Dakota College Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

HIST 103 – U.S. History until 1877

Course Description:

This class will explore the major themes in the political, social, technological and cultural development of the United States from pre-Columbian times to the formal end of the Reconstruction period in 1877. Focusing on key moments during the span of those 400 years, the student will be guided on a thorough tour concerning the formation, and later flourishing, of early America.

Course Objectives:

First, the student will have an accurate understanding of the forces leading up to and results from this historical era. Secondly, the student will be able to identify the key figures and influential actions made. Finally, the student will also have a greater knowledge of not only this time period, but how the study of history is directly related to almost every other discipline within a college course catalog. History is truly a cornerstone of learning, and this course is essential to any college student, no matter the major.

Pre/Co-requisite: None

Instructor:

Steven J. Sathre

Office:

Thatcher Hall 2206

Office Hours:

MWF 9:00-10:00/11:00-12:00

Phone:

701-228-5456

Email:

steve.sathre@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

MWF 10:00-10:50
Thatcher 1108

Textbook(s):

American Passages: A History of the United States, Vol. 1, Ayers, Gould, Oshinsky, Soderlund, 4th Edition, Thomson Publishers, 2009.

Various Handouts

Course Requirements:

The formula for grades is as follows.

3 exams (non-cumulative), 40 pts. each = 120 pts.
10 quizzes, 2 pts. each = 20 pts.
2 essays (details to follow), 30 pts. each = 60 pts.

Total pts. available = 200 pts.

90-100% - 180-200pts. = A
80-90% - 160-179pts. = B
70-80% - 140-159pts. = C
60-70% - 120-139pts. = D
<59% - <119pts. = F

No Incompletes will be given.

Exams will be multiple choice and essay format. They are not cumulative. Closed book and notes. The final exam will take place on **Thursday, December 19 at 9:00** and will not be given early.

Quizzes will be 2 questions and given randomly. They cannot be made up under *any* circumstances. They cover material in that week's reading and are short answer in form.

The 2 essays are thesis-based, 1800 words at minimum and written in Chicago Style format.

Tentative Course Outline

Week 1
Chapter 1, A Continent of Villages, to 1500

Week 2
Chapter 2, When Worlds Collide, 1492-1590

Week 3
Chapter 3, Planting Colonies in North America, 1588-1701
No Class Sept 2

Week 4
Chapter 4, Slavery and Empire, 1441-1770

Week 5
Chapter 5, The Cultures of Colonial North America, 1700-1780

Week 6
Chapter 6, From Empire to Independence, 1750-1776
Exam #1

Week 7
Chapter 7, The American Revolution, 1776-1786

Week 8
Chapter 8, The New Nation, 1786-1800

Week 9
Chapter 9, An Empire for Liberty, 1790-1824

Week 10
Chapter 10, The South and Slavery, 1790-1850
Essay #1 due October 30

Week 11
Chapter 11, The Growth of Democracy, 1824-1840
Exam #2

Week 12
Chapter 13, Meeting the Challenges of the New Age, 1820-1855
No Class November 11

Week 13
Chapter 15, The Coming Crisis, the 1850's

Week 14
Thanksgiving week, video: "The Impending Crisis"
Assignment to follow
No Class November 29

Week 15
Chapter 16, The Civil War, 1861-1865

Week 16
Chapter 17, Reconstruction, 1865-1877
Essay #2 due December 11

Week 17
Final Exams
Thursday, December 19, 9:00

General Education Goals/Objectives

Goal 6: Demonstrates the knowledge of the human experience throughout history

Objective 3: Recognizes human social structures

Skill 2: Demonstrates, through historical examples, what happens when differing social structures collide

Relationship to Campus Theme:

A focus on the interaction between natural resources and the development of the United States. Discovering how technological developments have affected the history of the American population. Reviewing the politcal process of the United States and reflecting on how future events hinge on current decisions.

Classroom Policies:

Reading the assigned text is the student's responsibility, and is essential to success in this course. It should be noted though that it is in your best academic interest to read material *before* the week of lecture/discussion as to aid in your understanding. Any deadlines are final and your work is due on the day specified (11:59:59 PM). Any late work will not be accepted for full credit.

Please refrain from doing anything that might be disruptive and disturb other students or the instructor, such as chronically arriving late, leaving early, talking with neighbors, using a cell phone or texting. Turn all electronic junk off. This class does not require the use of a laptop computer, therefore they are not allowed to be operated in lecture periods.

This academic environment is an open and harassment free one. Participation within the classroom is highly encouraged and is an integral part of the higher education experience. Ask questions – comment on discussions.

Academic Integrity:

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary defines plagiarism as: "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work." There will be *zero tolerance* of any form of academic dishonesty. If any evidence appears of students not doing their own work, plagiarism, or outright cheating on quizzes/exams, the matter will be

investigated. If it is concluded that such dishonesty occurred, the student in question will receive an automatic “F” for the course. Furthermore, the matter will be reported to the appropriate university office and the instructor will participate in any proceedings against the guilty party.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.