

*History Vol. 1:
United States History, from 1492-1877*

Instructor: Chris Cornelison

Location: TBA

Time: TBA

Office Location/Phone: TBA

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Office Hours: TBA

Course Description: Basic historical survey that covers growth of the early republic through the reconstruction period.

Note: Fulfills state graduation requirement for U.S. History.

Course Themes: This course is designed as an introduction to the history of the United States up to the Civil War. In this class we will examine how politics, industry, and war shaped the young nation. There will be special concentration on race relations, gender equality, and the working class throughout the early republic.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the cultural origins of the diverse American populations, with emphasis on civil, economic, and political struggles.
- Trace the development of the working class and ethnic minorities before reconstruction.
- Know the who, what, when, where, and why of the United States as an emerging nation.
- Learn to use critical thinking skills in a scholarly environment.
- Have fun!

Required Texts/Materials:

Mary Rowlandson and Horace Kephart, *The Account of Marry Rowlandson and other Indian Captivity Narratives*

Melton McLaurin, *Cecilia a Slave*

Anthony Wallace, *The Long Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*

Optional: Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History* (On Reserve)

Website for this class: www.ushistory1492.weebly.com

One film to be viewed independently (away from class) of your choosing is also required. There will be an assignment associated with the film you choose so pick one you like. A list of approved films are at the end of the syllabus.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory! I will take attendance every single day. Students are permitted three excused absences. To make an absence excused you must provide me with a doctors note or some other form of documentation. After three absences three points per additional absence will be removed from the final grade. Habitual tardy offenders will accumulate an absence per my discretion. To make an unexcused absence count as an excused one, you must complete the optional reading in Foner for the class that you missed. A typed one page response on the optional reading is due on the next day you are in class. The optional reading/excused absence exchange will only be allowed three times. To make this an easier process COME TO CLASS!

Classroom Policy: CHEATING will not be tolerated. There will be no cell phones allowed in class. This means no texting, calling, chatting, games, apps, etc. No bombs, explosives, firearms or knives either. Laptops are ok as long as they are for note taking only so no Facebook?!?!?! I know right. Baseball games are permitted as long as the Cardinals are playing. No other teams will be allowed on any portable device, especially the Cubs.

Class Participation: You are expected to participate in class. Classroom participation is 10% of your grade. Failure to participate will result in a lower grade. If only one or two people lead the discussions I will call on students randomly off the roster.

Grades: There will be two tests, a midterm and a final. Tests will consist of essay, short answer and identifications. There will be weekly reading quizzes. There will be one assignment based on the film of your choosing. There are a total of 1000 points possible in the class with the assignments broken down as followed:

- Participation- 100
- Quizzes- 300
- Midterm- 150
- Film Assignment- 200
- Final Exam- 250 (TBA)
- Total- 1000

*Note: All exams and assignments are due on the day scheduled to receive full credit. Assignments received late will be reduced one letter grade per class missed. Exams can be made up in the testing center within a week of the exam. Quizzes may not be made up. There will be eleven quizzes throughout the semester at my discretion. The questions will come directly from the required reading.

Grading Scale:

A: 90; A-:87; B+:83; B: 80; B-:77; C+:73; C: 70; C-:67; D+:63; D: 60; D-:57; F<57

**This syllabus is subject to change with little to no warning or cause.

Schedule:

Week 1: Native Americans and Europeans.



READING: *The Account of Marry Rowlandson*, p. 1-36.

QUOTE: “First, all the wars usually called conquests were and are unjust and tyrannical.”

- Bartolome Las Casas

Week 2: The Puritans and the City Upon a Hill.



READING: *The Account of Marry Rowlandson*, p. 37-80.

QUOTE: “The torture of a bad conscience is the hell of a living soul.”

- John Calvin

Week 3: Salem, a Witch Hunt.



READING: *The Account of Marry Rowlandson*, p. 81-112.

QUOTE: “That there is a Devil, is a thing doubted by none but such as are under the influences of the Devil.”

- Cotton Mather

Week 4: Virginia and the Plantation System.



READING: *Cecilia a Slave*, p. 1-68.

QUOTE: “On the question of the lawfulness of slavery, that is of the right of one man to appropriate to himself the faculties of another without his consent, I certainly retain my early opinions.”

- Thomas Jefferson

Week 5: The Road to Revolution.



READING: *Cecilia a Slave*, p. 69-125.

QUOTE: “In politics the middle way is none at all.”

- John Adams

Week 6: A New Government.



READING: *Cecilia a Slave*, p. 126-192.

QUOTE: “They that can give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

- Benjamin Franklin

MIDTERM!

Week 7: Society Transforms.

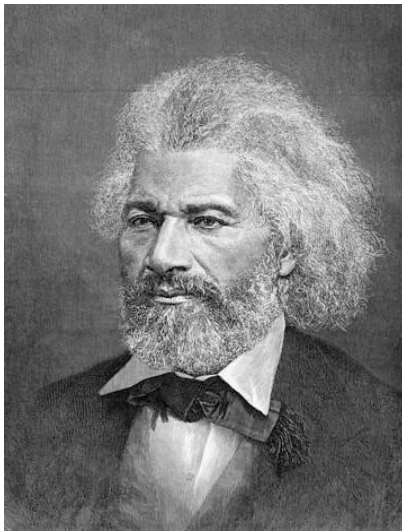


READING: *The Long Bitter Trail*, p. 1-67.

QUOTE: "America can never forget to acknowledge that they have built the longest canal in the world, in the least time, with the least experience, for the least money and the greatest public benefit."

- Jesse Hawley

Week 8: Slavery.



READING: *The Long Bitter Trail*, p. 68-111.

QUOTE: "America is false to the past, false to the present, and solemnly binds herself to be false to the future."

- Frederick Douglass

Week 9: Sectional America.

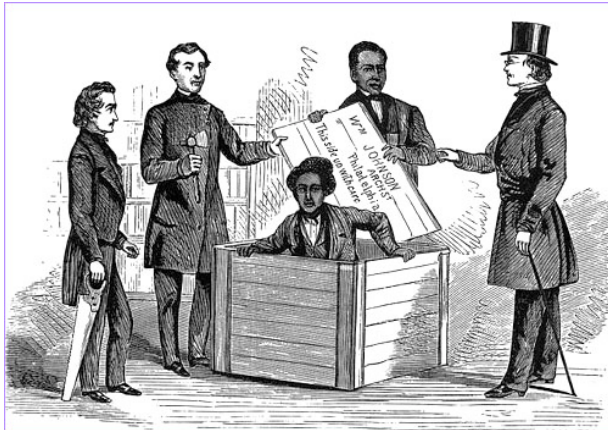


READING: *The Long Bitter Trail*, p. 112-160

QUOTE: "Let him who elevates himself above humanity, above its weaknesses, its infirmities, its wants, its necessities, say, if he pleases, I will never compromise but let no one who is not above the frailties of our common nature disdain compromises."

- Henry Clay

Week 10: Abolitionist Movement



READING: TBA

QUOTE: “Enslave the liberty of but one human being and the liberties of the world are put in peril.”

- William Lloyd Garrison

Week 11: Women’s Movement



READING: TBA

QUOTE: “The best protection a women can have is courage.”

- Elizabeth Caddy Stanton

Week 12: Westward Expansion

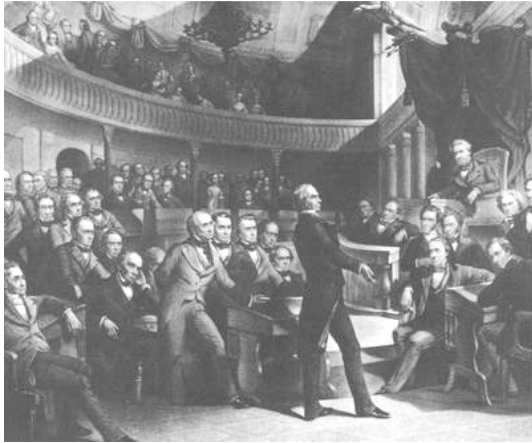


READING: TBA

QUOTE: “Our manifest destiny [is] to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions.”

- John O Sullivan

Week 13: 1850s.



READING: Bring in a copy of the *New York Times* from the previous week.

QUOTE: “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

-Abraham Lincoln

Week 14: The Civil War and Reconstruction.



READING: Bring in a copy of the *New York Times* from the previous week.

QUOTE: “A rich man’s war and a poor man’s fight.”

-Southern Slogan

*****Film Assignment Due Last Day of Class.*****

For this assignment you must provide a two to three page paper on the historical accuracy of the hollywood film *The Patriot*. You must be able to analyze and interpret THREE or more events that are portrayed in the film. You should use information from lecture to support your argument as well as comment on the accuracy or inaccuracy of the events. Some important things to consider for this film assignment are the previous popular interpretations of history we have gone over in lecture like *The Crucible* and *Pocahontas*. This exercise is intended to get you to use the critical thinking skills you obtained throughout the semester. Most of all it should be fun, so relax and enjoy the movie!

Films:

The Patriot

Amistad

Glory