

History 211-03  
Spring 2004  
Petty 219

Laurinda de Beck  
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Hours: MWF 9-10;TR 8:30-9:15  
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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the history of the United States from the first English settlement at Jamestown in 1607 through the Civil War. We will seek to understand the events of our early history in terms of individual decisions and the forces that shaped them, creating a unique American culture.

1. Required text: Alan Brinkley, American History, A Survey. Vol. I, to 1877. In your reading assignments, the chapters cited refer to the Brinkley text. We will spend approximately 2 classes on each chapter. It is very important for you to read your text BEFORE coming to class, a half chapter before each class.
  2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. (You are held responsible for material presented in lectures, which may not appear in your text.) With 5 unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, contact me within 48 hours of your absence. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to be in class.
  3. Research projects/student presentations: Some topics in America's social history deserve to have more time spent on them than your text can give. So each student will be asked to do some research on one of these and make an oral report to the class. Topics and instructions are listed separately.
  4. Tests and grades: There will be two one- hour tests and a final exam. You will be given study guides for each. The tests are each 20% of your final grade, your research and report is 20%, and the exam is 40%.
  5. This class follows a lecture format. You should take notes as you listen, and feel free to ask questions or contribute your comments at any time.
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#### CLASS SCHEDULE

- 1/13 Introduction  
1/15 Ch.1 Europeans, Native Americans and Africans: when worlds collide  
1/20 Ch.1 Why the English came  
1/22 Ch.2 The Chesapeake colonies  
1/27 Ch.2 New England; Restoration colonies  
1/29 Ch.3 Colonial life  
\*2/3 Ch.3 Colonial economies; the First Great Awakening: Reports on Puritan New England  
2/5 Ch.4 Struggle for the continent  
\*2/10 Ch.4 Revolt flares; Reports on the American Revolution  
2/12 Ch.5 The American Revolution  
2/17 Ch.5 War and society; state governments  
2/19 TEST  
2/24 Ch.6 The Constitution of 1787  
2/26 Ch.6 The Federalists in power

\*3/2 Ch.7 The Jeffersonian era; Jefferson as president; reports on indentured servants  
3/4 Ch.7 Madison; the War of 1812

#### SPRING BREAK

3/16 Ch.8 American nationalism; Panic of 1819

3/18 Ch.8 Missouri compromise; the “Corrupt Bargain”

3/23 Ch.9 Mass politics; nullification crisis; Indian removal

\*3/25 Ch.9 The Bank War; Van Buren; reports on Indian Removal

3/30 Ch.10 America's economic revolution

\*4/1 Ch.10 Cult of Domesticity; social life; reports on immigration and nativism

4/6 TEST

\*4/8 Ch.11 The Old South; reports on reform movements

\*4/13 Ch.11 American slavery; reports on American slavery

4/15 Ch.12 Read whole chapter

\*4/20 Ch.13 Manifest Destiny; sectionalism intensifies; reports on the way West.

\*4/22 Ch.13 Crisis of the 1850s; reports on the Civil War

4/27 Ch.14 The Civil War

4/29 Ch.14 The Civil War

EXAM: 5/11 at 12 noon