History 151
The Emerging United States to 1865
Fall, 2016
MWF: 11:00
CAS 211

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This course provides a survey of important themes in American history between Columbus's discoveries and the end of the Civil War. The lectures and readings will examine a variety of topics, including the European background to colonization; the nature of colonial society, culture, and politics; the imperial crisis culminating in the American Revolution; the creation of a new republic; alterations in thought and culture; the development of political parties; changes in American social and economic life; reform; the nature of slavery; and the Civil War.

Course Requirements:

This course requires attendance at lectures, timely reading of the assigned materials, active participation in section discussions, and the completion of a midterm examination, a short essay, and a final examination.

Required Reading:


Federalist No. 10 (BL)

Allen F. Davis and Harold D. Woodman, "History and Historians" (BL)
Readings designated as “BL” will be posted on the Boston University Blackboard Learn course website.

Students should obtain the editions of the books that have been listed above. This will ensure that everyone will be referencing the same page numbers in discussions.

Required Essay:

All students are expected to write a 4-6 page, double-spaced essay. This essay will be DUE at the beginning of the lecture meeting on NOVEMBER 21. This assignment will be described in greater detail during the section meetings.

A grade penalty of one-third of a grade per day will be applied to all late papers, except in the event of a medical emergency or comparable extenuating circumstances.

IMPORTANT: The penalties for plagiarism and other instances of academic misconduct can be—and properly should be—very severe. Students should consult the University Academic Conduct Code (www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/) if they are unsure of official standards.

All ideas, as well as quoted or closely paraphrased material within a paper, must be clearly attributed to the source from which they are taken. Students should check with Prof. Roberts and/or Ms. Grischkan in the event that they have any questions about this.

Examinations:

There will be two examinations: a MIDTERM EXAMINATION, tentatively scheduled for OCTOBER 19, and a FINAL EXAMINATION, currently scheduled for DECEMBER 16 from 12:30 to 2:30. The format for these examinations will be discussed in class.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and are responsible for all material covered in class. Attendance at the weekly section meetings is especially important. Both attendance and participation in the section meetings are required and graded.
Grading:

The course grade will be based on the following formula:

- Section Participation: 20%
- Midterm Examination: 25%
- Essay: 25%
- Final Examination: 30%

Students must complete all of the assigned written work (essay and examinations) and receive a passing grade in section participation in order to pass the course.

Reading Assignments:

The assignments should be completed before the section meeting.

Week One (Sept. 6-Sept. 9): None

Week Two (Sept. 12-Sept. 16): Oakes, chapters 1-2; Wheeler and Glover, chapters 1-2; Brown and Shannon, chapter 1; Allen F. Davis and Harold D. Woodman, “History and Historians” (BL)

Week Three (Sept. 19-Sept. 23): Oakes, chapter 3; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 3; Brown and Shannon, chapters 3-4

Week Four (Sept. 26-Sept. 30): Oakes, chapter 4; Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum, *Salem Possessed*

Week Five (Oct. 3-Oct. 7): Oakes, chapters 5-6; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 4; Brown and Shannon, chapter 5; Declaration of Independence (found in Appendix to Oakes text)

Week Six (Oct. 10 [University Holiday]-Oct. 14): Oakes, chapter 7; Brown and Shannon, chapter 6; Constitution of the United States (found in Appendix to Oakes text); Federalist No. 10 (BL)

Week Seven (Oct. 17-Oct. 21): Oakes, chapter 8; Brown and Shannon, chapter 7

Week Eight (Oct. 24-Oct. 28): Oakes, chapter 9; Wheeler and Glover, chapters 5-6
Week Nine (Oct. 31-Nov. 4): Oakes, chapter 10; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 8; Brown and Shannon, chapter 8

Week Ten (Nov. 7-Nov. 11): Oakes, chapter 11; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 7; Brown and Shannon, chapter 9

Week Eleven (Nov. 14-Nov. 18): Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (cont’d)

Week Twelve (Nov. 21-Nov. 22): Oakes, chapter 12; Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (cont’d)

[Nov. 23-Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Recess]

Week Thirteen (Nov. 28-Dec. 2): Oakes, chapter 13; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 9; Brown and Shannon, chapter 10

Week Fourteen (Dec. 5-Dec. 9): Oakes, chapter 14; Wheeler and Glover, chapter 10; Brown and Shannon, chapters 11-12

Week Fifteen (Dec. 12): None

**Conspecus of Lectures**

The lecture topics for this course rarely fit neatly into fifty-minute segments. Accordingly, students should understand that the topics listed below may be covered over more than one class session:

- Exploration and Spanish Colonization
- The English Colonization Impulse
- The Peopling of British North America
- Values and Social Structure in the Colonies
- Values and Social Change: The Case of Massachusetts Bay
- The Origin of Slavery
- The Colonial Social Structure
- Cultural Warfare in the Eighteenth Century
- Governing the Empire
- The Coming of the American Revolution
- Creating a New Polity
- The Creation of the American Republic
- The Limits of Revolutionary Ideology

- Political Life in the New Nation
- Political Life in Jeffersonian America
- The Glorification of the Self in Post-Revolutionary America
Religious Life in the New Nation
Gender Differentiation and the "Cult of Domesticity"
Economic Life in America, 1815-1860
Business and Industry in the Northeast
The Agricultural Northwest
The Old South
Slave Life in the Antebellum South
Political Culture in America, 1824-1844
Antebellum Reform
The Women’s Rights Movement in Antebellum America
American “Victorianism”
The Nativist Impulse
The Growth of Sectionalism
Expansionism and the Issue of Slavery
The Coming of the Civil War
The Civil War

NOTE: The above schedule and assignments are subject to change by the instructor.

IMPORTANT: This syllabus and all class lectures are copyrighted by Boston University and/or the instructor(s). Students who are enrolled in the course are allowed to share with other enrolled students course materials, notes, and other writings based on the course materials and lectures, but they may not do so on a commercial basis or otherwise for payment of any kind. Any sale or commercial use of notes, summaries, outlines, or other reproductions of lectures, constitutes a violation of the copyright laws and is prohibited. Selling or buying class notes, lecture notes, summaries, or similar materials not only violates copyright but also interferes with the academic mission of the University. It is therefore prohibited in this class and will be considered a violation of the student code of responsibility that is subject to academic sanctions.