

AMERICAN HISTORY TO THE CIVIL WAR ERA

University of Wisconsin-Madison

FALL SEMESTER 1994

History 101 (Honors Section)  
Lectures: 9:55-10:45 a.m.. MWF  
1111 Humanities Bldg.

Instructor: Jean B. Lee

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A prominent historian recently commented that "American history at its best remains . . . an ongoing mode of collective self-discovery about the nature of our society." In that spirit, this course explores the diversity of the colonial experience; the origins, nature, and consequences of the American Revolution; the evolution of a unique republic; the growth of religious pluralism; economic development; continental expansion and sectionalism; slavery and race relations; the changing status and roles of women; social reform; the Civil War; and Reconstruction.

Students taking this course for honors credit are expected to attend the lectures and the honors discussion section.

REQUIRED READINGS:

NOTE: (1) These titles are available at the University Bookstore on State Street. They have also been placed on three-hour reserve at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

(2) Discussion sessions for the readings will be arranged at the first meeting of the honors group.

T. H. Breen. Imagining the Past: East Hampton Histories

James H. Merrell. The Indians' New World: Catawbas and Their Neighbors from European Contact Through the Era of Removal

Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum. Salem Possessed: The Social Origins of Witchcraft

Mary Beth Norton. Liberty's Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750-1800

Merrill D. Peterson. Adams and Jefferson: A Revolutionary Dialogue

Charles Joyner. Down By the Riverside: A South Carolina Slave Community

James M. McPherson. Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT:

John M. Faragher et al.. Out of Many: A History of the American People (1994), vol. 1.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

- Sept. 2           Introductory Meeting
- Sept. 5           LABOR DAY--NO CLASS
- Sept. 7           A World Apart: The Americas before European Contact
- Sept. 9           Societies of Sub-Saharan Africa
- Sept. 12          Europe in the Fifteenth Century
- Sept. 14          When Worlds Collide
- Sept. 16          Early Modern England
- Sept. 19          English Expansion: Ireland and the Caribbean
- Sept. 21          The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century
- Sept. 23          Slavery: The Fateful Commitment
- Sept. 26          Puritanism and the Founding of New England
- Sept. 28          Review Session
- Sept. 30          EXAM NO. 1
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- Oct. 3            Colonial New England Society
- Oct. 5            Accommodation and Resistance: Colonists and Native Americans
- Oct. 7            The Imperial Connection
- Oct. 10           Land of Diversity: English Colonies in the Eighteenth Century
- Oct. 12           Evangelicalism
- Oct. 14           Enlightenment
- Oct. 17           Colonial Political Development
- Oct. 19           Crisis of Empire
- Oct. 21           The War for Independence
- Oct. 24           Creation of the American Republic
- Oct. 26           The 1790s: A Crucial Decade
- Oct. 28           The Contagion of Liberty
- Oct. 31           The Problem of Slavery in an Age of Revolution
- Nov. 2            The Jeffersonians and the Empire of Liberty
- Nov. 4            Economic Development and Early Industrialization
- Nov. 7            The Growth of the West
- Nov. 9            Review Session
- Nov. 11          EXAM NO. 2
- Nov. 14          Politics and Parties in Jacksonian America
- Nov. 16          Outsiders: Indians and Blacks
- Nov. 18          Slave Consciousness and Culture
- Nov. 21          Women's Sphere
- Nov. 23          The Democratization of American Religion
- Nov. 25          THANKSGIVING VACATION--NO CLASS

Nov. 28	The Reform Impulse
Nov. 30	Abolitionism vs. the Defense of Slavery
Dec. 2	Expansion, War, and Compromise
Dec. 5	Popular Sovereignty and Bleeding Kansas
Dec. 7	The House Divided
Dec. 9	Civil War
Dec. 12	The Destruction of Slavery
Dec. 14	Reconstruction: An American Tragedy
Dec. 19	FINAL EXAM (2.45-4.45 p.m.; place to be announced)

EVALUATION: Your grade will be computed as follows: 20% for each in-class exam; 35% for discussion section (including associated written work); 25% for the final exam.

OFFICE HOURS:

J. Lee: 11:00-11:45 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Also by appointment. 4116 Humanities Bldg.  
Phone: 263-1661.