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History 1301: The United States to 1865

Fall 2016

This course is a survey of U.S. history to 1865. Its major objective is to discuss the various forces that created the American Republic. Consequently, we will explore the diverse peoples-- American Indians, African Americans, Mexican Americans, and European Americans-- who forged this nation. In order to better organize the course we will engage the following themes: (1) The struggle for power among the various groups that inhabit the Americas; (2) the construction of race in the U.S.; (3) the limits of community; and, (4) contradiction in U.S. history.

Course Requirements:

There will be two exams: a midterm and a final. For both exams you must integrate material from the readings, lectures and other class presentations. You will receive the questions for both of these exams in advance. In addition to the exams there will be five pop quizzes based on the readings and lectures. Two papers based on the assigned readings will also be required. The first will be based on a historical document that will be available for you online and is due **September 15. It will be administered via Blackboard.** The midterm will take place in class on **October 13.** Paper number two will be an essay based on four themes present in the *Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglass* and will be due **November 10.** This paper will be uploaded to Safe Assign on Blackboard and a hard copy must be submitted in class. Your final exam is scheduled (as stipulated by the university) for **Tuesday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.** If you do not show up for the final exam you will fail it. **YOU WILL RECEIVE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL THE ASSIGNMENTS WELL IN ADVANCE OF WHEN THEY ARE DUE OR OCCURR.**

The papers for this class must be written using MS Word or another word processing program. If you do not have a computer, there are several places throughout campus where you can access one. **Late assignments will not be accepted**

Required Texts & Device:

Jones, Jacqueline, et al., eds. *Created Equal: A History of the United States*, Vol. 1.
 ISBN: 13: 9780134323800
 Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. ISBN: 0451526722

We will also use REEF Polling for quizzes and attendance. More on this later.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester students will know the basic contours of U.S. history, from the beginning of the peopling of the Americas to the end of the Civil War. In addition, students will be able to think in a complex manner about the causes and outcomes of key historical events and communicate this knowledge in a clear, concise, and intelligent manner both verbally and in writing. The ultimate objective of this course is to teach student to think critically about history, a skill that they will hopefully use in their other classes and in life in general.

Grade Distribution:

5 **POP** Quizzes: 2% each; Midterm Exam: 20 %; Final Exam: 20%; 1st paper: 15%; *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* paper: 20%; Attendance and Participation: 15%.

Plagiarism, Rules, Procedures:

I must remind you that academic dishonesty, including cheating on an exam or quiz, and **plagiarism** of any form, meaning presenting someone else's ideas as your own, will not be tolerated. Cutting and pasting information from a website without citing the data constitutes plagiarism. If anybody is caught committing this egregious offense she/he will be reported to the Dean of Students. To prevent you from committing plagiarism, your papers will be submitted to "Safe Assign," on Blackboard, which will check your essay to ensure you are not trying to pass someone else's work as your own.

In addition I ask that you respect your fellow students and me. If you are compelled to talk while in class—DO NOT. I find this habit annoying and just plain rude. I will not tolerate class disturbances of any kind. This means cell phones and other electronic devices are prohibited. If you do not comply with these rules I will ask you to leave the room. Finally, I must remind you that this class starts when I walk in the lecture hall; therefore you should be ready to pay attention and take notes when I start talking. **I urge you to take notes—you will not be able to remember what was said if you do not, and a good deal of the exams are based on class content.**

Please be aware that those students using laptops and other electronic devices will have to sit in the first two rows. Studies have shown that students are able to better understand the course material and lectures when they take notes by hand. Thus, I discourage the use of computers to take notes.

Learning Communities:

Many of you are in a learning community with Dr. Ann Gabbert's sections of UNIV 1301 (CRN 18027 and 12917) and Prof. Gina Lawrence's section of RWS 1301 (CRN 16903). You must remain registered in all sections of your learning community through census day (September 9). Some of our assignments will overlap and I, and the AI, will be communicating throughout the semester with Dr. Gabbert and Prof. Lawrence. The objective of the learning community is to do just that, build a community. Studies have shown that students who know each other in their courses are likely to do better in college. Take advantage of these team efforts to enhance your education.

Blackboard:

We will use Blackboard to facilitate class discussion and process assignments. Your first two essays will be turned in on line in order to safeguard against plagiarism; they will also be graded on line.

Keypad/Clicker:

We will use REEF polling to register responses in the class and also to record attendance. You can use your smart phone, tablet, or computer to access the app or website. A link to more information on the “clicker” can be found on Blackboard. You will need to register the device on Blackboard. Attendance is worth 15% of your grade. If you do not show up to class, it is likely you will not do well in it.

Checking Your E-Mail Account:

It is very important that you check your official email account (for most of you this is your @miners.utep.edu address) on a regular basis. During the semester you may receive email messages regarding your academic performance and attendance through this system. It is required that you read and respond to these email messages.

Syllabus as Contract:

This syllabus constitutes a contract between you and me. The dates might change for certain things as the semester progresses, but you must be aware of what the assignments are and when they are due.

Schedule**Week 1: August 23 & 25**

Introduction; the Indian World.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 1.

Week 2: August 30 & September 1

Europe; Spain in the New World/Columbian Exchange.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 1.

Week 3: September 6 & 8

The Clash of Cultures; England in the Americas.

Readings: Jones, Chapters 2 & 3.

Week 4: September 13 & 15

The Origins of American Slavery.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 4.

1st Paper due.

Week 5: September 20 & 24

The Great Awakening & the Seven Years' War.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 5.

Week 6: September 27 & September 29

A People in Revolution

Readings: Jones, Chapters 6 & 7; Douglass, pp. v- 35.

Week 7: October 4 & 6

The Creation of the American Republic.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 8; Douglass, pp. 36-102.

Week 8: October 11& 13

Jeffersonian Vision; Capitalism and a New Social Order.

Readings: Jones, Chapters 9; Douglass, pp. 103-124.

Midterm.

Week 9: October 18 & 20

Moving West; Removing Indians.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 10.

Week 10: October 25 & October 27

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 11.

Week 11: November 1 & 3

The Second Great Awakening; American Reformers.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 12.

Week 12: November 8 & 10

The U.S. War with Mexico.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 13.

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass paper due.

Week 13: November 15 & 17

The Crisis of the 1850s.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 13.

Week 14: November 22

Secession & The Civil War.

Readings: Jones, Chapter 14.

Week 15: November 29 & December 1

Civil War, Are we still fighting the Civil War?/Summary.

Jones, Chapter 14.

The final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 10 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

