

History 230: American History, 1585-1865

Fall, 2007

8:00-9:15 TTH

Professor Paula A. Treckel

Course Description:

This course examines the forces that have shaped the experiences of the American people from the age of discovery through the Civil War. The course focuses on the development of Anglo-American colonial society, the foundations of the new nation, the reforms of the Jacksonian Era, the causes of sectionalism, and the crisis of the Civil War.

Required Readings:

Text:

Norton, Mary Beth, et. al. *A People and a Nation, Vol. 1: to 1877*

Supplementary Readings:

Ambrose, Stephen. *Undaunted Courage.*

Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.*

Dublin, Thomas. *Women at Work.*

Fischer, David Hackett. *Paul Revere's Ride.*

McPherson, James. *For Cause and Comrades.*

Townshend, Camilla. *Pocahontas and the Powhatan Dilemma*

Discussion Topics and Reading Assignments:

Text:

8/3	Pre Colonial America	Begin Townshend	Chptr. 1
9/4	The Age of Discovery		Chptr. 2
9/6	The Lost Colony		
9/11	Jamestown	Finish Townshend	
9/13	Pilgrims and Puritans	Begin Fischer.	Chptr. 3
9/18	The Great Awakening		Chptr. 4
9/20	England's War for Empire and America		
9/25	The Origins of Revolution		Chptr. 5
9/27	The Minutemen's World	Finish Fischer.	Chptr. 6
10/2	Exam #1		
10/4	From Confederation to Constitution	Begin Ambrose.	Chptr. 7
10/9	Partisan Strife		Chptr. 8
10/11	Jefferson's America		Chptr. 9
10/16	Fall break—no class.		
10/18	"With Courage Undaunted"	Finish Ambrose.	
10/25	The New Nation	Begin Dublin.	
10/30	Times of Strife		Chptr. 10
11/1	Heavens on Earth		
11/6	Women and Work at Lowell	Finish Dublin.	
11/8	Exam #2		
11/13	The Age of Reform	Begin Douglass.	Chptr. 11
11/15	Slavery in America		Chptr. 12
11/20	The Abolitionists		Chptr. 13
11/22	Thanksgiving Break---no class.		
11/27	Frederick Douglass	Finish Douglass.	Chptr. 14
11/29	The Causes of the Civil War	Begin McPherson. (Film Reviews due)	
12/4	Lincoln and the Crisis of Union		
12/6	The Civil War		Chptr. 15
12/11	"For Cause and Comrades"	Finish McPherson.	

12/17 Final Exam 2:00pm

Course Requirements:

You are required to attend all classes, read all assigned works, participate in class discussions, and take both midterms and the final exam. Attendance will be taken in this course. Students with more than *two* unexcused absences will have their final grade penalized.

Each midterm exam in this course is worth **25%** of your final grade.

You are required to write one paper, 8-10 pages in length, with footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography conforming to Department of History style. This paper is a review and analysis of the historical accuracy of a film that depicts some aspect of American history covering the period of this course. Your film is to be selected from the list provided. If you choose to review a film NOT included on this list, you must receive Professor Treckel's approval of the film. This paper is worth **25%** of your final grade. It is due, in class, on **11/29**. No late papers will be accepted.

The final exam is worth **25%** of your final grade.

Office Hours:

Arter 203

M 1:00-3:00

T 9:30-12:00

W 8:00-11:00

& by appointment

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History 230
Film Review Assignment

You are required to write an 8-10 page review of a feature film set in pre-Civil War America. Below please find an “approved” list of films. If you choose to review a film that is not on this list, you must first seek Professor Treckel’s approval of your film.

Review should summarize the plot of the film, but the majority of your paper should be an assessment of the historical accuracy of the film. Is the story an historically accurate portrait of the people, events depicted? Are the sets, costumes, behaviors portrayed reflective of the times? In order to assess the film, you must do research on the time period, events and people portrayed in the film you have chosen. You must use at least **five** historical articles or monographs for your paper. You must footnote/endnote these sources using *The Chicago Manual of Style* and you must include a Bibliography.

1492

Apocalypto

Glory

Pocahontas

The New World

Amistead

Gone with the Wind

The Patriot

Revolution

1776

The Scarlet Letter

The Crucible

The Last of the Mohicans

Gangs of New York

The Black Robe

The Mission

Little Women

Gods and Generals

Gettysburg