

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-Bacon document*; *Virginia slave code*; *Taylor on the West Indies*, pp.38-40; 18-26
- 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.103-121; *Course Packet- Anderson article*, *Winthrop document*, pp.27-37,41-44
- October 15: Expansion in the Northern colonies and Native Conflict
American Promise, pp.121-131; *Course Packet- Lepore article*; *King Philips' document*; *Penn document*, pp.43-45,45-57
- October 17: A Growing Population in British North America
American Promise, pp.135-147; *Course Packet- Wokeck article and Mittleberger document*, 44-45, 58-65
- October 20: The British North American Economy
Course Packet-Middleton article, 77-91
- October 22: The Growth of Conflict over Slavery
American Promise, pp.147-154; *Course Packet- Peter Wood article*, pp.104-109; *continue reading Equiano*
- October 24: Anglicization and Imperial Tensions
American Promise, pp.155-168; *Course Packet- Hofstra and Lambert articles*, pp.66-76, 92-103; *begin reading Franklin's Autobiography*
- October 27: Wars with the French
American Promise, pp.173-182
- October 29: Midterm
- October 31: The Stamp Act and Townshend Crises
American Promise, pp.183-194; *Course Packet- Stamp Act Congress and Samuel Adams documents*; *Morgan and Meier articles*; pp.110-132
- November 3: From the Boston Massacre to the Declaration of Independence
American Promise, pp.194-220; *Course Packet, Henry article*, pp.113-115 (*Film: Liberty!*)
- November 5: The Revolutionary War
American Promise, pp.220-242

November 7 : Whose Revolution?

Course Packet- Wood and Holton articles, pp.133-146

November 10: The Crises of the 1780s

American Promise- pp.249-268

November 12: The Federal Constitution and Its Discontents

American Promise, pp.269-280; Course Packet- Henry opposing constitution , Young article, Federalists docs, pp.147-161

November 14: Washington and the Federalists

American Promise, pp.285-300; Course Packet-Hamilton and Jefferson documents; Fears of Federalists essay, pp.162-172

November 17: Conflicts West, East, and South

American Promise, pp.301-307; Finish Equiano's Narrative & Franklin Autobiography

November 19: The Rise of Jefferson

American Promise, pp.307-315; Course Packet- Dem.-Rep societies through Jefferson documents, pp.173-175

November 21: The "Revolution of 1800"

American Promise, pp.319-327; Course Packet- Appleby and McDonald essays, pp.176-183

November 24: Women's Status in the Early Republic

American Promise, pp.340-343

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.327-340

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

Course Packet- Horsman and Dowd essays & Tecumseh documents, pp.187-194

December 5: Towards the Age of Jackson

American Promise, pp.343-350