
HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES TO 1877

HIS 2010 – 001
Dr. Camden Burd



Fall 2021

History 2010-001

Class Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30-1:45pm

Class Location: Coleman 2741

Instructor: Dr. Camden Burd

Contact: crburd@eiu.edu

Office & Office Hours: My office is Coleman Hall 2532. I will offer open office times designated on Tuesdays from 11:00am-12:00pm, Wednesdays from 9:00am-11:00am, and Thursday from 10:00am-11:00am. I am willing to meet virtually via Zoom as well. Please email me to establish a virtual meeting or if you are having difficulty attending the office hours.

Email Response Policy: I will try to answer emails as quickly as possible. That being said, I cannot get to every message right away. Therefore, I will commit to responding to any email within 24 hours.

COVID-19: Rules and Expectations

The University is asking all of us to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. EIU's policy is intended to protect all of us on campus, as well as the community, your roommates, and loved ones at home. EIU's COVID-19 campus practices include face coverings, when and where required, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing, all of which are based on the best available public health guidance. Everyone in the campus community is responsible for following practices that reduce risk.

- All students, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear face coverings during class. Students may sit in any classroom seat where they are most comfortable. All reasonable efforts will be made to provide modifications to classroom seating arrangements if needed; however, this may not be possible in all situations.
- Students should not attend class if they are ill and should consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19-like symptoms. Accommodations for instruction and make-up work will be made for students with documented medical absences according to IGP #43: <https://castle.eiu.edu/auditing/043.php>
- If you have a health condition that may require a potential classroom accommodation or variation from current EIU COVID-19 policy, please contact Student Disability Services (studentdisability@eiu.edu or 581-6583) to determine what options may be available based on current CDC guidance.
- If you are unwilling to follow EIU's COVID-19 guidelines, you will be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential.
- To view the latest EIU COVID-19 related information and any policy updates, please visit <https://www.eiu.edu/covid/> .

****The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus****

Course Overview

This course covers various points of United States history from the colonial period to the Civil War and Reconstruction. We will read and discuss primary and second materials exploring colonial contest, Revolutionary politics and ideas, and the political struggles of the early-nineteenth century. In addition to a historical examination of key events and people, students will understand how colonists and early Americans valued religion, family, gender, race, and the economy. Over the

course of the semester, we will explore several themes and questions. How did American politicians imagine the newly created United States of America? Whose voices were included? Who was left out? How did men and women navigate society? How was race conceptualized, legislated, and discriminated against? How did changes in finance, technology, and industrialization shape society, culture, and the natural environment? Primarily focusing on primary source material, we will understand how historical actors experienced, shaped, and understood their contemporary world. Students will walk away from this course with a historical understanding of this critical and even track the origins of modern debates to pivotal points that defined the Antebellum Era. The history of America is one of contested ideas, furious debate, as well as physical conflict. Students will walk away from this course with a historical understanding of many of today's political debates and the empathy to understand the competing visions for America's past, present, and future.

Required Texts

- [*The American Yamp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook*](#) (free online)

Course Objectives

- Explain historical significance of factual information
- Discuss historical and historiographical issues of interpretation
- Interpret and analyze primary and secondary sources
- Analyze origins and development of the United States history from earliest times to Reconstruction

Assignments

Exams x3 (180 points): There will be three assessments over the course of the semester. These assessments will cover course content assigned in readings and discussed in class.

Freedom on the Move Assignment (160 points): As outlined in the syllabus, you will be asked to contribute to the Freedom on the Move digital project. You will create an account with the website and complete two transcriptions on the project. After completion of Freedom on the Move transcription assignment, you will respond the prompt distributed in class.

Participation and Attendance (60 points): Because this class is a mixture of lecture, discussion, and in-class exercises, students must come ready to participate. Please come prepared to discuss assigned readings and share your insights, questions, and thoughts about them. Discussion is not optional in this course—it is required. You have important insights and opinions and the entire class benefits from hearing them.

Grading

A = 400 – 360 points

B = 359 – 320 points

C = 319 – 280 points

D = 279 – 240 points

F = Below 240

Late Work and Missed Assignments

Due dates for writing responses, quizzes, and other assignments will be clearly marked in D2L and the syllabus. Exam dates and assignment deadlines are made clear at the beginning of the course

which means there are few reasonable excuses for missing them. That being said, I want you to succeed in this course. If, for whatever reason, you miss an assignment or exam please reach out to me. I encourage you to practice safety and healthy choices rather than putting yourself and others at risk.

Technical Requirements and Skills

During this class you will be expected to use several digital and technical tools to access learning materials and complete assignments. You should feel comfortable in the following tasks:

- Using the learning management system
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats
- Copying and pasting

Technical Support

If you need assistance with D2L, call D2L Support toll free at 1-877-325-7778. Support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Email and Chat options are also available on the “My Home” page after logging into D2L. Other D2L resources including a D2L Orientation course for students are available in “My Home” page. If you are experiencing less than optimal D2L Brightspace performance, review the D2L Brightspace Performance Checklist to assess the issue.

For technical questions regarding other software, hardware, network issues, EIU NetID/password, or Panthermail, contact the ITS Helpdesk at 217-381-4357 during regular business hours or submit a help ticket at <https://techsupport.eiu.edu/>. If you have a question regarding course content, feel free to contact me.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU’s Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Academic Services Support

Booth Library offers a variety of access to resources including articles, encyclopedias, books, videos, and more. You can access those materials on their website or by using the “Booth Library Services” widget on the course homepage.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by McAfee Gym, Room 1210, email studentdisability@eiu.edu, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

Student Success Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call (217) 581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

Discussion Etiquette

Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is committed to open, frank, and insightful dialogue in all of its courses. Diversity has many manifestations, including diversity of thought, opinion, and values. We encourage all learners to be respectful of that diversity and to refrain from inappropriate commentary. Should such inappropriate comments occur, the instructor will intervene.

Course Schedule

August 24 – Introduction

August 26 – Native America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 1

Reading: “Cherokee Creation Story.”

August 31 – New Spain

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 1

Reading: “Bartolomé de Las Casas Describes the Exploitation of Indigenous Peoples, 1542.”

September 2 – New France

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 2

Reading: Excerpts from, *Account of What Transpired in New France in the Year 1636*, by Father Paul Lejeune.

September 7 – British North America: Chesapeake Bay

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 2

Reading: “Richard Hakluyt Makes the Case for English Colonization, 1584.”

September 9 – British North America: New England

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 3

Reading: “John Winthrop Dreams of a City on a Hill, 1630.”

September 14 – The Creation of Anglo-America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 3

Reading: “Virginia Slave Laws.”

September 16 – Colonial Fracture

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 4

Reading: “Pontiac Calls for War, 1763.”

September 21 – The American Revolution I

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 5

Reading: “Responses to Intolerable Acts.”

September 23 – The American Revolution II

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 5

Reading: “Thomas Paine Calls for American independence, 1776.”

September 28 – EXAM 1

September 30 – A New Nation

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 6

Reading: “Petition from the Pennsylvania Society for the Abolition of Slavery, 1790.”

Reading: “Abigail and John Adams Converse on Women’s Rights, 1776.”

October 5 – The Early Republic

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 7

Reading: “George Washington’s Farewell Address, 1796.”

October 7 – The Market Revolution

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 8

Reading: “James Madison Asks Congress to Support Internal Improvements, 1815.”

October 12 – Industrial America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 8

Reading: “Harriet H. Robinson Remembers a Mill Workers’ Strike, 1836.”

October 14 – Democracy in America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 9

Reading: “Black Philadelphians Defend their Voting Rights, 1838.”

October 19 – Jacksonian America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 9

Reading: “Andrew Jackson’s Veto Message Against Re-chartering the Bank of the United States, 1832.”

October 21 – American Culture I

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 10

Reading: “Revivalist Charles G. Finney Emphasizes Human Choice in Salvation, 1836.”

October 26 – American Culture II

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 10

Reading: “Henry David Thoreau Reflects on Nature, 1854.”

October 28 – EXAM II

November 2 – American Slavery

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 11

Reading: “Solomon Northup Describes a Slave Market, 1841.”

November 4 – American Empire I

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 12

Reading: “Cherokee Petition Protesting Removal, 1836.”

November 9 – American Empire II

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 12

Reading: "Chinese Merchant Complains of Racist Abuse, 1860."

November 11 – Sectional Divide

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 13

Reading: "George Fitzhugh Argues that Slavery is Better than Liberty and Equality, 1854."

November 16 – Political Crisis

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 13

Reading: "Margaretta Mason and Lydia Maria Child Discuss John Brown, 1860."

November 18 – The Civil War

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 14

Reading: "Alexander Stephens on Slavery and the Confederate Constitution, 1861."

DUE: FREEDOM ON THE MOVE ASSIGNMENT

November 23 – NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 25 – NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 30 – The Civil War II

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 14

Reading: "Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, 1865."

December 2 – Presidential Reconstruction

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 15

Reading: "Freedmen discuss post-emancipation life with General Sherman, 1865."

December 7 – Congressional Reconstruction

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 15

Reading: "General Reynolds Describes Lawlessness in Texas, 1868."

December 9 – The End of Reconstruction and the Meaning of the Civil War

December 13 – FINAL EXAM, 12:30-2:30pm