

HISTORY 178- THE ATLANTIC WORLD

M 3-5:50 HSS 3086

Spring 2009 UCSD

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Office Hours: Tu 12:30-1:30;Th 4-5PM or by appointment

This course examines the interactions between the peoples and nations who bordered the Atlantic Ocean from the period 1492-1800. Students should come away from this course with an understanding of how these interactions created new societies, economies, and nation-states by the nineteenth century.

Assigned Readings:

Alison F. Games and Adam Rothman eds., *Major Problems in Atlantic History*

J.H. Elliott, *Empires of the Atlantic World*

Peter Linebaugh & Marcus Rediker, *The Many-Headed Hydra*

Assignments:

1) Weekly Journal of all assigned readings (20% of grade)- When writing your journal entries, you should think about important questions raised by the reading- especially questions that can be raised with the seminar. One important question concerns how these documents or essays speak to the creation of a new Atlantic or “American” culture, economy, or society. Another important question concerns the similarities and differences between the different nations and peoples in the “Atlantic World.” It would also be a good idea to evaluate what the term “Atlantic World” means, in your opinion. These journals should be typed, and should be about 2-3 pages in length.

2) Research Paper based on biographies of figures in the Atlantic World (80% of grade)- this paper should compare and contrast two biographies of figures such as the ones below, explaining how their lives illustrate the connections between societies and peoples in the Atlantic World. The two people you pick should be from different ethnic backgrounds (for example one British Protestant, one African slave, or a French colonists with a Native American, etc.) Examples of possible biographies follow below, but this is by no means an exhaustive list:

Christopher Columbus- Hernan Cortes- Pocahontas- Walter Raleigh- John Smith- Richard Hakluyt- Henry Morgan- Gottlieb Mittelberger- Joseph Brant- Conte Louise de Frontenac- John Newton- Olaudah Equiano- Benjamin Franklin- George Washington- Toussaint Louverture

Please contact me about other possible figures for your paper.

Reading Schedule:

Week 1 (March 30): What is Atlantic History?

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapter 1

Week 2 : Origins of the Atlantic World and Iberian Expansion

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapters 2 & 3; Elliott, "Intrusion and Empire"

Week 3: Iberian Hegemony and European Challenges

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapter 4; Elliott, "Occupying American Space" & "Confronting American Peoples"

Week 4: The Columbian Exchange and Migrations (Research Notes Due for first group-Discussion of Biographies)

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapters 5-6; Elliott, "Exploiting American Resources"

Week 5: Atlantic Economies, Slavery, and Piracy (Research Notes Due for second group-Discussion of Biographies)

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapters 7-8; Linebaugh, 8-103

Week 6: Crown and Colonists

Linebaugh and Rediker, 143-210; Elliott, "Crown and Colonists"

Week 7: Religion, Culture, and Society

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapter 9; Elliott, "America as Sacred Space"

Week 8: Imperial Contests and Independence (Outline/Draft of paper due- group discussion)

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapters 10-11; Elliott, "Empire and Identity," "War and Reform," "Empires in Crisis"

Week 9 (May 25): No Class

Week 10: Social Revolution

Major Problems in Atlantic History, chapter 12; Linebaugh, pp. 211-285; Elliott, "A New World in the Making"