

UCSD History 106A  
Dr William Weeks wweeks@ucsd.edu

Office Hours: MW 2-3 and by apt.

Fall, 2012  
HSS 5053

### **American Foreign Relations: to 1900**

**Description:** This course examines the range of public and private interactions between the United States and the world, from the nation's founding to 1900.

**Required texts:**

*Major Problems in American Foreign Relations*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, vol 1: to 1920 edited by D. Merrill and T. Paterson

*Race, Nation, and Empire* reader

*American Foreign Relations: A History*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, vol 1, to 1920 by T. Paterson, et al

**Grading:** Your grade will be composed of four components:

--mid-term essay: 30%

--final essay: 30%

--weekly assignment notes: 30%

--class grade (attendance, preparation, participation, decorum): 10%

**Weekly Assignments:** This class requires that you write 500-750 words of comment, summary, criticism and/or analysis in response to each week's reading assignment. Please post to the Discussion board on TED by noon, Mondays.

**Proposed Method:** The course proposes to be a mutual exploration of the history of American foreign relations via a dialogue between the students, the teacher, the historical sources we examine, and the World Outside the Walls. After absorbing a range of perspectives on American foreign relations each student is expected to articulate their own interpretation of the subject matter.

**Informal Pre-requisite:** All that you have learned until now. You must apply this prior knowledge in order to do well in this class.

**Classroom decorum:** Please refrain from chatting, sleeping, eating, doing work from other classes, or anything not directly related to our class. Such activities are disrespectful of the class, your classmates, and your professor. Leaving during class (except for restroom emergencies) without notifying me in advance is disruptive and therefore prohibited. Electronic devices of any sort must be turned off for the duration of the class. Thanks you!

**Course Outline (subject to change):**

#### **Friday, September 28: Course Introduction**

#### **Week 1: Approaches to American Foreign Relations/Origins of American Foreign Relations**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 1, 2; RNE reader, selection by Marvin; text, chapter 1.

#### **Week 2: American Foreign Relations and the Rise of Political Parties in the 1790s**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 3; RNE reader, selection by Chernow and Grenier; text chapter 2.

#### **Week 3: Expansion, Embargo, and War**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 4, 5; RNE reader, selection by Meinig; text chapter 2

#### **Week 4: The Monroe Doctrine: Claiming the Hemisphere**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 6; text chapter 3

**Week 5: Westward Expansion and Indian Removal**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 7; RNE reader, selection by Horsman, "Racial Destiny and the Indians"; text chapter 3

**First paper due in class on Friday**

**Week 6: Manifest Destiny**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 8, 9; text chapter 4

**Week 7: The Civil War and American Foreign Relations**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 10; RNE reader, selections by Horsman and Stout; text chapter 4

**Week 8: Becoming a World Power**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 11; text chapter 5

**Week 9: The Spanish-American-Cuban-Filipino War**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 12; RNE reader, selection by Du Bois; text 6

**Week 10: Empire and Ambition in Asia**

Readings: *Problems*, chapter 13; RNE reader, selection by Du Bois; text, chapter 5

**Final papers due in class at time of final examination.**