

United States History to 1865

History 211 Section 01

MWF 9-9:50am

MHRA Room 1215

“History is not about the past; it is about arguments we have about the past. And because it is about arguments that we have, it is about us.”

-Ira Berlin

Instructor: Mr. Ethan Roy

Office: MHRA 2102

Email: esroy@uncg.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays 10am-1pm

Or by Appointment

History Department Links:

<https://his.uncg.edu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/UNCGDepartmentofHistory/>

Course Description

For many years, historians focused on statesmen and other great men as the sole agents of change in American history. This course shifts focus to ordinary Americans and their efforts to shape their own history and the history of their nation. The goals of this course are to introduce students to the controversies, trends, events, and actors in the first half of American history and to familiarize students with the analytical skills employed in the study of history. In addition, students will learn to value lifelong learning and engagement with history, to understand causation, and to see the past and present as a continuum.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

SLO #1: Historical Comprehension. Analyze historical duration, succession, and change in terms of human agency and larger systems or structures.

SLO #2: Historical Analysis. Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view.

Required Reading Materials:

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History*, Seagull Fifth Edition, Volume 1. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2017. (available at the college bookstore)

Assessment:

Attendance/Participation – 15% Quizzes – 25% 4 Unit Exams – 60% (15% each)

Grading Scale:

A 100-93 A- 92-90. B+ 89-87 B 86-83 B- 82-80. C+ 79-77 C 76-73 C- 72-70.
D+ 69-67 D 66-63 D- 62-60. F = 59 and below

Course Policies

Attendance: In order to succeed in this class you will need to be present. Thus, attendance is mandatory. Each student is allowed three absences. **After three unexcused absences, students will receive a zero for participation for that day.** I will excuse absences with a doctor's note or legitimate documentation of other emergencies but please let me know ASAP! Students may be dropped from the class for excessive absences.

Electronic Devices: The only electronic devices allowed in class are laptops used to take notes and access readings. Tablets, cellphones, or any other electronic devices are prohibited. You will be asked to leave class and receive a zero for participation for that day if you are caught after one warning. If you need to have your phone available for emergency purposes during class please let me know before class begins.

E-mail: E-mail is the best way to reach me. I will always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response within 48 hours, you should assume that I did not receive your message and try again.

Canvas: Canvas will be used to post grades and will be where I will post any class announcements. Make sure you check Canvas on a regular basis for such announcements.

Plagiarism: All students are expected to abide by the university's Academic Integrity Policy. Please visit the following link: Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

! Students who violate this policy not only disrespect themselves, their classmates, and this university, but also risk receiving a grade of F on an assignment, an F for the course, or being expelled from the university.

When you commit plagiarism, you hurt yourself and the community in the following ways:

1. You deny yourself the opportunity to learn and practice skills that may be needed in your future careers. You also deny yourself to opportunity to receive honest feedback on how to improve your skills and performance.
2. You invite future employers and faculty to question your integrity and performance in general.
3. You commit fraud on faculty who are evaluating your work.
4. You deprive another author due credit for his or her work.

5. You show disrespect for your peers who have done their own work.

Resources for Students with Disabilities: Students with recognized disabilities should register with the Office of Accessibility Resources & Services (OARS). OARS is located on the second floor of the Elliott University Center (EUC) in Suite 215 and maintains a webpage at <http://ods.uncg.edu/>. The mission of OARS is to provide, coordinate, and advocate for services which enable undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities to receive equal access to a college education and to all aspects of university life. Please present me with the proper paperwork from the university documenting such cases.

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Dean of Students (<http://sa.uncg.edu/dean/support/>; tel: 45514): Supports and advocates for students in crisis, including those with family emergencies, extended illness, trauma, etc.

Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (<http://ods.uncg.edu/>; tel: 45440): Students who have documented disabilities that require accommodation should register with OARS and bring in the required paperwork during the first week of class. No accommodations can be made without paperwork from OARS.

Office of Information Technology (<http://its.uncg.edu/>; tel: 6-TECH): Your source for all tech problems, including computer malfunctions, issues with Blackboard, etc. We cannot help you with these!

Course Requirements and Grading

Participation: You must take notes during class lectures and be attentive and awake during class. Appearing to be sleeping in class will cause you to be marked “absent.” Cell phones must be silenced and stored away. Make sure you speak up during discussion and participate in group work. Your participation grade will be based on the overall quality of your contributions in class—not the quantity of contributions you make. ALL respectful contributions are welcome and encouraged! **Participation is 15 percent of your grade.** (SLO 1, 2)

Quizzes/Primary Source Analysis: Students will have quizzes most Fridays (Noted on the course schedule). These quizzes will be short answer questions and/or primary source analysis. Quizzes will be administered during the first 10 minutes of class and are noted on the course schedule. I will drop each students 3 lowest quiz grades and the remaining quizzes will constitute 25% of your grade. (SLO 1, 2)

Exams: There are 4 unit exams in this course and each is worth 15% of you grade (60% total). Exams will be made up of a combination of short answer questions and essay questions. Unit exams will build upon one another and students will be asked to connect themes and events throughout different units. Students will have the whole class period to complete each exam. (SLO 1, 2)

Course Schedule:

Unit 1: The Colonial Era

Week 1: Introductions and A New World

Reading - Foner, Chapter 1

Wednesday Aug. 15 – Introductions, What is history? Why study history?

Friday Aug. 17 – A New World, Syllabus and Chapter 1 Quiz

Week 2: Beginnings of English America, 1607-1660

Reading – Foner, Chapter 2

Monday Aug. 20 – England and the New World

Wednesday Aug. 22 – The Chesapeake

Friday Aug. 24 – New England and Chapter 2 Quiz

Week 3: Creating Anglo-America 1660-1750

Reading – Foner, Chapter 3

Monday Aug. 27 – Origins of American Slavery

Wednesday Aug. 29 – The Growth of Colonial America

Friday Aug. 31 – Social Classes in the Colonies and Chapter 3 Quiz

Week 4 – Slavery, Freedom, and the Struggle for Empire to 1763

Reading – Foner, Chapter 4

Monday Sept. 3 – Labor Day (No Class)

Wednesday Sept. 5 – Slavery and Empire

Friday Sept. 7 – Unit 1 Exam

Unit 2: The Revolutionary Era

Week 5: The American Revolution, 1763-1783

Reading – Foner, Chapter 5

Monday Sept. 10 – The Crisis Begins

Wednesday Sept. 12 – The Coming of Independence

Friday Sept. 14 – Securing Independence and Chapter 5 Quiz

Week 6: The Revolution Within

Reading – Foner, Chapter 6

Monday Sept. 17 – The Limits of Liberty

Wednesday Sept. 19 – Slavery and the Revolution

Friday – Sept. 21 – Daughters of Liberty and Chapter 6 Quiz

Week 7: Founding A Nation, 1783-1791

Reading – Foner, Chapter 7

Monday Sept. 24 – America Under the Confederation

Wednesday Sept. 26 – A New Constitution

Friday Sept. 28 – “We The People” and Chapter 7 Quiz

Week 8: Securing the Republic, 1791-1815

Reading – Foner, Chapter 8

Monday October 1 – Politics in an Age of Passion and Adams Presidency

Wednesday October 3 – Jefferson in Power and “The Second War of Independence”

Friday October 5 – Exam 2

Unit 3: The Early Republic**Week 9: The Market Revolution, 1800-1840**

Reading – Foner, Chapter 9

Monday October 8 – No Class (Fall Break)

Wednesday October 10 – A New Economy

Friday October 12 – The Limits of Prosperity and Chapter 9 Quiz

Week 10: Democracy in America, 1815-1840

Reading – Foner, Chapter 10

Monday October 15 – The Triumph of Democracy

Wednesday October 17 – Nationalism and Its Discontents

Friday October 19 – The Age of Jackson and Chapter 10 Quiz

Week 11: The Peculiar Institution

Reading – Foner, Chapter 11

Monday October 22 – The Old South

Wednesday October 25 – Life Under Slavery

Friday October 27 – Slave Culture and Resistance to Slavery and Chapter 11 Quiz

Week 12: An Age of Reform, 1820-1840

Reading – Foner, Chapter 12

Monday October 29 – The Reform Impulse

Wednesday October 31 – Black and White Abolitionism

Friday November 2 – Exam 3

Unit 4: The Civil War Era

Week 13: A House Divided, 1840-1861

Reading – Foner, Chapter 13

Monday November 5 – Manifest Destiny

Wednesday November 7 – The Rise of the Republican Party

Friday November 9 – Impending Crisis and Chapter 13 Quiz

Week 14: A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War, 1861-1865

Reading – Foner, Chapter 14

Monday November 12 – The Coming of Emancipation

Wednesday November 14 – The Second American Revolution

Friday November 16 – The Confederate Nation (No Quiz)

Week 14: Civil War Continued

Review Foner, Chapter 14

Monday November 19 – Rehearsals for Reconstruction and the End of the War and Chapter 14 Quiz

Wednesday November 21 – No Class (Thanksgiving Break)

Friday November 23 – No Class (Thanksgiving Break)

Week 15: Review/Discussion

Reading – Review Foner, Chapters 11-14

Monday November 26 – Review/Questions/Discussion

Wednesday November 28 – Exam 4

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY BREAK!!