History HIST 2111
American History to 1890

Maymester 2011

Dr. Kay Traille

Monday-Friday 8:00am-12:30pm

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday, and by appointment.

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DESCRIPTION

HIST2111 explores major themes in the social, cultural, political, and economic history of the peoples of North America to 1890. Topics include the intersection of cultures in colonial America; the origins and development of the American republic; the evolution of democratic ideas and institutions; western expansion; slavery; sectional conflict; emancipation and its aftermath; immigration; social and cultural change; the Industrial Revolution; and the changing role of the U.S. in world affairs. Examination of primary sources forms an important element of this course.

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1) Demonstrate an effective command of the historical record
2) Write a clear expository essay
3) Orally articulate a clear and concise argument
4) Analyze historical evidence

Basis for Final Grades:

STRUCTURE

This course will consist of preparatory reading, lectures, films and regular discussions. We will meet five days a week (Monday-Friday). It is expected that each student keep up with readings and participate in
class discussions. Grades will be based on 2 exams, and class participation. The breakdown is as follows:

Midterm: 40%
Final Exam: 40%
Participation: 20%

EXAMS

There will be 2 exams worth 40% each. They will be based on readings, videos, and discussions. The Midterm will include short answer questions and the final exam will be a take-home exam. A make-up exam will only be given if the student makes arrangements with me prior to the exam.

PARTICIPATION

This grade, worth 20% of your grade, takes into consideration participation in discussion, asking questions, engaging the material, attendance (including promptness), attitude, and classroom behaviour. I do not take attendance, but attendance is obviously necessary for participation and doing well in class.

A=89.5 or better
B=79.5 to 89.49
C=69.5 to 79.49
D=59.5 to 69.49
F=59.49 or below

Required Texts:

Academic Integrity Statement:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Attendance Policy:

I will be taking attendance during the course. Please Note, however, that the examination and Lesson Plan will draw from both the text and from lectures, and success in the class will entail regular attendance and note-taking.

Course Outline:

Day One:

Introduction: America before colonization

Readings: Read Brinkley, Ch. 2
Brown, Ch. 1

Day Two

European Colonization

Read Brinkley, Chapters 3 and 4

Take-home Mid-term exam posted online.

Day Three

The American Revolution

Read Brinkley, Chapters. 5 and 6.
Brown, Ch. 5
Day Four
The Constitution and the New Republic
Read Brinkley, Chapters 7 and 8
Brown, Chapters 6 and 7.

Day Five
Federalists and Jeffersonians
Read Brinkley, Chapters 8 and 9
Mid-term take home exam collected

Day Six
Jacksonian Era
Read Brinkley, Chapters 10 and 11

Day Seven
The Old South and Sectional Conflict
Read Brinkley, Chapters 13
Read Brown Chapters 9, and 12.
Final take home exam given

Day Eight
The Civil War
Read Brinkley, Ch. 14
Brown, Ch. 13

Day Nine
Reconstruction
Read Brinkley, Ch. 15
Read Brown, Ch. 14
Day Ten

Reconstruction and After

Final Exam collected.