

AMH 2010 - American History from contact to 1877 - Spring 2015

Section 1D53

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6th period (12:50-1:40) in Keene Flint Room 117.

Instructor: Aurelia Aubert
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This American History course covers the history of the United States from the European contact period with Native Americans to the end of Reconstruction.

Reading:

- *America's History* by Henretta, Hinderaker, Edwards, and Self. Volume 1, 8th edition (Bedford/St. Martins, 2014).
- *Slave Ship* by Marcus Rediker.
- *Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass, an American slave, written by himself.*
- *America Firsthand* by David Burner, John M. Giggie, Anthony Marcus.
- Additional reading (articles or primary sources) that will be posted on sakai on a weekly basis for our discussions.

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Midterm exam 30% (February 25, in class)

Paper 20% (4 to 6 pages, posted on Sakai on week 4 and due on March 27)

Final exam 25% (April 29, in class)

Participation 15% (weekly, throughout the semester)

Quizzes 10% (Surprise! but on Fridays...)

Both the **midterm** and the **final** will be composed of identifications, short-answer questions (they will be broader than the IDs and require a more elaborate answer), and essay questions.

The **paper** will be 4 to 6 pages and based on *Slave Ship* and *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, which we will read and discuss in class. Any paper turned in late, will be deducted 1/3 of grade per day after the due date.

You will also have **quizzes**, composed of 5 questions on the lectures and reading, which will be given in class on Fridays, on an unannounced basis. The quizzes are given to make sure you are keeping up with the class material and have a working knowledge of the subject matter.

You will be graded for **participation** weekly (5: in class but no participation; 8: little to moderate participation; 10: good participation).

Mondays and Wednesdays will be mostly dedicated to lectures but I will ask for your thoughts, and welcome questions throughout the class. On Fridays, we will have discussions on the assigned reading (article or primary source posted on Sakai). Days where we will have **more extensive reading** are marked in the syllabus (Example: ***** Slave Ship*****) so that you can plan ahead and give yourself more time to read the material.

You will be allowed 3 **absences** throughout the semester. More than 3 absences will cause your weekly participation grade to go down, from 10 to 8, from 8 to 5, or 5 to 0, depending on your initial grade for that week. I will drop the 3 lowest participation grades for those who have not been absent.

Please do not hesitate to email me if you have any questions, concerns, or comments.

UNIT 1: European Contact and Early America

Week 1- Wednesday January 7

Introduction to the class

Friday January 9

"Columbus, the Indians, and human progress" in Howard Zinn, *A People's History of the United States*. pp 1-22. On Sakai.

Week 2 - Monday January 12

America's History - Chapter 2

Wednesday January 14

Friday January 16

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 3 - Monday January 19

No class

Wednesday January 21

America's History - Chapter 3

Friday January 23

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 4 - Monday January 26

America's History - Chapter 4

Wednesday January 28

Friday January 30

****Read *Slave Ship* (**Except chapters 7 and 8**)****

Week 5 - Monday February 2

America's History - Chapter 5

Wednesday February 4

Friday February 6

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

UNIT 2: the Revolution

Week 6 - Monday February 9
America's History - Chapter 6

Wednesday February 11

Friday February 13
See on Sakai for the assigned reading

UNIT 3: Creating a Nation

Week 7 - Monday February 16
America's History - Chapter 7

Wednesday February 18

Friday February 20
See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 8 - Monday February 23
America's History - Chapter 8

Wednesday February 25

MIDTERM

Friday February 27
No class - Recover from the midterm.

February 28 to March 8 - **SPRING BREAK**

Week 9 - Monday March 9
America's History - Chapter 9

Wednesday March 11

Friday March 13
See on Sakai for the assigned reading

UNIT 4: A Nation Growing

Week 10 - Monday March 16
America's History - Chapter 10

Wednesday March 18

Friday March 20

****Narrative of the life of Frederick Jackson, an American slave****

Week 11 - Monday March 23

****America's History - Chapter 10 (pp 357-373) & Chapter 12****

Wednesday March 25

Friday March 27

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

PAPER DUE

Week 12 - Monday March 30

America's History - Chapter 13

Wednesday April 1

Friday April 3

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 13 - Monday April 6

America's History - Chapter 14

Wednesday April 8

Friday April 10

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 14 - Monday April 13

America's History - Chapter 15

Wednesday April 15

Friday April 17

See on Sakai for the assigned reading

Week 15 - Monday April 20

America's History - Chapter 16

Wednesday April 22

Review

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday April 29, **12:30-2:30 (NOT our usual class period at 12:50!)** in our classroom.