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<th>COURSE NO.</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
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<td>101</td>
<td>America to 1877</td>
<td>Mr. Archdeacon</td>
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The lecture course is divided into 3 parts, each of which conveys a general interpretation of a major segment of American history. The 1st describes the almost two centuries between 1607 and 1800, during which the settlers attempted to recreate European society in the New World, came to recognize the impossibility of the endeavor, and ultimately established a unique political and social order and a new nation. The second attempts to revitalize the old themes of Jeffersonian and Jacksonian Democracy by discussing the American interpretation of their national identity in terms of social equality and economic opportunity. The shift from the deferential first party system to the democratic second provides a major focus. The third portion of the survey deals with the Civil War both as an outcome of earlier American history and as an entry point to the modern age. Beginning with the maturation of a balanced two party system, the bloc examines the disastrous effects of introducing the moral issue of slavery into a politics designed for practicality and accommodation, and concludes with a look at the new industrial order which emerged in the Civil War era.

**LECTURES**

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-10:45

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS**

No written assignments other than tests. There will be three tests; each will have short answer and essay questions. The essay questions will be given out beforehand; depending on the requirements, they will be turned in at the time of the test or written out in class during the test.

**GRADING SYSTEM**

The three tests will be weighted equally, with sympathy shown to those who show improvement over the course of the term.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

Bernard Bailyn *et al.*, *The Great Republic*, Vol. I, (A list of study guide questions will be used in class).

Edmund S. Morgan, *The Puritan Dilemma*

Robert A. Gross, *The Minutemen and Their World*

Nancy Cott, *The Bonds of Womanhood*

Oscar Handlin, *Boston's Immigrants*