

HISTORY 1301: INSTRUCTIONS AND SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: PROF. DONALD VON DOHLEN, M.A., TH.M.

**TEXTS: *GIVE ME LIBERTY, AN AMERICAN HISTORY*, BY ERIC FONER;
AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES: READINGS IN AMERICAN HISTORY, VOL. I,
EDITED AND COMPILED BY HCC FACULTY; AND *KILLER ANGELS*, BY
MICHAEL SHAARA.**

(The best way to get hold of me is by email at much2choosy@yahoo.com)

This course covers United States history from the time of the Columbus to the Civil War and Reconstruction. The method of the course is lecture with class discussion. You will need to take notes. You are responsible for four reading assignments throughout the semester. Three of the reading assignments will be from the reader, *American Perspectives*; the fourth reading assignment will be a synopsis of the book, *Killer Angels*. Due dates are on the syllabus. There will be a midterm test and a cumulative final examination. Questions on tests are identify and/or define, short answer, and short essay. The cumulative part of the final is more objective.

The course grade is composed of these elements:

Midterm 30% (60% WRITTEN WORK)

Reading Assignments 30% (#'s1-3, 20%, #4 10%) (100% WRITTEN WORK)

Final 30% (50% WRITTEN WORK)

Participation (including attendance) 10%

Total 100% (63% WRITTEN WORK)

BECAUSE OF STATE LAW AND CURRENT HCCS POLICY, TO GET A "W" FOR THIS COURSE, YOU MUST WITHDRAW IN WRITING BY 4:30 PM ON APRIL 14.

SYLLABUS

**(CHAPTERS LISTED IN THE SYLLABUS ARE FROM THE TEXTBOOK.
READING ASSIGNMENTS 1-3 ARE FROM THE READER. FOURTH
ASSIGNMENT IS THE NOVEL.)**

JAN 19 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE, CHAPTER ONE: A NEW WORLD.

JAN 24/26 CHAPTER TWO: AMERICAN BEGINNINGS, 1607-1650.

JAN 31/FEB 2 CHAPTER THREE: CRISIS AND EXPANSION: NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES, 1650-1750.

FEB 7/9 CHAPTER FOUR: SLAVERY, FREEDOM, AND THE STRUGGLE FOR EMPIRE TO 1763, FIRST READING ASSIGNMENT DUE.

FEB 14/16 CHAPTER FIVE: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 1763-83; CHAPTER SIX: THE REVOLUTION WITHIN

FEB 21 PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY

FEB 24 MID TERM TEST

FEB 28/MAR 2 CHAPTER SEVEN: THE CONSTITUTION AND THE NEW REPUBLIC. SHOW VIDEO ON CONSTITUTION.

MAR 7/9 FINISH CONSTITUTION AND WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATION.
SECOND READING ASSIGNMENT DUE.

MAR14-18 SPRING BREAK

MAR 21/23 CHAPTER EIGHT: SECURING THE REPUBLIC, 1790 TO 1815;
CHAPTER NINE: THE MARKET REVOLUTION..

MAR 28/30 CHAPTER TEN: DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA, 1815 TO 1840

APRIL 4/6 CHAPTER ELEVEN: THE PECULIAR INSTITUTION; CHAPTER
TWELVE, THE AGE OF REFORM

APRIL 11/13 CHAPTER THIRTEEN: A HOUSE DIVIDED, 1840-1861, THIRD
READING ASSIGNMENT DUE.

APRIL 18/20/25/27/MAY 2/4 CHAPTER FOURTEEN: A NEW BIRTH OF
FREEDOM, THE CIVIL WAR, REVIEW

MAY 9 5:30 PM FINAL EXAMINATION: *KILLER ANGELS* SYNOPSIS, FOURTH
READING, DUE.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT 1—DUE FEB 9

Edmund S. Morgan, “The Jamestown Fiasco”

James Axtell, “Native Reactions to the Invasion of America”

James Kirby Martin, “A ‘Most Undisciplined, Profligate Crew’”

Gary Nash, “The Forgotten Experience”

ASSIGNMENT 2—DUE MAR 9

John C Miller, “Crisis in Freedom: The Alien and Sedition Acts”

Bernard A Weisberger, “The Republican President”

John A Garrtay, “The Case of the Missing Commissions”

Edward Pessen, “The Jacksonian Character: A Contemporary Portrait of
American Personality, Traits, and Values”

Robert V. Remini, “Andrew Jackson Versus the Cherokee Nation”

ASSIGNMENT 3—DUE APRIL 13

John W. Blassingame, “The Slave Family”

Allen C. Guelzo, “Lincoln and the Abolitionists”

Don E. Fehrenbacher, “The Dred Scott Case”

Kenneth Stampp, “The Search for Remedies”

James McPherson, “No Peace without Victory, 1861-1865”

Read each essay and write one or two pages summarizing the reading and
responding to it. I want you to state the author’s argument and comment upon how well
he sustains it.

ASSIGNMENT 4—DUE MAY 9, THE DAY OF THE FINAL—is the synopsis of
Killer Angels. This should be 500-word essay summarizing the book and responding to

certain aspects of it such as the interplay between some of the characters. You need to have a thesis concerning the book that you develop in your essay. Here is the model outline:

- I. Introduction, including thesis. 1-3 paragraphs
- II. Main Points (body), several paragraphs
- III. Conclusion (1 paragraph): The conclusion should flow from the main points and reinforce the thesis.