posted on Blackboard
- Note (and use) the appendices in the Henretta text: Glossary, Declaration of Independence, US Constitution, various tables and charts.

W, 8/29	Class Introduction
F, 8/31	Early, <i>Early</i> America: The Western Hemisphere before European Colonization Henretta, "Native American Societies" in ch. 1.
M, 9/3	LABOR DAY; No class.
W, 9/5	The European Discovery of North America: Conquest and Colonization Henretta, "Europe Encounters Africa and the Americas, 1450-1550," in ch. 1.
F, 9/7	The Protestant Reformation: <i>What did a religious movement have to do with the colonization of North America?</i> Henretta, "The Protestant Reformation and the Rise of England, 1500-1620," in ch. 1
M, 9/10	England's First North American Colonies: Chesapeake Bay colonies Henretta, ch. 2, first 2 sections of chapter.
W, 9/12	Puritan New England: Theology and Mission Henretta, "Puritan New England," in ch. 2.
F, 9/14	Puritan New England: Family and Society Henretta, "The Eastern Indian's New World" and the rest of ch. 2.
M, 9/17	The British Empire in North America: Colonial Society, Colonial Government, and Slavery Henretta, ch. 3
W, 9/19	The Enlightenment and the Great Awakening in England's North American Colonies Henretta, ch. 4, pp., 3 rd section of chapter.
F, 9/21	First Nations, Europeans, Imperial Wars Henretta, review "Eastern Indians" section in ch. 2; beginning with "The Midcentury Challenge" read the rest of ch. 4.
M, 9/24	Imperial Reform and Colonial Resistance Henretta, ch. 5, first 2 sections. See study guide for 1 st exam on Bb under Course Documents

- W, 9/26** Emerging American Nationalism, Republican Resistance, and Declaring Independence
Henretta, ch. 5, 3rd section and rest of the chapter.
- F, 9/28** The War: Winning Independence
Henretta, ch. 6, first two sections.
- M, 10/1** **FIRST EXAM; bring new, unmarked bluebook**
- W, 10/3** Republicanism and the New Republic
Henretta, ch. 6, 3rd section.
Start reading Joseph Ellis' *Founding Brothers*. You should complete Ellis' book by 10/15. See reading guide posted on Bb.
- F, 10/5** Trouble in the New Republic
Henretta, ch. 6., 4th section and the rest of the chapter
Continue reading Ellis' book.
- M, 10/8** The U.S. Constitution
Henretta, Review ch. 6
Continue reading Ellis' book.
- W, 10/10** Video: "George Washington: The Man Who Wouldn't Be King"
Vidcast #4082 in Fine Arts Library
- F, 10/12** The Turbulent 1790s: Hamiltonian-Federalism and Jeffersonian-Republicanism
Henretta, ch. 7, 1st section.
- M, 10/15** Foreign Policy in the 1790s
Complete Joseph Ellis' book by this date.
- W, 10/17** Slavery in the New Republic
Henretta, ch. 3, "The Imperial Slave Economy," and ch. 8, "Aristocratic Republicanism and Slavery"
- F, 10/19** The Emergence of a National Market Economy
Henretta, ch. 7, "The Westward Movement...;" "The War of 1812..." to the end of the chapter; ch. 8, 1st section.
Start reading Nancy Cott's *The Bonds of Womanhood*... Complete this book by
See reading guide posted on Bb.
- M, 10/22** Antebellum Industrialization and Northern Society.
Henretta, ch. 9.
- W, 10/24** The "Democratization" of Politics and the Second Two-Party System.
Henretta, ch. 8, "Toward a Democratic Republican Culture;" ch. 10, 1st section and 3rd section.
- F, 10/26** President Andrew Jackson: the "Nullification Crisis" and the B.U.S.
Henretta, ch. 10, "The Jacksonian Presidency..."
- M, 10/29** Western Expansion and Indian Removals
See study guide for 2nd exam on Bb.
- W, 10/31** The Second Great Awakening and Antebellum Reform
Henretta, ch. 8, "Protestant Christianity as a Social Force" and the rest of ch. 8; "Charles Grandison Finney" in ch. 9; ch. 11.

- F, 11/2** The "Cult of Domesticity" and the "Feminization of American Religion"
Complete Nancy Cott's book by this date
- M, 11/5** **SECOND EXAM; bring, new unmarked bluebook**
- W, 11/7** "King Cotton:" The Economy and the Social Order of the Antebellum South
Henretta, ch. 12, 1st section.
Begin reading Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Complete Stowe's book
by 11/28.
- F, 11/9** Slavery and "the world the slaves made"
Henretta, ch. 12, 2nd section and rest of chapter.
- M, 11/12** Video: "Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad"
Vidcast #2168, Fine Arts Library
- W, 11/14** Western Expansion and "Manifest Destiny"
Henretta, ch. 13, 1st section
- F, 11/16** The Issue of Slavery in the Territories: from the Northwest Ordinance to the Crisis of 1850
Henretta, ch. 13, 2nd section.
- M, 11/19** Free Soil Ideology vs. States' Rights and Pro Slavery
Continue reading *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- W, 11/21** Question and Answer session.
- F, 11/23** **NO CLASS; Thanksgiving Holiday.**
- M, 11/26** Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 and Resisting the "Slave Power"
- W, 11/28** Harriet Beecher Stowe and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
Complete Stowe's book by this date.
- F, 11/30** Sectional Tensions and Political Disintegration
Henretta, ch. 13, "The End of the Second Party System..." and the rest of the chapter.
- M, 11/3** "An Irrepressible Conflict?" Northern and Southern Perspectives in 1860
Review ch. 13.
See study guide on Bb.
- W, 11/5** Secession and the Civil War
Henretta, ch. 14.
- F, 11/7** The Civil War
Review Henretta, ch. 14.

Final Exam: Wednesday, 12/12, 9 am – 12 noon. Location, TBA.