

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Department of History

Fall, 2003

HISTORY 101

The History of the United States, 1620-1865

Professor John Sharpless
History Department
263-1800, 263-1816

COURSE CONTENTS:

The intent of History 101 is to provide an overview of economic, political and social trends from early European discovery and settlement (1620) to the American Civil War (1865). Naturally, the course will draw heavily on other social science disciplines (economics, political science and sociology) for much of its material. However, we will attempt to chart cultural and artistic trends as well.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance at both lectures and discussion section is required. To “test” for attendance at lectures, there will be occasional surprise quizzes. Although the points allotted to the lecture quizzes are few, they could make the difference at the end of the course. Discussion points will be awarded to students who attend discussion sections regularly. There will also be occasional short assignments to encourage reading and discussion on a weekly basis.

There will be an “in class” mid-term examination and a “take-home” essay examination, in addition to the final examination. The contribution of each component of the course will be weighted roughly by the following percentages:

Discussion Section Points	22%
Lecture Quizzes	3%
Mid-term Exam (in class)	25%
Take-Home Essay Problem	25%
Final Examination	25%

REQUIRED READING:

Students should be warned that the reading requirements for the course are considerable.

In addition to the books on order at the bookstores, there will be photocopied materials and/or some reserve readings. The books listed below may be purchased at the University Bookstore, the Underground Textbook Exchange or on line at various web vendors. They are also on reserve at H.C. White Reserve Room.

Required Reading:

- David E. Shi, George B. Tindall, America: A Narrative History (Vol. 1)
W.W. Norton & Company; 5th edition (January, 1999) ISBN: 0393973492 **Paperback**
- Benjamin Franklin, The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin (Dover Thrift Edition) Dover Pubns; (July 1996) ISBN: 0486290735 **Paperback**
- Joseph Martin (Thomas Fleming, ed.), A Narrative of a Revolutionary Soldier: Some of the Adventures, Dangers, and Sufferings of Joseph Plumb Martin Signet Classic; (September, 2001) ISBN: 0451528115 **Paperback**
- Gunthur Barth (ed.), The Lewis and Clark Expedition: Selections from the Journals, Arranged by Topic Bedford/St. Martin's; (June, 1998) ISBN: 0312111185 **Paperback**
- Alexis De Tocqueville, (Richard D. Heffner, ed) Democracy in America (September 2001) Signet Classic; (September, 2001) ISBN: 0451528123 **Paperback**
- Roger F. Nichols, Black Hawk and the Warrior's Path Harlan Davidson, American Biographical History Series (December 1992) ISBN: 0882958844 **Paperback**
- Eve Kornfeld, Margaret Fuller: A Brief Biography with Documents Bedford Books (1997) ISBN 0312120095 **Paperback**
- Frederick Douglass (David Blight, ed.), Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass an American Slave Bedford/St. Martin's; 2nd edition (December 2002) ISBN: 0312257376 **Paperback**

Recommended Readings:

- Ray Raphael, A People's History of the American Revolution: How Common People Shaped the Fight for Independence New Press; (April 2001) ISBN: 1565846532 **Paperback**
- Robert F. Tedeschi, Jr, The U.S. Constitution & Fascinating Facts About It Oak Hill Pub (1996) ISBN: 188147321X **Paperback**
- Harry Watson, Liberty and Power: The Politics of Jacksonian America Noonday Press; (February 1990) ISBN: 0374521964 **Paperback**
- David Potter, Impending Crisis Perennial Press; (April 1977) ISBN: 0061319295 **Paperback**

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADES:

In order to avoid any confusion over the direction and content of the course, in the second week of the term we will be distributing the questions for midterms and the final. It should be stressed that these are not simply study questions. They are the examination questions just as they appear on the examination.

The total number of points possible for all assignments, tests and quizzes is 500. The number of points necessary to attain each grade level are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points Total</u>
A	460-500
A/B	410-459
B	360-409
B/C	310-359 (continued on next page)

C	250-309
D	220-249
F	0-219

We reserve the right to give the grade of "F" to any student who fails to meet the basic requirements of the course, regardless of their point total. In other words, you are expected to attend all lectures of your assigned discussion section. You are expected to complete all assignments on time. You are expected to take the examinations at the prescribed time and the designated place. If you fail to meet these basic expectations, you will receive an "F" for the course even though you may have accumulated more than 220 points by the end of the term.

While exceptions to these basic requirements may (very occasionally) be granted, the student is obligated to request that such an exception be granted three days prior to the due date (for assignments) or one week prior to the examination period (for tests). There will be no "Incompletes" or extension beyond the end of the term. Please, no exceptions on this score.

PLAGIARISM:

Unfortunately, it appears necessary to comment on plagiarism and cheating. Obviously, it is expected that examinations and assignments will reflect your own original efforts. We do not discourage studying together, however, in the final analysis your essays, assignments and answers to the questions on the examinations must represent your ideas and be written in your own words.

If it is shown that your work in the course does not represent your own efforts, the consequences can be serious. Cheating could cost you your college career or, at the very least, it could mean an "F" in this course. But equally important, even if you are not caught I believe that cheating is a sign of a serious lack of respect for the people teaching the class, your fellow students and yourself. Enough said. If you make a sincere effort to meet the demands of the course, we will make a sincere effort to help you pass the course. Cheating is quite unnecessary.

OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN:

Office Hours: The Teaching Assistants will post their office hours on their office door. Professor Sharpless will hold office hours by appointment on Tuesday morning, 10:30 am -12:00 (noon). His office is 4110 Humanities.

E-mail address: jbsharp@wisc.edu

Final Examination: Currently the "University Timetable" lists the final examination time and date as: **07:45 A.M. SUN. DEC 14**. This is, of course, subject to change. We will again post the final time and location the last week of the term.