

Survey of Early American History
HILD 2A
University of California, San Diego
Fall 2014
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00-11:50
Pepper Canyon Hall 109

Professor Mark Hanna
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Office Hours: Wednesday 1-3
(or by appointment)
H & SS Building #4059

Teaching Assistants
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This course will survey colonial American history beginning in pre-Columbian America and ending around 1800. We will focus primarily on the major conflicts of this period: contact and conquest, colonialism, slavery and race, the meaning of the American Revolution and its immediate aftermath in both the newly established United States and the rest of the world. The course centers on the North American colonies but it takes a decidedly “Atlantic” approach. As an introductory-level survey, this course assumes students have had no prior experience with college-level historical study. The intention is for students to establish a general narrative of American history to 1800, to learn how historians have constructed this narrative, and what challenges there are in doing so. Although this is a survey of early American history, you will work with primary sources from the early modern period including original archival material from UCSD’s Special Collections. Instead of simply memorizing the important dates and names of an event like the American Revolution, you will try to understand how that event was perceived from multiple perspectives. When you can grasp context and perspective about the past, you can begin to do the same with the present.

Required Readings:

-Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography and other Writings* (Penguin Classic) [ISBN: 0-14-24-3760-3]

-Susanna Rowson, *Slaves in Algiers or, A Struggle for Freedom* (Copley Edition)

-Alan Taylor, *American Colonies* (2001) [ISBN: 0-14-20-0210-0] TEXTBOOK

**All other readings are online under “web links” on the course web site.

Assignments: The assignments for this course are designed to highlight different skill sets in historical writing. During the quarter there will be four writing assignments that analyze primary sources from Early America. You are required to do **THREE** of the four. There will be a midterm and a final paper due on the day the university has set aside for a final exam. All papers will be submitted through Turnitin. If you only go to lecture and ignore the reading, or do the reading and miss lecture, you will find it very difficult to pass the course. Sections are required and participation is **essential**. More than three unexcused absences will result in failure for that percentage of your grade. Remember, if you do not read the textbook, my lectures will likely not make sense to you.

1. Participation in section is required (20% of grade)
2. Midterm (20% of grade)
3. Assignment One (10% of grade)
4. Assignment Two (10% of grade)
5. Assignment Three (10% of grade)
6. Final “Exam” Paper (30% of grade)

You are responsible for the readings and assignments listed before your weekly sections as indicated after the Monday readings on the course schedule. For example, everyone is responsible for the first week’s reading listed under September 26, including the 10:00 Monday sections. Hand in your assignments to you T.A. before section begins.

There will also be an extra credit assignment that will entail visiting local historic sites of San Diego. You may and are encouraged to do this in groups.

Academic Honesty: Students may work in groups and are encouraged to discuss paper topics. However, they are to write their own essays. If you copy material from assigned or unassigned texts you must cite the source by using quotation marks and indicating where the material came from. Every essay can be written using assigned readings or primary source documents. The short written assignments are intended to provide you with the freedom to explore your own interests. However, this places a great deal of responsibility on you to act honestly. In-class exams are closed book with no texts or crib sheets.

Integrity of scholarship is what makes an academic community work. The University requires both faculty and students to honor this principle. Students are required to do their own academic work without any unauthorized aid. Faculty are required to report any suspicion of cheating, collusion, or plagiarism to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. For University guidelines see <http://www.senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm> and for History department guidelines see <http://historyweb.ucsd.edu/pages/undergraduate/Current/plagiarism.htm>.

Course Schedule:

[Subject to change]

Friday, October 3
The Significance of Early American History

Monday, October 6
Facing East from Indian Country
*Reading: Alan Taylor: *American Colonies*, pp. Intro-39.
J.B. Harley: "Rereading the Maps of the Columbian Encounter"

Wednesday, October 8
Looking West from Europe

Friday, October 10
The Columbian Exchange

Monday, October 13 [Columbus Day]
Spanish Conquest
*Readings: Alan Taylor: pp. 39-85, 91-113.
Gregory Nobles: "Straight Lines and Stability"

Assignment #1: Early Modern Maps

Wednesday, October 15
Jamestown

Friday, October 17
Who were the Puritans?

Monday, October 20
***Sections this week will visit the Geisel Special Collections**
King Philip's War
*Readings: Alan Taylor: pp. 86-90, 117-137, 158-203.

Wednesday, October 22
The Making of New World Slavery

Friday, October 24
Slave Cultures

Monday, October 27
The Rise of the Pirate Nests
*Reading:
Alan Taylor: pp. 138-157, 204-272.

Assignment #2: Search *Virginia Runaway Slave Ads*

Wednesday, October 29
Researching Pirate Nests

Friday, October 31
Witches

Monday, November 3
Good Wives
*Reading: Alan Taylor: pp. 275-337.

Wednesday, November 5
Anglicization

Friday, November 7
The Seven Years War and Franklin's Imperial Vision

Monday, November 10
Review Class
*Readings: Begin Franklin's *Autobiography*, Introduction to p. 70.
Alan Taylor: pp. 338-362

Wednesday, November 12
The Midterm

Friday, November 14
Declaring Independence

Monday, November 17
The Shoemaker and the Tea Party
*Reading: Finish Franklin's *Autobiography*, p.70-176.
Alan Taylor: pp. 363-66.

Assignment #3: Special Collections Assignment (Print Documents)

Wednesday, November 19
The Radical Revolution vs. The Conservative Revolution

Friday, November 21
Harry Washington's Revolution

Monday, November 24
No Sections This Week
Abolitionism in the Anglophone World
*Readings: Finish Franklin

Wednesday, November 26

Movie Day

Friday, November 28
[Thanksgiving Break] NO CLASS

Monday, December 1
The Age of Revolutions: Haiti and France
*Readings: Documents on Alta California

Assignment #4: Special Collections Assignment (Manuscript Documents)

Wednesday, December 3
Alta California

Friday, December 5
Free Trade: Expansion into China

Monday, December 8
The Barbary Wars: The Second American Revolution
*Reading: Susana Rowson's, *Slaves in Algiers or, A Struggle for Freedom*
Alan Taylor, pp. 466-477.

Wednesday, December 10
Remembering Early America

Friday, December 12
American Slavery, American Freedom
Parting Thoughts and Looking Forward

*** Visiting Historic San Diego Extra Credit Assignment Due to Your TA by 11:00 on
December 12**

FINAL PAPERS DUE THROUGH TURNITIN

In 6-8 pages, analyze a primary source that illuminates something about early America before 1800. You may use a source found in UCSD's Special Collections Library, *Early American Imprints*, *Early English Books Online*, *Early American Newspapers*, *Eighteenth Century Online*.
Due Tuesday, December 16 by 2:30