

Fall 2015

## HIST 2501

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*University of New Orleans*

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## **HIST 2501-001: U.S. History I**

University of New Orleans

Fall 2015

TTh 11-12:15

MH 318

Professor: A. C. Mosterman

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Phone: 504-280-7195

Office Hours: TW 2-5pm

Location: LA 111

### **Course Description**

Welcome to HIST2501! This course explores American History from the earliest times to 1860. During the semester, we will explore the history of North America, or the present-day United States. We will review some of the major events, places, and people. In particular, we will pay attention to the great ethnic and cultural diversity in Early America. Moreover, this class will examine North America as part of the Early Modern Atlantic World rather than as an isolated region. In this course, we will

- Identify key people, places, and events in the region before 1860
- Interpret the cultures, communities, and interactions between the various peoples and how they contributed to the development of this region
- Learn about America's multi-cultural past

### **Learning Objectives**

In this course, students will learn the following:

- To distinguish between primary and secondary sources
- To analyze primary sources that concern American History
- To discuss topics in American History in a brief and succinct manner

### **Course Texts**

The required book for this course can be found at the University Bookstore or at the Library (on reserve). Other course readings can be found on Moodle.

The following books are required texts for the course:

Mary Beth Norton et al, *A People & A Nation: A History of the United States, V.1 Brief Ninth Edition* (Wadsworth, 2012) ISBN: 9780495916222 or ISBN: 9781133171966

Also available as an ebook (see Moodle)

### **Course Assignments**

*Quizzes (15% total, 3% each)*

Over the course of the semester, you will be required to take six (6) quizzes on Moodle. You will have the opportunity to do so between the end of class on Tuesday and just before class on Thursday. The final quiz will be due before our last of class. The five (5) quizzes with the highest scores will count 3% each toward your final grade.

### *Midterm (25%) & Final Examination (30%)*

The midterm will be administered in class on **Tuesday, October 6**. The final examination will take place during the final exam period on **Tuesday, December 8**. I will discuss the format of these examinations closer to the dates. In order to prepare for these tests, I advise you to take legible, constructive lecture notes throughout the semester and to be aware of the main themes and issues raised in the course readings, lectures, and discussion. I do not post lecture notes on Moodle, so it is very important that you come to class and take clear and detailed notes of the lectures.

### *Primary Source Responses (20%)*

Throughout the semester, I will post ten (10) primary source documents as well as a question (or questions) concerning this source on Moodle. You should answer these questions in a short response of 250 to 300 words. The reading responses are due before class on the date under which they appear on the syllabus (usually Tuesday), so make sure to pay attention to the due dates of your responses. To get full credit (100 points each), your answers must be submitted **on time** on Moodle (before class on the day required), be of **proper length**, double spaced, and in 12-point type. If a response is submitted late or if it is too short, you will get 20 points deducted. If it is submitted more than a week late, you get 0 points for the response. Together, these responses will count as 20% of your final grade (2% each).

### *Attendance (10%)*

Attendance for this class is mandatory. You must initial a sign-in-sheet to be considered present. If you have more than three (3) unexcused absences during the semester, I will deduct *one-third of a letter grade* from your attendance grade for each additional absence. An absence is considered excused only in case of UNO official service (including athletics), jury duty/court summons, or military service. These excused absences must be verifiable by me through an official document, either a letter from a UNO official explaining your absence, a jury summons letter/court summons, or a letter from your commanding officer. For any other absences, you can use the *three unexcused absences*. If you miss *more than ten (10) classes* (either excused or unexcused), you will automatically receive an F for attendance. Make sure to arrive in class on time. You will be held responsible for the full content of each class period. All reading assignments must be completed by the day under which they appear.

### **Grade Breakdown**

The following elements will constitute your final grade:

Primary Source Responses (20%), Midterm (25%), Final Exam (30%), Quizzes (15%), Attendance (10%)

90-100 % = A

80-89 % = B

70-79 % = C

60-69 % = D

< 60 = F

NOTE: I do not post mid-term and final grades on Moodle. You can find the mid-term and final grades on Webstar.

## **Students with Disabilities**

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. In short, plagiarism is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. In order to ensure that you are not plagiarizing anybody else's work, make sure to footnote each source you use and make sure you cite the original author of any idea, phrase, or paraphrase that you include in any written work. If you do plagiarize, I will have to report this to student affairs. For more information, see the UNO Judicial Code online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

## **Technology in the Classroom**

If you prefer to use a laptop or tablet to take notes, you are welcome to do so. You should, however, sit in the first two rows on the right side of the classroom *only* (I will point you to the designated spaces during our first classes). You will be allowed to use your computer or tablet to take notes *only*, not to browse the internet, play games, or watch a movie. If my graduate assistant or I find you using your devices for anything other than taking notes, you will lose your privilege to use the laptop or tablet in the classroom.

Cell-phones should be turned off and secured in a bag or pocket during class. Do not leave cell phones on your desk. If you need to keep your cellphone on for some reason, you will have to come tell me this before class.

If you want to record the lectures, you have to get my written permission to do so. Send me an email with a request so that I can give you this written permission. You are not allowed to share these lectures with others or use them outside of classroom purposes.

## **Student Conduct**

Do not come in late, as these distracting disruptions are inconsiderate and time-wasting. There is no excuse for repeatedly arriving late, even if it is only a few minutes. If you must leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class. If you do leave early or come in late without notifying me ahead of time, I will mark you as absent.

Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. While I would like to encourage you to share your thoughts, courteous behavior and responses are expected.

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

### **Part I. Foundations**

#### **Week 1: Introduction**

T. 8/20: Introduction

#### **Week 2: Backgrounds**

T. 8/27: Native American Background

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 1-9

Th. 8/29: European and African Backgrounds

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 9-17.

#### **Week 3: Explorations and Early Settlements**

T. 9/1: Spanish Explorations

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 17-27; Primary source document: Cabeza de Vaca.

Assignment: Submit Response 1 before Class

*\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday*

Th. 9/3: Early Settlements

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 28-36.

Assignment: Quiz due before class

#### **Week 4: Early English Settlements**

T. 9/8: Early English Settlements: Virginia and Maryland

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 36-43; Primary source document: Frethorne.

Assignment: Submit Response 2 before Class

Th. 9/10: Early English Settlements: New England

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 43-48.

#### **Week 5: New England**

T. 9/15: New England Society

Reading: Primary source document: Winthrop.

Assignment: Submit Response 3 before Class

Th. 9/17: New England Society

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 49-54.

#### **Week 6: The Middle Colonies and Southern Expansion**

T. 9/22: The Middle Colonies: New Netherland and Pennsylvania

Reading: Joyce Goodfriend, "Black Families in New Netherland" (Moodle).

*\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday*

Th. 9/24: Expansion: The Carolinas, Georgia, and Louisiana

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 55-62.

Assignment: Quiz due before class

## **Week 7: Crisis in the Late 17<sup>th</sup> Century**

T. 9/29: King Philip's War and The Salem Witchcraft Crisis

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 62-64, 72-77; Primary Source: The Salem Witchcraft Trials

Assignment: Submit Response 4 before class

Th. 10/1: The Pueblo Revolt and Bacon's Rebellion

Reading: Edmund Morgan, "The American Paradox" (Moodle)

## **The Eighteenth Century**

### **Week 8: American Society in the Eighteenth Century**

T. 10/6: **Midterm**

Th. 10/8: Eighteenth Century Society

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 79-100.

### **Week 9: Slavery in Colonial America**

T. 10/13: Slavery in the Eighteenth Century

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 64-72, 79-84; Primary source document: Equiano.

Assignment: Submit Response 5 before Class

Th. 10/15: Mid-Semester break – No Class

### **Week 10: America within the British Empire**

T. 10/20: The First Great Awakening

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 100-105; Primary source document: Whitefield.

Assignment: Submit Response 6 before Class

\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday

Th. 10/22: Imperial Wars and Crisis

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 106-116.

Assignment: Quiz due before class

## **Part IV. Antebellum America**

### **Week 11: The American Revolution**

T. 10/27: Moving Toward Independence Revolution

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 116-140; Primary source document: Thomas Paine.

Assignment: Submit Response 7 before Class.

Th. 10/29: Revolution

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 140-155.

### **Week 12: Building a New Nation**

T. 11/3: Mixed Loyalties/Freedom and Equality for All: African Americans and women

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 156-169; Primary source document: Abigail Adams.

Assignment: Submit Response 8 before Class

\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday

Th. 11/5: Creating Republican Institutions

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 169-196.

Assignment: Quiz due before class

### **Week 13: The Early Republic**

T. 11/10: Western Expansion

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 196-216; Primary source document: Tecumseh.

Assignment: Submit Response 9 before Class.

Th. 11/12: The War of 1812

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 216-229.

### **Week 14: Antebellum America**

T. 11/17: Slavery in Antebellum America

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 230-259.

*\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday*

Th. 11/19: The Market and Transportation Revolution/Western Expansion

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 260-286; pages 314-339.

Assignment: Quiz due before class

### **Week 15: Nineteenth Century Reform Movements**

T. 11/24: Nineteenth Century Reform Movements

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 287-313; Primary source document: "The Declaration of Sentiments."

Assignment: Submit Response 10 before Class

Th. 11/26: Thanksgiving Holidays – No Class

### **Week 16: Events Leading Up to the Civil War**

T. 12/1: Events Leading Up to the Civil War

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, pages 342-368.

*\* Take the quiz on Moodle before class on Thursday*

Th. 12/3: Events leading up to the Civil War & Conclusions

Assignment: Quiz due before class

**Final Exam: Tuesday, December 8 from 10am-12noon**