

## History H105 American History I (3cr)

Fall 2007

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Young  
Office: Tamarack 16  
Phone: 219-980-6661  
Email: [cjy@iun.edu](mailto:cjy@iun.edu)  
Office Hours: TBA  
Website: [www.iun.edu/~histcjy](http://www.iun.edu/~histcjy)

### Course Objective

The goal of this course is to familiarize students with the establishment and subsequent development of the United States of America. As we explore the early history of the United States, students will be encouraged to think critically about influential events, issues, and people.

### Course Description

This survey course begins with the Indian-European encounter of the colonial period and ends with the conclusion of the Civil War and its aftermath. Political history forms the framework, with economic, social, cultural, and intellectual history interwoven.

### Grading Procedure

A final grade will be determined by class participation, unannounced quizzes and/or short writing assignments, and four exams.

Students are expected to attend each class. The class participation portion of the grade is based on effort (e.g. attending class, coming to class prepared, participating in class discussions).

**All work must be done as scheduled. Illness or a family emergency are the only exceptions to this policy.**

The grade breakdown is as follows:

Quizzes/writing assignments	10%
First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%
Third Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

## A Note Concerning Exams

The exams will include multiple choice questions, matching, and identifications. Short answers may also be included as part of the exams. If a student expects to miss an exam, it is his or her responsibility to inform the instructor in advance in order to get approval to take the make up exam. The make up exam will take place during final exam week at a scheduled time.

## Required Reading

Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave

In addition to the above listed reading, there are a number of items on reserve at the campus library in the Circulation Department. These readings will also be available through ERIS-Electronic Reserve.

Students are expected to be prepared to discuss the assigned reading.

## Optional Reading

George B. Tindall, David E. Shi, and Thomas Lee Percy, The Essential America Vol. 1 (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2001)

## Course Calendar

**August 28:** Introduction  
Syllabus, ERIS, Benjamin Rush's dream (hand out)

### *Encounter in Colonial North America*

**August 30:** Chapter 1, "Discovery and Settlement," The Essential America

**September 4:** Clip from *Black Robe*

### *The Chesapeake and New England Colonies*

**September 6:** Richard Frethorne, an Indentured Servant, Laments His Condition in Virginia, 1623 (On Reserve); Nathaniel Bacon Recounts the Misdeeds of the Virginia Governor, 1676 (On Reserve); Chapter 2, "Colonial Ways of Life," The Essential America

**September 11:** Virginia's Statutes Illustrate the Declining Status of African American Slaves, 1660-1705 (On Reserve); William Byrd Describes His Views Toward Learning and His Slaves, 1709-1710 (On Reserve)

**September 13:** John Winthrop, "A Model of Christian Charity," (a.k.a. The Arbella Sermon) 1630 (On Reserve)

*The Eighteenth Century and the Origins of the American Revolution*

**September 18:** Benjamin Franklin, Autobiography, 1868 (On Reserve); Chapter 3, “The Imperial Perspective” The Essential America Chapter 4, “From Empire to Independence,” The Essential America

**September 20:** Chapter 4, “From Empire to Independence,” The Essential America

**September 25:** Review for Exam

**September 27: Exam 1**

*The American Revolution*

**October 2:** Thomas Paine, Common Sense, January 1776 (On Reserve); Chapter 5, “The American Revolution,” The Essential America

*The American Revolution cont.; Creating and Ratifying a Constitution*

**October 4:** Read Declaration of Independence, July 1776, The Essential America, Appendix 13; Abigail Adams Asks Her Husband to “Remember the Ladies,” 1776 (On Reserve)

**October 9:** Cato, an African American, Pleads for the Abolition of Slavery in Pennsylvania, 1781 (On Reserve); Hector St. John Crèvecoeur Compares the Freedom in the North with Slavery in the South, 1782 (On Reserve); Slaveholders in Virginia Argue Against the Abolition of Slavery, 1784-1785 (On Reserve); Chapter 6, “Shaping a Federal Union,” The Essential America

**October 11:** Read the Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments to the Constitution), The Essential America, A28

*The 1790s: A Decade of Passionate Politics*

**October 16:** George Washington, “Farewell Address,” 1796 (On Reserve); Thomas Jefferson, “First Inaugural,” 1801 (On Reserve); Chapter 7, “The Federalists: Washington and Adams,” The Essential America

*The Louisiana Purchase and its Consequences*

**October 18:** Chapter 8, “Republicanism: Jefferson and Madison,” The Essential America; Chapter 9, “Nationalism and Sectionalism,” The Essential America; John C. Calhoun Argues for Rights of States, 1828 (On Reserve); Daniel Webster Lays Out His Nationalist Vision, 1830 (On Reserve); Review for Exam.

**October 23: Exam 2**

*Jacksonian America and the Age of Reform*

**October 25:** Chapter 10, “The Jacksonian Impulse,” The Essential America

**October 30:** Chapter 11, “The Dynamics of Growth,” The Essential America

**November 1:** Washington Irving, “Rip Van Winkle,” 1819

*Manifest Destiny and an Emerging American Culture*

**November 6:** Chapter 12, “American Renaissance: Religion, Romanticism, and Reform,” The Essential America; Chapter 13, “Manifest Destiny,” The Essential America

**November 8:** View documentary, *Donner Party*

**November 13:** Review for exam

**November 15: Exam 2**

*Antebellum America; Age of Reform continued*

**November 20:** David Walker, “Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World,” 1829; George Fitzhugh’s defense of slavery, 1854

**November 22: Thanksgiving. No Class.**

*Sectional Conflict*

**November 27:** Chapter 14, “The Old South: An American Tragedy,” The Essential America

**November 29:** Chapter 15, “The Crisis of Union,” The Essential America

*Civil War and Reconstruction*

**December 4:** Lincoln, “Letter to Horace Greeley,” Emancipation Proclamation, and “Gettysburg Address” (On Reserve); Analysis of Emancipation Proclamation related images; Chapter 16, “The War of the Union,” The Essential;

**December 6:** Chapter 17, “Reconstruction: North and South,” The Essential America;  
**Review for Exam**

**December 13: Final Exam**

The instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus. Students will be informed of any changes.