

HIST 3610
Fall 2007
MWF 11:15 – 12:13
C 214

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Office Hrs.: MWF 9:30-11:00

COLONIAL NORTH AMERICA

Please read this syllabus carefully. You are responsible for knowing its contents and for requesting clarification. By staying in the course you are agreeing to all course policies.

The instructor reserves the right to modify course policies – with appropriate notice to students – if it is judged that doing so will further the course objectives.

Content: This course explores major developments and issues in the settlement and colonization of the area that is now the United States. Major themes include intercultural contact; the development of colonial societies, economies, and cultures; the location of the North American colonies within larger imperial and transatlantic systems; and the development of a distinct American identity.

Learning Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will

- (1) understand major developments and issues in colonial North American history.
- (2) understand the construction and presentation of historical arguments, including rhetorical strategy and use of evidence.
- (3) have strengthened skills in critical and analytical reading, thinking, and writing.

Requirements: All students in the class must:

- (1) attend and arrive on time at class sessions.
- (1) do the assigned reading *completely and on time*.
- (2) participate actively in class discussions.
- (3) take the weekly quizzes (see “makeup policy” section below).
- (4) take a cumulative essay-style final examination.
- (5) submit a comparative book analysis of 2000-2500 words (detailed on a separate handout).

Class activities: This class is arranged into units consisting (mostly) of 3 class sessions. The first session in each unit will consist of a short multiple-choice quiz, followed by a lecture. The quiz is intended to ensure your familiarity with the necessary factual background, and the lecture is intended to raise the basic issues to be discussed in the remainder of the unit. The second and third class sessions will be devoted to discussion of selected essays; these discussions are the central component of the course. Study questions for the readings will be handed out in advance. Writing out your answers to these questions will benefit you greatly – both in class discussions and on the final exam. All students must come to class fully prepared to participate in class discussions and will be given a class participation score which will constitute 1/4 of the overall course grade. The minimum score, given to one who never participates in class discussions, is a 70, though a score of 70 will never be permitted to raise the grade of a person whose scores in other course areas average below that number.

Important points regarding quizzes:

- 1) There are 13 quizzes in all. You may drop the lowest three (but not the score on the map quiz).
- 2) You will need a scantron (882-ES) and a #2 pencil for each quiz except the map quiz.
- 3) You will not be permitted to take the quiz if you arrive at class more than 5 minutes after it has begun. But you should remain in class to receive credit for attendance.
- 4) The instructor reserves the right to give 'pop' quizzes at any time.

Attendance policy: While conflicting commitments and unforeseen and unpreventable developments may occasionally force an absence, this class, like one's family or job, is a major commitment. Attendance is required and will be monitored by means of daily sign-up sheets. (*You are responsible for making sure that you sign in.*) Please keep in mind that you may sign in only for yourself, and that *signing in for someone else (even if that person is in the room) constitutes an act of academic dishonesty.* Leaving class early without the instructor's prior consent will result in a student's being counted absent for that day. To allow for unforeseen circumstances, every student will be permitted three "cuts" (the equivalent of a week of class), with no questions asked and no penalty. But 5 points will be deducted from your course point total (on which, see below) for each additional absence. If appropriate documentation for severe illness, employment conflict, or other compelling reason for absence is presented, that absence will be "excused" and will not be charged against you. This policy reflects life in the working world, where employers have strict attendance policies and the penalties for violating them are much greater. As in the working world, demonstrated commitment to the class in the form of perfect attendance will be rewarded. 10 points will be added to the course point total of anyone who completes the semester with no unexcused absences.

Make-up policy: Makeups of the quizzes are permitted only when the quiz was missed because of an excused absence supported by appropriate documentation. But since people sometimes miss or perform poorly on quizzes for other reasons, it is a course policy that you may drop the three lowest scores received on regularly scheduled quizzes (*except the map quiz, the score on which may not be dropped*), including zeroes that might result from missed quizzes. Make-ups of the final exam will be *oral* – and will be permitted only in extraordinary circumstances and only if those circumstances are verified in writing to the instructor by the appropriate authority before the official exam time. The time of a make-up exam will be jointly arranged by the student and the instructor.

Grading: *Please note that plus-minus grading is used in this course.* A maximum of 400 points will be available, distributed as follows:

- average of the ten best quizzes (must include the map quiz) on a 100-point scale
- 100 points maximum for class participation
- 100 points maximum for the paper
- 100 points maximum on the final exam

Grades will be assigned largely on the basis of total points earned, as follows:

370-400 = A	350-359 = B+	310-319 = C+	270-279 = D+
360-369 = A-	330-349 = B	290-309 = C	250-269 = D
	320-329 = B-	280-289 = C-	240-249 = D-

Points earned for perfect attendance will be added to your total; points lost for excessive absence will be subtracted from your total.

IMPORTANT NOTES CONCERNING GRADING:

- 1) For CR/NC students, 280 points are required for credit.
- 2) A passing grade requires submission of all assignments, including the term paper and final exam.
- 3) Change of grading option from letter grade to CR/NC will be granted after the university deadline only for compelling reasons, supported by appropriate written documentation. Compelling reasons include but are not limited to (a) a change in work schedule that makes attendance at class impossible; (b) an illness serious enough to require hospitalization or medically-ordered bedrest for a lengthy period. Reasons NOT considered compelling include but are not limited to (a) avoidance of a failing grade; (b) avoidance of grade-related loss of financial aid.

Required books (available for purchase at Kiva bookstore):

Mary Beth Norton et.al., *A People and a Nation* (brief 7th ed., vol. 1)
Karen O. Kupperman, *Major Problems in Colonial American History* (2nd ed.)
Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum, *Salem Possessed*
Eric Foner, *Tom Paine and Revolutionary America*

Important Dates: Last day to drop: T 10/2
Last day to choose CR/NC option T 10/2
Final exam: W 12/12 11:15 AM – 1:15 PM

PLEASE NOTE: The instructor will be happy to accommodate needs arising from legitimate instances of disability, supported by documentation from the appropriate university authorities. *Making the necessary arrangements is your responsibility.*

PLEASE NOTE: Any student caught in an act of academic dishonesty will fail the course and may be subject to full disciplinary procedure.



COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTORY

Reading: syllabus and paper guidelines

W Sept. 5 Introduction to the course
F Sept. 7 **QUIZ 1:** syllabus and paper guidelines
Discuss strategies for quiz preparation and term paper

UNIT ONE: PERSPECTIVES ON COLONIZATION

Reading: *Major Problems*, 1-25

M&W Sept. 10 & 12 Discuss *Major Problems*, 1-25
F Sept. 14 **MAP QUIZ (QUIZ 2)**

UNIT TWO: EXPLORATION AND CONTACT

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 1-7, 9-18, *Major Problems*, 26-27, 38-55

M Sept. 17 **QUIZ 3:** *A People and a Nation*, 1-7, 9-18; Lecture follows
W&F Sept. 19 & 21 Discuss *Major Problems*, 38-55

UNIT THREE: ENGLISH SETTLEMENT IN THE CHESAPEAKE

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 25-32; *Major Problems*, 57-58, 72-86

M Sept. 24 **QUIZ 4:** *A People and a Nation*, 25-32; Lecture follows
W&F Sept. 26 & 28 Discuss *Major Problems*, 72-86

UNIT FOUR: ENGLISH SETTLEMENT IN NEW ENGLAND

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 32-37 (and review sections on “English Reformation,” “Puritans and Separatists”, and “The Stuart Monarchs” on 27-28); *Major Problems*, 87-88, 97-116

M Oct. 1 **QUIZ 5:** *A People and a Nation*, 27-28, 32-37; Lecture follows
W&F Oct. 3 & 5 Discuss *Major Problems*, 98-116

UNIT FIVE: ETHNICITY AND SOCIETY IN THE MIDDLE COLONIES

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 41-42 (sections on “New York,” “New Jersey”, and “Pennsylvania”), 59-62; *Major Problems*, 180, 203-219

M Oct. 8 **QUIZ 6:** *A People and a Nation*, 41-42, 59-62; Lecture follows
W Oct. 10 NO CLASS: COLUMBUS DAY OBSERVANCE
F Oct. 12 Discuss *Major Problems*, 203-219

UNIT SIX: SPANISH SETTLEMENT IN NEW MEXICO

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 45 (sections on “Popé and the Pueblo Revolt” and “Spain’s North American Possessions”), and review 14-15, 22-25; *Major Problems*, 152-153, 164-178

M Oct. 15 **QUIZ 7:** *A People and a Nation*, 14-15, 22-25, 45; Lecture follows
W&F Oct. 17 & 19 Discuss *Major Problems*, 164-178

UNIT SEVEN: THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHERN SOCIETY

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 42-43 (section on “Carolina”), 46-47, 63 (sections on “Middle Colonies and Chesapeake,” “The Lower South,” and “Georgia”); *Major Problems*, 255, 266-285

M Oct. 22 **QUIZ 8:** *A People and a Nation*, 42-43, 46-47, 63; Lecture follows
W&F Oct. 24 & 26 Discuss *Major Problems*, 266-285

UNIT EIGHT: PATTERNS OF SLAVE LIFE

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 51-53; *Major Problems*, 286, 302-329

M Oct. 29 **QUIZ 9:** *A People and a Nation*, 51-53; Lecture follows
W&F Oct. 31 & Nov. 2 Discuss *Major Problems*, 302-329

UNIT NINE: COMMERCE AND THE GROWTH OF NORTHERN SOCIETY

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 50-51 (sections on “Mercantilism” and “Navigation Acts”), 62-63 (through section on “New England and King George’s War”); *Salem Possessed* (entire)

M Nov. 5 **QUIZ 10:** *A People and a Nation*, 50-51, 62-63; Lecture follows
W&F Nov. 7 & 9 Discuss *Salem Possessed*
Optional first draft of comparative book analysis due Wed., November 7

UNIT TEN: THE GREAT AWAKENINGS

Reading: *A People and a Nation*, 71-72; *Major Problems*, 330, 345-364

