

AMH 2010

U.S. History to 1877

Tues. and Thurs., 12:50-1:40 p.m.

Williamson 100

Dr. Tom Berson

TAs/Discussion Leaders: Craig Sorvillo, Michael Gennaro

Discussion Sections (Fridays):

2473 – Flint 113, 10:40-11:30

2876 – Flint 113, 9:35-10:25

3113 – Flint 121, 11:45-12:35

3125 – Flint 121, 12:50-1:40

3134 – CBD 210, 10:40-11:30

3140 – Flint 113, 1:55-2:45

Office Hours/contact info.:

Berson - Keene-Flint 205, Tues. and Thurs, 11-12:30. [tberson@ufl.edu](mailto:tberson@ufl.edu)

Gennaro - Grinter 493, Tues., 11:30-12:30.

Sorvillo – Keene-Flint 9, Wed., 12-1:30

### Books

Required text: *American Stories: A History of the United States*, Volume 1, Books a la Carte Edition with MyHistoryLab 3/E, H W Brands, Pearson Publishing, ISBN-10: 013379394X (Available at bookstore)

**It is important that you keep up on the assigned readings, as they supplement, not duplicate, classroom lectures.**

### Overview

This American History course covers the history of the United States from the European contact period to the end of Reconstruction. It will analyze key ideas and events in the colonization of the Americas, the development of British North America, the American Revolution, the creation of the Constitution, Manifest Destiny and the role of expansion and slavery in the onset of the Civil War, among other topics.

## Rules of the Road

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

**Cell phones are to be turned off and put away. Laptop use is restricted to note taking.** And, of course, the usual rules of university classroom etiquette apply.

Students requesting classroom accommodations for disability issues must first register with the Office of the Dean of Students. This office will provide documentation to the student who then must provide this documentation to me. We are more than willing to do whatever is necessary to ensure an optimum learning environment for all students.

Please be aware of the University's policy on plagiarism. The Internet has made this situation more problematic but understand that plagiarists do get caught. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please do not hesitate to ask. All plagiarism offenses will be reported on a Faculty Adjudication Form and forwarded to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. You may get more information on UF's Judicial Affairs process at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/>

Furthermore, UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

The Honor Code is available at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>

In addition, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically

open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### Discussion Section Readings

In addition to the text, you will have weekly additional readings of roughly 5-10 pages that will serve as the basis of your discussion sections. These will be posted on Canvas the previous week and are to be printed out and read before section. Laptops are not permitted in discussion sections, so if you want to participate, you will need paper copies of those readings.

### Assignments

Your grade for this course will be determined in the following manner

Response papers: 10 pts. total  
Midterm exams: 15 points each (30 total)  
Final Exam: 20 points  
Final Paper: 30 points  
Discussion Section participation: 10 points

### Grading

A	93-100	A-	90-92		
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	68-69	D	66-67	D-	64-65
F	<64				

Response papers (which will be explained further in a separate posting) are to be handed in (hard copy) during discussion sections. There are four of these papers, to be written at your discretion, but at least two must be submitted before Spring Break and none will be accepted after week 14. Papers submitted via email or Canvas will not be accepted without explicit prior approval from your TA/Discussion Leader. Papers of more than a page must be stapled.

## Schedule

### Week 1 (1/5)

Introduction. No Readings.

### Week 2 (1/12)

“Discovery” and Early European Conquest/Settlement  
Brands, Chapters 1 and 2

Note: Add/Drop, Late Registration and Withdrawal with No Fee Liability all end  
1/12

*College Football Championship*

### Week 3 (1/19)

Colonial Societies in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century  
Brands, Chapter 3

### Week 4 (1/26)

The Colonies Grow Up

Brands, Chapter 4

*Super Bowl February 1*

### Week 5 (2/2)

A Nation Is Born

Brands, Chapter 5

### Week 6 (2/9)

From Articles of Confederation to Constitution

Brands, Chapter 6

**First Exam Tuesday**

### Week 7 (2/16)

Partisanship in a Young Nation

Brands, Chapter 7 and 8

### Week 8 (2/23)

The Rise of Jacksonian Democracy

Brands, Chapter 9 and 10

### Week 9 (3/2) – NO CLASSES- SPRING BREAK!!!!

*Major League Baseball Spring Training Begins*

Week 10 (3/9)

Slavery in the South/Religious Revival  
Brands, Chapter 11 and 12

Week 11 (3/16)

Manifest Destiny  
Brands, Chapter 13

Week 12 (3/23)

TBD  
**Second Exam Tuesday**

Week 13 (3/30)

Toward Secession  
Brands, Chapter 14  
*College Basketball Final 4 Weekend*

Week 14 (4/6)

Civil War  
Brands, Chapter 15  
Note: April 10 is last day to Drop/Withdraw with a W

Week 15 (4/13)

Reconstruction  
Brands, Chapter 16  
*NHL Playoffs Begin*  
**Final Paper Due Tuesday**

Week 16 (4/20)

Catch Up/Review  
No Readings

Final Exam is Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. (Sorry. Not my idea.)

Note: This schedule is subject to change. Any deviation will be announced in class and on Canvas in a timely manner.