HIS 103 United States History I 3 credits

I. Course Description: A survey of United States history from European arrival to the Civil War. Examines political, economic, intellectual, and social developments with special emphasis on the colonial period, the revolution, the rise of the federal system, territorial expansion, and the Civil War. Includes overview of alternative experiences of Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans.

II. Prerequisite: None

III. Rationale for Course Level: This course is designed for beginning level students, providing an introductory background to the various cultures and histories present in the United States.

IV. Suggested Textbooks:

V. Other Requirements and/or Materials for the Course:

VI. Student Learning Course Objectives:
- Students will analyze and evaluate the American past through documents, archeological evidence, and various research.
- Recognize and articulate the social, political, economic background necessary to develop the American peoples and Nation.
- Define how history has shaped the United States from the time of its original inhabitants to post Civil War era.

VII. Suggested Course Outline:

Week 1:
Syllabus & Intro. Essays Assigned
Reading: Ch. 1 The First Civilizations of North America

Week 2
Reading: Ch. 2 Old Worlds, New Worlds (1400-1600)

Week 3
Reading: Ch. 3 & 4 Colonization and Conflict in the North & South (1600-1750)

Week 4
Reading: Ch. 5 The Mosaic of 18th Century America (1689-1771)

Week 5
Reading: Ch. 6 Toward the War for American Independence (1754-1776)

Week 6
Reading: Ch. 7 The American People and the American Revolution (1775-1783)

Week 7
Reading: Ch. 8 Crisis and Constitution (1776-1789)

Week 8
Reading: Ch. 9 The Early Republic (1789-1824)
Midterm Exam
Essays Due & Final Research Projects assigned

Week 9
Reading: Ch. 10 The Opening of America (1815-1850)

Week 10
Reading: Ch. 11 The Rise of Democracy (1824-1840)

Week 11
Reading: Ch. 12 The Fires of Perfection (1820-1850)

Week 12
Reading: Ch. 13 The Old South (1820-1860)

Week 13:
Reading: Ch. 14 Western Expansion and the Rise of the Slavery Issue (1820-1850)

Week 14
Reading: Ch. 15 The Union Broken
Ch. 16 Total War and the Republic (1861-1865)

Week 15
Reading: Ch. 17 Reconstructing the Union (1865-1877)
Group Projects Due/ Presentations
Final Exam Review

Week 16:
Final Exam

VIII. Student Evaluation is based on a total of 500pts

- Exams- 200pts total
- Quizzes- 100pts total
- Essay- 50pts total
- Research project- 100pts total
- Attendance and Participation- 50pts total

Grading Scale:

Grades will be given as letter grades. Letter grades and numerical equivalents are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>90 – 94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86 – 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>83 – 85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>80 – 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>76 – 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>73 – 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>70 – 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>66 – 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-</td>
<td>63 – 65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-</td>
<td>59 &amp; below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Components of Student Evaluation
Your grade will be the result of your performance in the following areas:

- Exams 40%

In this course, reading is one of the most important elements. While we will discuss chapter/article topics in class, I still expect you to have a general knowledge of the topic being discussed each class period. We will have 2 exams throughout the semester, each covering approximately 8 chapters in the course textbook. Exams will account for 40% of your final grade. If you keep up with the reading, you should have no issues. Please keep in mind that if you miss an exam due to an unexcused absence, there will be no make-ups offered, also, missing an exam will affect your attendance and participation grade. If you are unable to attend a class period for a valid reason, please let me know ahead of time.
Quizzes  20%
There will be a total of 10 quizzes given throughout the semester, and will account for 20% of your final grade. Quizzes will be based on textbook readings. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes.

Essay  10%
All students will be required to write a short (1000 word) essay based on an assigned topic. Essay topics will be assigned the first week of class, and final essays will be due week eight of class. Essays should be written in MLA format, and include a works cited list in proper format for the sources used.

Research Project  20%
All students will be required to complete a group project based on an assigned topic. Students will work in pairs of two to complete a research project consisting of three components: paper (1500-2000 words), power-point, and presentation. Groups should be chosen and topics assigned by week eight. Final projects will be due week fifteen of the semester. Paper portion of project should be written in MLA format, and include a works cited list in proper format for the sources used.

Attendance and Participation  10%
This course is primarily lecture and discussion format. Therefore, preparation, participation and attendance are the paramount requirements. Students will be allowed 3 absences without penalty. Each absence beyond the first three will result in .5 of a grade point off your final grade. (In other words, if your final grade is a 2.5 (C), but you have 6 total absences, your final grade is a 1.0 (D). So please, let me know ahead of time if you have a legitimate reason for absence.

IX. Bibliography:

Allgor, Catherine, Parlor Politics: In which the Ladies of Washington Help Build a City and a Government (University of Virginia Press, 2002).


Canny, Nicholas. The Origins of Empire: British Overseas Enterprise to the Close of the Seventeenth Century (Oxford University Press, 2001).


Cochran, Thomas C. Frontiers of Change: Early Industrialization in America (Oxford University Press, 1983).


Hall, Timothy D. Anne Hutchinson: Puritan Prophet (Prentice Hall, 2009).


McConville, Brendan. The King’s Three Faces: The Rise and Fall of Royal America, 1688-1776 (University of North Carolina Press, 2007).


Morison, Samuel E. *Christopher Columbus, Mariner* (Signet, 1985).
Paludan, Philip S. *A People's Contest: The Union and the Civil War, 1861-1865* (University Press of Kansas, 1996).
White, Deborah Gray. "Ar'n't I a Woman?" Female Slaves in the Plantation South (W.W. Norton, 1999).

Syllabus Prepared By:

Kori Clark-Tuzas, History M.A. & Humanities M.A.

Created August 2013