

Fall 2008: History 2111
United States Survey to 1865
Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 am -- 12:15 pm
Location: Fine Arts Building, Room 300

Professor Stephen Mihm
LeConte Hall, Room 302
Office Phone: 706-542-2469
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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday, 12:30-2:00 pm

Course Description: This seminar surveys the history of the United States from its colonial origins through the Civil War. It relates that story through three means: a textbook, lectures, and a series of historical documents, otherwise known as primary sources. Students should leave the class with a thorough understanding of American history through 1865. Students should also come away with an improved ability to read critically and write analytically.

Course Readings: The course readings consist of a textbook, four autobiographies, and a travel narrative (listed below). All of these should be available at one of the following places: the University of Georgia Bookstore across from the Tate Center, or one of the two branches of the Off Campus Bookstore located at 360 and 696 Baxter Street. If you have trouble finding the books, please contact your assigned graduate teaching assistant.

James Henretta, et al., *America: A Concise History. Volume 1*
Mary Rowlandson, *Sovereignty and Goodness of God*
Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*
Fanny Trollope, *Domestic Manners of the Americans*
Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*
P. T. Barnum, *The Life of P. T. Barnum, Written by Himself*

Course Requirements: As the foregoing list should suggest, this is a reading-intensive course. On average, you will have over one hundred pages a week to read. Students who foresee having difficulty with this requirement should not take this course. Students who may have trouble meeting the other demands of the course – as listed below – should not take the class, either. Please note that all course requirements are subject to change at my discretion. If you have any questions on course requirements, contact your assigned graduate teaching assistant first and if you cannot resolve your question that way, please contact me directly, preferably by visiting during office hours.

Attendance: Regular attendance is mandatory, and you are expected to be on time, regardless of what class or what part of the campus you are traveling from to get to my class. I will administer six surprise quizzes over the course of the semester as a means of grading attendance (and as a way of testing reading comprehension). The average of these quizzes will count for 20% of your final grade, and students who arrive late or miss class on the day of a quiz will receive an “F” – *regardless of the reason for the late arrival or the absence*. There are no excuses. I will, however, drop the single worst grade and average the remaining five. Please note that students are responsible for all material covered in any classes they miss. Finally, students who come late to class on a regular basis will be dropped from the course (see below for details).

Read and Respond: Two times over the course of the semester, students will be required to turn in a two-page, double-spaced, typed response (approximately 600 words) to the assigned *primary source* reading for the week. These should not be summaries of the reading, but thoughtful pieces of writing where you explore a particular theme that caught your attention. These papers are due at the *beginning* of class on August 28 and October 16. Late papers will be penalized a letter grade for every day they are late, with papers turned in at the end of class counted as a day late. There are no excuses for late papers aside from the ones listed below under “Formal Paper.” Papers not completed will count as an “F” and will carry extra weight in the final determination of your grade. In the unlikely event that not everyone does the reading, there will be additional assignments of this sort.

Formal Paper: One double-spaced and typed formal paper of approximately 2500 words (approximately 8 pages) will be due at the *beginning* of class on December 4, with papers turned in at the end of class counted as a day late. Extensions will be granted only for family emergencies or circumstances of comparable seriousness: e.g., those who have been hospitalized with a serious illness, have a death in the family, or are seriously ill and unable to make it to class. Please note that I will require extensive documentation to substantiate these excuses, *particularly* any student who wishes to claim that he or she was too sick to complete the paper or hand it in on time. Otherwise, late papers will be penalized a letter grade for every day they are late. Papers will be graded on the basis of the clarity of the writing, the originality of the thought, and the care (or lack thereof) of the presentation. Misspellings will lower your grade. *Students who fail to complete the formal paper will fail the class.*

Exams. There will be two exams – a mid-term and final – administered on October 2 and December 11. *Students who miss an exam will automatically fail the exam, with the following exceptions.* One, you are hospitalized and provide extensive written evidence of your hospitalization. Two, you are severely ill *and*

contact me by email or phone at least two hours before the exam *and* provide a detailed letter from a doctor that describes when you were treated, why you were treated, and why this illness was severe enough for you to miss the exam. Three, a parent or sibling in your immediate family dies and you provide written evidence of both the death and of having attended the funeral service. Assuming that you meet one (or more) of these conditions, you will then need to make up the exam by writing a 25 page research paper (approximately 7000-8000 words) with footnotes. I will choose the topic of the paper, but understand that it will involve reading another book of my choice (a primary source) as well as doing research in the library.

Grading: Your final grade will be calculated on the following basis: 20% for the Surprise Quizzes, 20% for the “Read and Respond” Papers, 20% for the Formal Paper, 15% for the Mid-Term, and 25% for the Final. Please note that how I weigh your grade is subject to change. Please note as well that I reserve the right to withdraw you from the course without warning (see below for some of the reasons I might do that) giving you either a “WP” or “WF” if I do so before the withdrawal deadline on March 1 -- or simply a “WF” after that date.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity: Don’t plagiarize. Any student who turns in an assignment, paper, or exam that is in any way an infringement of the University’s Academic Honesty Code will have their case referred to the Academic Honesty Office in the Office of the Vice President of Instruction. You are responsible for determining what is and what is not plagiarism and you are expected to read “A Culture of Honesty” and review the details of the University of Georgia Academic Honesty Policy at <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/ahs.htm>. See also the appendix to the syllabus.

Classroom Rules: There are some basic ground rules in this class. You must be on time, and you may not sleep in class or read newspapers during lectures. You must turn off your cell phones and pagers before entering class. You are expressly forbidden from using any kind of recording device in the classroom. Finally, you *may not* use a laptop in this course at any time. *Students who fail to comply with any or all of these rules or engage in any other behavior that I find inappropriate or disruptive will be dropped from the course.* On the plus side, while students may not eat lunch, you are allowed – and perhaps, encouraged – to drink caffeinated beverages.

Office Hours: Stop by Tuesday or Thursday from 12:30 to 2:00 pm at Room 302, LeConte Hall.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Worlds Collide: Europe, Africa, and America, 1450-1620

August 19 Reading: None.

August 21 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 1-67.

Week 2: The Invasion and Settlement of North America, 1550-1700

August 26 Reading: Rowlandson, *Sovereignty and Goodness of God*, pp. 1-60.

August 28 Reading: Rowlandson, *Sovereignty and Goodness of God*, pp. 61-112.
Assignment: Read and Respond Paper No. 1 due at the beginning of class.

Week 3: The British Empire in America, 1660-1750

September 2 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 68-98.

September 4 Reading: Franklin, *Autobiography*, pp. 1-85.

Week 4: Growth and Crisis in Colonial Society, 1720-1765

September 9 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 99-130.

September 11 Reading: Franklin, *Autobiography*, pp. 86-168.

Week 5: Toward Independence: Years of Decision, 1763-1775

September 16 Reading: Franklin, *Autobiography*, 173-186.

September 18 Reading: Henretta, *America, A Concise History*, pp. 131-161.

Week 6: War and Revolution, 1775-1783

September 23 Reading: Henretta, *America, A Concise History*, 162-178, D1-D9.

September 25 Reading: Henretta, *America, A Concise History*, pp. 178-195.

Week 7: The New Political Order, 1776-1800

September 30 Reading: Henretta, *America, A Concise History*, 196-226, D9—D20.

October 2 Mid-Term Exam. Reading: None.

Week 8: The Dynamics of Western Settlement and Eastern Capitalism, 1790-1820

October 7 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 227-256.

October 9 Reading: Trollope, *Domestic Manners of the Americans*, 1-74.

Week 9: The Quest for a Republican Society, 1790-1820

October 14 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 257-287.

October 16 Reading: Trollope, *Domestic Manners of the Americans*, 84-132, 137-144.
Assignment: Read and Respond Paper No. 2 due at the beginning of class.

Week 10: The Economic Revolution, 1820-1860

October 21 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 288-321.

October 23 Reading: Trollope, *Domestic Manners*, 185-193, 200-222, 231-274.

Week 11: A Democratic Revolution, 1820-1844

October 28 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 322-351.

October 30 Reading: Barnum, *Life of P. T. Barnum*, 12-54, 106-141.

Week 12: Religion and Reform, 1820-1860

November 4 Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 352-381

November 6 Reading: Barnum, *Life of P. T. Barnum*, 142-176, 214-245.

Week 13: The Crisis of the Union, 1844-1860

November 11 Reading: Barnum, *Life of P. T. Barnum*, 296-343.

November 13 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 382-411.

Week 14: The Crisis of the Union, 1844-1860

November 18 Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, pp. 1-62.

November 20 Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, pp. 63-125.

Week 15: Two Societies at War, 1861-1865

December 2 Reading: Henretta, *America: A Concise History*, pp. 412-441.

December 4 Reading: None. Assignment: Formal Paper due at the beginning of class.

Week 16: Final Exam

December 11 Final Exam, 12:00-3:00 pm

APPENDIX: ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY (A CULTURE OF HONESTY)

Prohibited Conduct

- Examples of Academic Dishonesty
 - Plagiarism
 - Unauthorized assistance
 - Lying/Tampering
 - Theft
 - Other

No student shall perform, attempt to perform, or assist another in performing any act of dishonesty on academic work to be submitted for academic credit or advancement. A student does not have to intend to violate the honesty policy to be found in violation. For example, plagiarism, intended or unintended, is a violation of this policy.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty. The following acts by a student are examples of academically dishonest behavior:

- a. **Plagiarism** - Submission for academic advancement the words, ideas, opinions or theories of another that are not common knowledge, without appropriate attribution to that other person. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following acts when performed without appropriate attribution:
 - i. Directly quoting all or part of another person's written or spoken words without quotation marks, as appropriate to the discipline;
 - ii. Paraphrasing all or part of another person's written or spoken words without notes or documentation within the body of the work;
 - iii. Presenting an idea, theory or formula originated by another person as the original work of the person submitting that work;
 - iv. Repeating information, such as statistics or demographics, which is not common knowledge and which was originally compiled by another person;
 - v. Purchasing (or receiving in any other manner) a term paper or other assignment that is the work of another person and submitting that term paper or other assignment as the student's own work.
- b. **Unauthorized assistance** - Giving or receiving assistance in connection with any examination or other academic work that has not been authorized by an instructor. During examinations, quizzes, lab work, and similar activity, students are to assume that any assistance (such as books, notes, calculators, and conversations with others) is unauthorized unless it has been specifically authorized by an instructor. Examples of prohibited behavior include, but are not limited to, the following when not authorized:
 - i. Copying, or allowing another to copy, answers to an examination;
 - ii. Transmitting or receiving, during an examination, information that is within the scope of the material to be covered by that examination (including transmission orally, in writing, by sign, electronic signal, or other manner);
 - iii. Giving or receiving answers to an examination scheduled for a later time;

- iv. Completing for another, or allowing another to complete for you, all or part of an assignment (such as a paper, exercise, homework assignment, presentation, report, computer application, laboratory experiment, or computation);
 - v. Submitting a group assignment, or allowing that assignment to be submitted, representing that the project is the work of all of the members of the group when less than all of the group members assisted substantially in its preparation;
 - vi. Unauthorized use of a programmable calculator or other electronic device.
- c. **Lying/Tampering** - Giving any false information in connection with the performance of any academic work or in connection with any proceeding under this policy. This includes, but is not limited to:
- i. Giving false reasons (in advance or after the fact) for failure to complete academic work. This includes, for example, giving false excuses to an instructor or to any University official for failure to attend an exam or to complete academic work;
 - ii. Falsifying the results of any laboratory or experimental work or fabricating any data or information;
 - iii. Altering any academic work after it has been submitted for academic credit and requesting academic credit for the altered work, unless such alterations are part of an assignment (such as a request of an instructor to revise the academic work);
 - iv. Altering grade, lab, or attendance records. This includes, for example, the forgery of University forms for registration in or withdrawal from a course;
 - v. Damaging computer equipment (including removable media such as disks, CD's, flash drives, etc.) or laboratory equipment in order to alter or prevent the evaluation of academic work, unauthorized use of another's computer password, disrupting the content or accessibility of an Internet site, or impersonating another to obtain computer resources;
 - vi. Giving or encouraging false information or testimony in connection with academic work or any proceeding under this policy;
 - vii. Submitting for academic advancement an item of academic work that has been submitted (even when submitted previously by that student) for credit in another course, unless done pursuant to authorization from the instructor supervising the work or containing fair attribution to the original work.
- d. **Theft** - Stealing, taking or procuring in any other unauthorized manner (such as by physical removal from a professor's office or unauthorized inspection of computerized material) information related to any academic work (such as exams, grade records, forms used in grading, books, papers, computer equipment and data, and laboratory materials and data).
- e. **Other** - Failure by a student to comply with a duty imposed under this policy. However, no penalty is imposed under this policy for failure to report an act of academic dishonesty by another or failure to testify in an academic honesty proceeding concerning another.

Any behavior that constitutes academic dishonesty is prohibited even if it is not specifically listed in the above list of examples.