History of the United States, HST201
Course Syllabus, Fall, 2002

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Texts:
The American Journey, Brief, 2nd Edition by Goldfield, et.al.
Founding Brothers by Joseph Ellis
The Cherokee Removal edited by Perdue and Green

Description: This course is about the making of the American movement for independence and once achieved, the struggle to design and develop a society that would embody the aspirations and values of those who supported American independence. Students will focus on the development and impact of European mercantilism and imperialism on the “New World,” the nature and evolution of the colonial systems in the “New World,” and the crisis in the British colonial system in North America which stimulated the American revolution. The second half of the quarter will concentrate on the early stages of the nation-building process including the political, economic, and cultural struggles to bring the “First New Nation” into existence.

Methods of Instruction: This is an introductory college class. I do not assume that you have prior knowledge of the political, social, cultural and economic development of the United States. I start with the assumption that you are curious about how our nation came into existence and an appetite for knowledge and insight into the origins of your way of life and your “people.” A variety of methods will be used to explore our topics---debates, reading and analysis, discussions, lectures, videos, internet projects, essays and editorials. A variety of materials will be used as well-----texts, documents, artifacts, on-line readings and resources. You should be prepared to take notes and to participate actively during class time. I will play the roles of advisor, cheerleader, coach, evaluator, and information source----------------------but not sooth-sayer.

Methods of Evaluation: You will be evaluated on the basis of attendance, regular quizzes, a writing exercise, two archival/activity projects, and two take-home exams, Grades will be calculated as follows:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 take-home quizzes</td>
<td>@ 15 points each = 90 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 history projects</td>
<td>@ 25 points each = 50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 editorial</td>
<td>@ 30 points = 30 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 take-home exams</td>
<td>@ 50 points each = 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 in-class quizzes</td>
<td>@ 5 points each = 30 points</td>
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300 total points-------------------------A = 90%, B = 80%, C = 70%, D = 60%

Bonus Points: I will check attendance randomly three times this quarter. Each check is worth five bonus points. Additional bonus points will be available on take-home assignments.
**Late Assignments:** All of the written assignments are take-homes. They should be turned in on time. I will not accept papers that are more than three (3) class meetings late. Within this time-frame, late papers will lose 40% of their value. I will try to return on-time papers within two class meetings. For late papers, I make no promises. If your attendance is good and your papers on time, you may re-write papers to improve your grade. Of course, there will be no penalty if you are late due to circumstances beyond your control.

**Remember:** It is important that you do the reading as assigned and on time. You will fall behind quickly if you put off the reading----then you’ll lose interest----then you’ll quit or fail.

**Course Calendar: Readings and Topics**

Regular assigned readings are from Goldfield. Notes are available on line at the Hst201 web-site http://cf.linnbenton.edu/artcom/social_science/clarkd/web.cfm?pgID=15

Additional readings are on-line as listed below.

Week 1 (Sept. 30)

**Readings:** Goldfield, Chapter 1, Worlds Apart, to 1600

**Readings:** Goldfield, Chapter 2, Transplantation, 1600-1685

**Notes:** The First Fifteen Thousand Years

Howard Zinn, “Columbus, the Indians, and Human Progress
http://www.horizons.k12.mi.us/~aim/papers/zinncolumbus.html

**Take-Home Quiz #1**

Week 2 (Oct 7)

**Readings:** Goldfield, Chapter 3, The Creation of New Worlds, 1600-1750

**Notes:** Early Colonial Ideology and Political Economy

Europe in Transition and Expansion

Howard Zinn, “Drawing the Color Line”
http://www.worldfreeinternet.net/archive/arc9.htm

**Take-Home Quiz #2**

Week 3 (Oct 14)

**Readings:** Goldfield, Chapter 4, Convergence and Conflict, 1660s-1763

**Notes:** The Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism

The Glorious Revolution

New England and Puritan Family Values
Week 4 (Oct 21)

Readings: Geopolitics of European Mercantilism—The World System, Part 1
Goldfield, Chapter 5, Imperial Breakdown, 1763-1774

Notes: An Independent Spirit
Joseph Ellis, Founding Brothers

Take-Home Quiz #3

Week 5 (Oct 28)

Goldfield, Chapter 6, The War for Independence, 1774-1783
Chapter 7, The First Republic, (pages 111-122)

Notes: The War for Independence
Joseph Ellis, Founding Brothers

Interview with Pauline Maier author of AMERICAN SCRIPTURE
http://www.cspan.org/guide/books/booknotes/archive/maier.htm

Browse Common Sense by Thomas Paine

Take-Home Test #1

Week 6 (Nov 4)

Readings: The Political Crisis---Who Shall Rule At Home?
Goldfield, Chapter 7, The First Republic, (pages 122-129)
Chapter 8, A New Republic and the Rise of Parties, 1789-1800

Notes: The First New Nation
Creation of the United States
Republic or Democracy
Joseph Ellis, Founding Brothers

Take-Home Test #1

Week 7 (Nov 11)

Readings: The Political Crises---Testing the System
Notes: Hamiltonianism v. Jeffersonianism

Resolutions, http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm

Take-Home Quiz #4
Week 8 (Nov 18)  
**An “Empire for Liberty?” ------Nationalism and Expansionism**

*Readings:* Goldfield, Chapter 9, *The Triumph and Collapse of Jeffersonian Republicanism*

*Notes:* Internal Colonization and Western Lands  
Nationalism and Sectionalism

*Perdue and Green, The Cherokee Removal*

*Take-Home Quiz #5*

Week 9 (Nov 25)  
**Nation Building Part 1: Populism and Rethinking the Place of Democracy**

*Readings:* Goldfield, Chapter 10, *The Jacksonian Era, 1824-1845*

*Notes:* The Jacksonian Era

*Perdue and Green, The Cherokee Removal*

*Sean Wilentz, “Striving for Democracy,”*  
[http://wwics.si.edu/OUTREACH/WQ/WQSELECT/WILENTZ.HTM](http://wwics.si.edu/OUTREACH/WQ/WQSELECT/WILENTZ.HTM)

*Take-Home Quiz #6*

Week 10 (Dec 2)  
**Nation Building Part 2: Capitalism and/or Progress**

*Readings:* Goldfield, Chapter 11, *Industrial Change and Urbanization, 1820-1850*

*Notes:* Modernization and its Complications  
Economic Development and Expansion

*Perdue and Green, The Cherokee Removal*

*Gordon Wood, “Was America Born Capitalist?”*  
[http://wwics.si.edu/OUTREACH/WQ/WQSELECT/WOOD.HTM](http://wwics.si.edu/OUTREACH/WQ/WQSELECT/WOOD.HTM)

Week 11 (Dec 9)  
**Finals Week**