

HILD 2A- United States History to 1820- Fall 2008

Professor Ryan Jordan
MWF 3-3:50 PCYNH 109
Office Hours: WF 4-5PM, HSS 4047

This course is an introduction to American history roughly from the sixteenth century to the early national period. This course examines the initial European conquest of the Americas; the rise of the British colonies; the causes of the American Revolution; the meaning of American independence for different groups in the nation; conflicting views of the federal constitution; slavery and the origins of racism; and changes in social structure, religion, ethnicity, and gender roles. This course is intended to provide the student with a sense of the basic narrative of American history before 1820, while at the same time introducing the student to the salient issues in American historiography.

Required Readings:

James L. Roark, et.al. *The American Promise: A History of the United States, vol. 1(4th ed.)*
Ryan Jordan, *Course Packet- HILD 2A*
Olaudah Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative and Other Writings: Revised Edition (Penguin Classics)*
Benjamin Franklin, *Autobiography*

Grading:

25%- Midterm
25%- 5 page paper on Equiano and Franklin reading (essay prompt handed out at the end of week 7)
35%- Final
15%- Discussion Section attendance

Reading & Lecture Schedule

September 26: Introduction

September 29: Native Peoples of the New World
American Promise, pp.3-30

October 1: Europe in the Age of Exploration
American Promise, pp.35-52; Course Packet- Columbus and de las Casas documents, pp.1-6

October 3: The New World and 16th Century Europe
American Promise pp.52-64; Course Packet-Hakluyt document, pp.7

October 6: Jamestown
American Promise, pp.69-87; Course Packet- Frethorne and Alsop documents, Horn on Tobacco, pp.8-17

October 8: From Servitude to Slavery

American Promise, pp.87-98; *Course Packet*, Taylor on the West Indies, Bacon and Examples of the Slave Code, pp.18-26, 39-41

October 10: *Africans in America Video: The Terrible Transformation*

Begin Reading Equiano Narrative

October 13: Puritans and the Settlement of New England

American Promise, pp.103-120; *Course Packet*- Anderson article, Winthrop document, pp.27-38,42-43

October 15: Expansion in the Northern colonies and Native Conflict

American Promise, pp.120-131; *Course Packet*- King Philips' document; Penn document & Lepore article, pp.44-45,46-47, 49-58

October 17: A Growing Population in British North America

American Promise, pp.137-150;*Course Packet*- Wokeck article and Mittleberger document,47-48, 59-66

October 20: The British North American Economy

Course Packet-Middleton article, 79-106

October 22: The Growth of Conflict over Slavery

American Promise, pp.151-157; *Course Packet*- Peter Wood article, pp.120-125; continue reading Equiano

October 24: Anglicization and Imperial Tensions

American Promise, pp.158-170; *Course Packet*- Hofstra and Lambert articles, pp.67-77, 107-119; begin reading Franklin's Autobiography

October 27: Wars with the French

American Promise, pp.175-185

October 29: Midterm

October 31: The Stamp Act and Townshend Crises

American Promise, pp.186-196;*Course Packet*- Stamp Act Congress and Samuel Adams documents; Morgan and Meier articles; pp.126-148

November 3: From the Boston Massacre to the Declaration of Independence

American Promise, pp.196-222; *Course Packet*, Henry article, pp.129-130

November 5: The Revolutionary War (Film: Liberty!)

American Promise, pp.222-247

November 7 : Whose Revolution?

Course Packet- Wood and Holton articles, pp.149-163

November 10: The Crises of the 1780s

American Promise- pp.251-271

November 12: The Federal Constitution and Its Discontents

American Promise, pp.271-282; Course Packet- Henry opposing constitution , Young article, Federalists docs, pp.164-178

November 14: Washington and the Federalists

American Promise, pp.287-302; Course Packet-Hamilton and Jefferson documents; Fears of Federalists essay, pp.179-192

November 17: Conflicts West, East, and South

American Promise, pp.302-310; Finish Equiano's Narrative & Franklin Autobiography

November 19: The Rise of Jefferson

American Promise, pp.310-317; Course Packet- Dem.-Rep societies through Jefferson documents, pp.193-195

November 21: The "Revolution of 1800"

American Promise, pp.321-331; Course Packet- Appleby and McDonald essays, pp.196-204

November 24: Women's Status in the Early Republic

American Promise, pp.337-344

November 26: no class (paper due by this date, earlier if you are leaving for break)

December 1: Background to the War of 1812

American Promise, pp.331-337

December 3: The War of 1812 and the plight of Natives

Course Packet- Horsman and Dowd essays & Tecumseh documents, pp.205-214

December 5: Towards the Age of Jackson

American Promise, pp.344-352

