

History 324: Life in Colonial America

Prof. Paula A. Treckel

Spring 2008

MW 1:30-2:45

Course Description and Learning Outcomes:

This course explores the development of Anglo-American society and culture in North America. The transfer of English ideas and institutions to the new world, the conflicts between Native, European and African cultures, the development of distinctive social, economic, and political differences in the colonies, the role of religion in the shaping of colonial settlement, and the emergence of an American identity are studied.

Students enrolled in this course will:

- Understand key themes shaping the development of Anglo-American society and culture from 1585 to the 1760s.
- Identify and be able to articulate historians' interpretations of major events during the colonial period of American history.
- Conduct research about some aspect of early American history.
- Develop their own arguments about key ideas or major events during the colonial period of America's past.

Required Readings:

Demos, John. *The Unredeemed Captive*.

Edwards, Jonathan. "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (handout)

Franklin, Benjamin. *The Autobiography*.

Kupperman, Karen. *Indians and English*.

Noel-Hume, Ivor. *Martin's Hundred*.

Ulrich, Laurel T. *Goodwives*.

Wood, Peter. *Black Majority*.

Discussion Topics and Reading Assignments:

1/16	Vexed and Troubled Englishmen	Begin Kupperman.
1/21	England and the New World	
1/23	Indians and English	Finish Kupperman.
1/28	Elizabethan Imperialism	Begin Noel-Hume.
1/30	Roanoke	
2/4	Virginia	
2/6	Martin's Hundred	Finish Noel-Hume.
2/11	Exam #1	
2/13	Pilgrims and Puritans	Begin Ulrich.
2/18	Family Life in Puritan New England	
2/20	An Ordered Society	
2/25	Good wives and Good men	Finish Ulrich
2/27	Witchcraft	Begin Demos.
3/3	Wayward Puritans	
3/5	Imperial Warfare	
3/10	Unredeemed Captives	Finish Demos
3/12	Exam #2	
3/17	Spring Break	
3/19	Spring Break	
3/24	Servitude and Status in Early America	Begin Wood.
3/26	Yeoman Farmers	
3/31	Great Planters in the Chesapeake	
4/2	Carolina	
4/7	Rice and Slaves	
4/9	Black Majority	Finish Wood.

4/14 Colonial Commerce and the World (**papers due**) Begin Franklin.
4/16 The Great Awakening Edwards
4/21 From Puritans to Yankees
4/23 Inventing Americans
4/28 Franklin: An American Character? Finish Franklin.

5/5 Take-Home Final Exam due by **12:00 noon, Arter 202.**

Course Requirements:

You are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will be taken. Students with more than **two** unexcused absences will have their final grade penalized.

You are expected to read all assigned books and articles, and participate in class discussions. All students are expected to facilitate discussion of an assigned book during the term. Your role in this discussion will be evaluated as part of your class participation grade. Class participation is worth **1/5** of your final grade in the course.

All students are expected to write a 12-15 page research paper on some aspect of early American history that interests them. This paper is due in class on **4/14** and is worth **1/5** of your final grade in the course. **No** late papers will be accepted.

You are required to take two in-class exams and the Take Home Final Exam. Each exam, including the Final, is worth **1/5** of your final grade in the course.

The Final Exam is due by **noon on Monday, May 5, 2008, in Arter 202.**

Office Hours:

203 Arter Hall
MW 10:00-12:00
TTH 8:00-11:00
& by appointment

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