

HISTORY 217

Course syllabus
T/TR 11:25-12:40
Off. Hrs, T/TR 10:00-11:00;
Mon. 9:00-10:00; or by appt.

Dr. McKnight
Fall '99

Texts for the course: Burner, Bernard, & Kutler, *Firsthand America*, (5th edition); Stephen Oates, *Fires of Jubilee: Nat Turner's Fiery Rebellion*; and Stephen Oates, *The Approaching Fury*.

Purposes and Performance: History 217 is designed to examine some of the major themes in early American history: colonial beginnings, paths toward the War for Independence; the political, economic and cultural developments of the new nation; continental expansionism and white racism; the origins and consequences of sectionalism and nationalism; and the Civil War that brought about a new birth of freedom.

Grades and all that: Grades in History 217 will be arrived at roughly in the following manner:

Three scheduled hourly exams. . . . 300 points.
Final exam. . . . 100 points.
One assigned book report. . . . 100 points
One unassigned 100 points.

The instructor believes there is no substitute for class discussion. A lively and informed contribution to class discussion will definitely be factored into the final grade.

Policy statement: You are expected to take all exams and turn in all assigned written work on the dates as they appear in the course syllabus. If an emergency arises you must notify the instructor before the scheduled time of the exam or other written assigned work. The instructor reserves the right to determine the nature of the make-up or whether he will grade down the missing or late assignment.

You are permitted two unexcused absences in this course. More than two and the instructor reserves the right to penalize your final grade. All absences that are not accompanied by a medical or administrative excuse are counted as unexcused.

Also: See separate handout on plagiarism.

August 31. . . . Orientation/ Invasion of the Americas. . . .

September 2nd Struggle for Survival/ New England Colonies. . . .

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Readings: Do a quick overview of Text, Chapter 1 and read Points of View (hereafter cited as POV) "Columbus----The Conqueror of Paradise?" ✓

September 7th . . . Puritan New England . ✓ . .

Readings: Text, Chapter 2, pp. 44-57

September 9th . . . Structure of Empire/ Indian and White Culture of War . . . ✓

Readings: Text, Chapter 2, pp. 57-67; read also POV, "Cultural Influences on Early Colonies" ✓

September 14th . . . ^{14th} Text, Chapter 3, pp. 71-77; chart on colonial population on p. 81; and pp. 83-89, 95-100; read also POV, "The Devil in the Shape of Woman?"

September 16th . . . FIRST HOURLY EXAM. (bummer)

September 21st . . . Colonies in Revolt

Readings: Text, Chapter 4. See handout to structure reading & understanding; Also read the Declaration of Independence in Appendixes, pp. IV-V. Questions for this assigned in class.

September 23rd . . . How Revolutionary Was the Revolution?

Begin with POV "Why Did the Colonies Rebel?" (pp. 144-15) ; read also Text, chapter 5, pp. 142-166.

September 28th . . . Government Under the Articles/Constitution-Making

Readings: Text, Chapter 5 and Chapter 6, pp. 166-191

Class: Read the following Articles in the Constitution in Appendixes for the language when it came to the question of slavery and the status of slaves: Article I, section 2; Article I, section 9; Article IV, section 4.

September 30th . . . Washington & Federalists/ Crisis of the 1790s

Readings: Text, Chapter 6, pp. 191—211

October 5th . . . Jefferson & Madison Republicanism. . . .

October 7th . . . Jeffersonian/Madisonian Republicanism

Readings: Text, Chapter 7, pp. 215-232 (Instructor's note: do a quick review of the rest of the chapter on War of 1812. Instructor will do a quick review of material covered from pp. 232-247 in class.)

October 12th ¹⁹ **SECOND HOURLY EXAM**

-----Midterm Break------(T hank God)-----

October 19th Nationalism/Sectionalism: Tensions Within the Republic. . . .

Readings: Text, Chapter 9 (We are skipping Chpt. 8. Instructor will develop main points in Chapter 8 in class.); read also: Stephen Oates, The Approaching Fury (hereafter cited as TAF, pp. 1-21.

October 21th Jacksonian America

Readings: Text, Chapter 10 (with emphasis on the nullification crisis and "The Trail of Tears".)

Class: Excerpts from "The West---The Trail of Tears"

October 26th Revivalism and Reform.

Readings: Text, Chapter 11

October 28th Stephen Oates' *Fires of Jubilee* due in class

November 2nd All On Fire: Antislavery Movements

Readings: Text, Chapter 12, pp. 390-395; read also, TAF, 22-55.

November 4th Manifest Destiny and Expansionism

Readings: Text, Chapter 12; read also TAF, pp. 55-70

November 9th Compromise of 1850----The Last Reprieve. . . .

Readings: Text, Chapter 13, pp. 409-421; read also TAF, 77-94

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November 11th **THIRD HOURLY EXAM.**

November 16th Crisis of the 1850s (Part I)

Readings: Text, Chapter 13, pp. 422-430; read also TAF, 97-128

November 18th Crisis of the 1850s (Part II)

Readings: Text, Chapter 13, pp. 422-434; read also TAF, 156-194

Instructor's note: Unassigned book reports are due in class no later than November 30th.

November 23rd The Emergence of Lincoln.

Thanksgiving Break-----

November 29th And the War Came

December 2nd War and Emancipation

December 6th Turning Points---Gettysburg and The Election of 1864.

December 8th Why the North Won the Civil War/Review for Final.

December 8th Wrap Up and Review.

Miss' P11 *McPherson* *Rebel*

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November 11th Crisis of the 1850s (Part I).

November 16th **THIRD HOURLY EXAM**

November 18th Crisis of the 1850s (Part II)

Readings: Text, Chapter 13, pp. 422-434; read also TAF, 156-194

Instructor's note: Unassigned book reports are due in class no later than November 30th.

November 23rd The Emergence of Lincoln

Readings: Text, Chapter 13, pp. 434-439; read also TAF, pp. 236-259, 269-272.

November 30th And the War Came

Readings: Text, Chapter 14, pp. 443-450; read also TAF, pp. 347-379, 389-416.

December 2nd War and Emancipation

Readings: Text, Chapter 14, pp. 458-460; read also POV, "Who Freed the
Slaves"
(McPherson and Belin).

Not

December 7th Turning Points---Gettysburg and the Election of 1864.

Readings: Text, Chapter 14, pp. 469-477

December 9th Review for final exam

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