

History 11
U.S. History to 1865
Forum 1
T/Th 9:30-10:45'

Fall, '96

Instructor: David Richardson
Office: HE 51 (Home Economics Building)
Office Hours: M/W/F 11:00-12:00 T/Th 11:00-12:30

Syllabus

Course Description:

History 11 traces the course of U.S. History from the time of preColumbian Europe, Africa, & America to the end of the Civil War and the period known as Reconstruction. We will follow the first efforts of the Spanish and later, English explorers through the colonial period and into the Revolutionary War. We will explore the early development of the Republic from the Constitutional Convention right up to the war between the States and the attempts at reconciliation. We will place particular emphasis on the social, political, and cultural developments of these early times and try to discover how they continue to affect us today.

Course Objectives:

Students enrolled in this course will accomplish the following objectives

- 1) Identify the characteristics of preColumbian Europe, Africa, & America and the synthesis of cultures which eventually became "American".
- 2) Describe the early attempts at colonization and understand the characteristics of life in colonial America.
- 3) Identify the problems which existed between the colonies and Great Britain and the reasons for the Revolutionary War.
- 4) Understand the impact of the war on American life and identify the characteristics of the new Republic and its government at the end of the 18th century.
- 5) Describe the events which shaped the new nation at the beginning of the 19th century and understand the regional differences which eventually led to civil war.
- 6) Identify the causes for the Civil War, the events which took place during the war, and the various plans for reconciliation after the war.

Required Text:

American History: A Survey v.I by Alan Brinkley

Course Assignments:

Your final grades will be calculated in the following manner

- 1) Examinations: There will be three examinations covering assigned readings and course lectures. Each exam is worth 100 points.
- 2) Final Exam: There will be one final exam given at the end of the semester. It will be worth 200 points. **WARNING! THE FINAL EXAM WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE!** That's why its worth twice as much.
- 3) Term Paper: There will be one term paper assigned during the semester which will be discussed in a later handout. It will be worth 100 points.
- 4) Quizzes: There may be as many as eight quizzes given during the semester. Total quiz points will equal 75 points.
- 5) Notebooks: Students will maintain a seperate notebook which will contain the class lecture notes and any homework assignments. It will be worth 25 points.
- 6) Extra Credit: There will be one opportunity for extra credit given towards the end of semester. It will be worth 25 points.
- 7) Satisfactory Progress: Students who receive extremely low grades (50% or below) on the first two quizzes and first two exams are not making satisfactory progress and are subject to being dropped.

Grading Scale:

- A- 700-630 points
- B- 629-560 points
- C- 559-490 points
- D- 489-420 points
- F- 419- 0 points

Final Drop Date:

The final drop date for this class is **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18th!** Anyone remaining in the class after that date will be assigned a letter grade. Remember! It is your responsibility to make sure you have dropped the class.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and **prompt** attendance is expected! **STUDENTS ARE LIMITED TO SIX ABSENCES FOR THE SEMESTER!** Excused absences (illness, bereavement, etc....) may be made up. To make up an absence, the student must complete a specific assignment identified by the instructor within one week of the absence. **NOTE!** There is a penalty for excessive absences. Students who have accumulated six or more unexcused absences before the final drop date will be dropped. After that date, a student will lose five points for every absence beyond the limit of six. In short, come to class, and please, be on time.

Final Comments:

It takes motivation and desire to make a successful course for both the students and the instructor. I will do my best to make this class challenging, interesting, and relevant. In return, I expect you to show some interest and to put forth your best effort. The best of luck to everyone!