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
Gennaro - Grinter 493, Tues., 11:30-12:30.
Sorvillo – Keene-Flint 9, Wed., 12-1:30

Books


**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

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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 17th 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.