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HISTORY 16

US HISTORY TO 1877

History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days.

--Winston Churchill

ASSIGNED TEXT

Any US history text book will work. The truth, of course, is they are all the same so far as the basic facts go. The only difference is in the interpretation. You do want to make sure that the book you choose covers the time period of this course, that is US History from the beginning to 1877. If you are in any doubt, I have made available a good book for this course at the Saddleback bookstore.

CLASS GUIDELINES

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a professional environment. Routine tardiness and misbehavior will not be tolerated. No eating is permitted during class. During lectures students are expected to listen and take notes for their own benefit. Reading during the lecture (even of the textbook) is prohibited. Only students registered in the course are permitted in the classroom during the lecture. If you wish to bring a guest, you must clear this in advance with the instructor. No small children will be permitted in the classroom. The use of unauthorized recording devices is strictly prohibited! Students wishing to use such items must have a medically documented excuse. I reserve the right to make the final decision in such cases. Students in possession of portable electronic devices that may disrupt the class are expected to exercise courtesy and good judgment.

GRADES

Grades will be based on three equally-weighted, non-cumulative exams worth 100 points each, one oral presentation worth up to 50 points and one argumentative research paper worth up to 50 points for a total of 400 points possible in the class. ***There is NO extra credit, ever!!!***

Grade Scale: 360-400 points = A
240-279 points = D

320-359 points = B
0-239 points = F

280-319 points = C

ASSIGNMENTS

EXAMS: Each exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions worth 2 points each. Each question will have five possible answers. There will be no matching or true/false questions. You will not be asked to identify any dates on the exams. On Exam days you must bring to class one Scantron 882 answer form. Each exam is non-cumulative and will be based only on the material covered in the respective unit of the course.

ORAL REPORTS: Each student must give a five-minute presentation on one of the Study Terms listed on this syllabus. The class will be divided into three groups. A sign-up sheet will be provided for you to choose from the terms assigned to your group. Oral presentations will take place during the first half of class on exam days. Thus, your reports will form part of the final review for the entire class before an exam. Oral reports will be worth up to 50 points.

TERM PAPERS: Each student must write a five (5) page, argumentative paper based on one of the five propositions given below. You must take up a position for or against the stated proposition. You must use *at least three (3)* reference sources that are properly cited in your paper using either the MLA or Chicago Manual of Style format (See handout.) At least one reference must be from a printed source, and at least one reference must be from an internet site. The paper must be double spaced and printed in an easily legible 12 point font with standard one inch margins all around. **DO NOT** skip extra lines between paragraphs. At the top of the first page print your name, the name of the class and the date of submission. The title of your paper should state your argument. Number each page starting on page two. Term papers are worth up to 50 points. Your papers will be graded on the quality of your work and your ability to meet the above criteria. You will *not* be graded down because I might disagree with your argument. This is an academic exercise to develop your abilities to do research and make arguments.

Possible Propositions: (Select one)

1. The colonial settlement and westward expansion of the United States *could/could not* have avoided conflict with Native Americans.
2. The Constitution *was/was not* the logical fulfillment of the American Revolution.
3. The Great Awakening *did/did not* shape the moral values of the country.
4. The Women's Rights movement in the pre-Civil War era *could/could not* have accomplished more than it did.
5. The Civil War *was/was not* inevitable.
6. The permanent establishment of full civil rights for former slaves *was/was not* possible during the Reconstruction era.

MAKE-UP EXAMS

You will be allowed to make up ONE of the two mid-term exams if you miss an exam due to a reasonable excuse acceptable to the instructor. There is NO make-up for the final exam. If you have a legitimate, reasonable excuse for missing the final exam (and it had better be good!), you will be assigned a grade for the missed exam equivalent to ten points lower than the lowest of your two mid-term exam scores. This grade will then be averaged with your other scores to determine your final course grade.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The goal of this class is to enhance your knowledge of American history. As a result, you should gain a better perspective on the world in which we live and how our society got to be the way it is. Such knowledge should enable you to make more informed decisions as a member of this society. Additionally, you should be able:

1. To understand holistically the origins and historical development of American civilization within a global context.
2. To describe and analyze critically the reciprocal influence of Western and non-Western institutions, values and ideas in American history.
3. To recognize the forces that contributed to the particular development of diverse societies that shaped present American culture.
4. To recognize and understand the contribution of ethnic and gender groups to past and present states of American society in contexts of accommodation and resistance.
5. To understand and describe critically major political, economic, intellectual and cultural themes recurring throughout American history.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

Group One Oral Reports and Exam I:	Thursday, 5 June
Group Two Oral Reports and Exam II:	Thursday, 19 June
Last day to turn in Term Papers:	Tuesday, 24 June
Group Three Oral Reports and Exam III:	Thursday, 3 July

COURSE OUTLINE & ATTENDANCE

This outline represents the order in which material will be covered in lecture. This schedule may be altered during the course of events which is why it is important for you to attend class in order to know what material will be covered on each exam. Accordingly, attendance will be taken at each class meeting. You will be allowed up to three (3) absences. More than three absences may result in a reduction of your course grade unless you can demonstrate legitimate, extenuating circumstances. For each exam you will be responsible for ALL material covered during the lecture and on the list of Study Terms.

Unit One: Birth of a Nation (Colonial origins – 1783)

- Pre-Columbian Civilizations
- Spanish Exploration
- English Settlement
- Colonial life & culture
- American Revolution

Unit Two: Early Republic (1783 – 1841)

- Confederation Era
- Constitutional Convention
- Federalist Era
- Jeffersonian Era
- Era of Good Feelings
- Jacksonian Era
- Commercial Development
- Industrial Revolution
- Life & Culture in the Early Republic
- The Great Awakening

Unit Three: Civil War Era (1841 – 1877)

- The Old South
- Manifest Destiny
- Mexican-American War
- A House Divided
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction

STUDY TERMS & POSSIBLE TERMS FOR ORAL REPORTS

Knowledge of the following may prove useful for the exams.

EXAM ONE

Adena peoples	Mississippian culture	Pueblo-Hohokam culture
Norsemen	Columbus	Conquistadors
Columbian Exchange	Bartolome de las Casas	Roanoke
Jamestown	tobacco	Pilgrims
Puritans	Anne Hutchinson	Salem Witch Trials
Quakers	First Great Awakening	Navigation Acts
French & Indian War	Slave Trade	King George III
George Washington	John Adams	Benjamin Franklin
Boston Massacre	Boston Tea Party	Lexington & Concord
Continental Congress	<i>Common Sense</i>	Yorktown

EXAM TWO

Articles of Confederation	Land Ordinance of 1785	Northwest Ordinance
Shay's Rebellion	Constitutional Convention	<i>The Federalist</i>
Alexander Hamilton	Whiskey Rebellion	Jeffersonian Republicans
XYZ Affair	Quasi War	Alien & Sedition Acts
<i>Marbury v Madison</i>	Louisiana Purchase	Louis & Clark Expedition
Aaron Burr	War of 1812	Bank of the United States
Era of Good Feelings	Missouri Compromise	<i>McCulluch v. Maryland</i>
Monroe Doctrine	Nullification Crisis	Trail of Tears
Specie Circular	Whig Party	Panic of 1837
Cotton Gin	Erie Canal	Lowell System
Know-Nothing Party	Burned-Over District	Dorothea Dix
Seneca Falls Convention	Shakers	Oneida Community

EXAM THREE

Poor White Trash	Plantation Slavery	Nat Turner Rebellion
William Lloyd Garrison	Frederick Douglass	Harriet Tubman
Sojourner Truth	Manifest Destiny	California Mission Trail
The Alamo	Mexican-American War	Wilmot Proviso
Compromise of 1850	Stephen A. Douglas	Kansas-Nebraska Act
Dred Scott Decision	John Brown	Anaconda Plan
Emancipation Proclamation	Thirteenth Amendment	Clara Barton
Ulysses S. Grant	Ford's Theater	Radical Republicans
Freedmen's Bureau	Fourteenth Amendment	Compromise of 1877