COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Professor William Flinter  DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences
CATALOG NUMBER: HIS 103  Eastern Campus
TITLE: U.S. History I
SEMESTER: Fall 2009

READING:


McCullough, David “1776” (New York 2006)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Survey of American history from its colonial beginnings through the Civil War. Topics include the origin and development of American ideals, the American Revolution and constitution, westward expansion, Jacksonian Democracy, social and economic changes in the 19th century, slavery and the Civil War and Reconstruction.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The student will be able to:

1. describe the roots of American history and indicate how an understanding of past events and historical processes helps to better comprehend present society.

2. demonstrate a “historical awareness” by citing specific examples of human behavior changes through time, such as attitudes toward:
   - family
   - government
   - environment
   - cultures

3. evaluate the importance of key issues in American history:
   - the role of ethnic groups and race, role of individuals, significance of technology, economic development, American ideals and virtues, American vices and failures, the formation of the structure of government, the formation of our nation, slavery and the tragedy of the Civil War.
4. show the value of historical research by becoming acquainted with primary and secondary source materials.

5. practice his/her writing, thinking and comprehension skills in tests and reading assignments.

PROCEDURES TO BE EMPLOYED

Class discussions and dialogue, lecture, readings in texts, film, internet and homeworks.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF THE COURSE:
1. Class attendance and participation
2. Three quizzes 50%
3. Homework assignments
4. Completed assigned readings
5. Written assignments 50%
6. Un-announced quizzes

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The college defines absence or lateness as more than the equivalent of one week of class during the course. In a normal semester two class absences. If you have four absences in this class you are over-cut. **Excessive absence or lateness may lead to failure in a course or removal from the class roster.** If you have four absences you are in danger of being removed from the class roster. If you are absent, whatever the reason, consult with me as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to keep me informed as to your status in this class. You are responsible for all assignments which may be given or are due regardless of your absence.

Please be prompt. If you arrive late or leave early you must see me or you will be marked absent. If you arrive late you receive ½ an absence. Two latenesses equals a complete absence. If you must leave early please consult with me. If you are asleep in a class you are absent. You must attend class to be aware of assignments, readings, homework and tests.

No cell phones. No text messaging. No electronic devices without permission.
ASSIGNMENTS

1. Book Review and Test: (15%) McCullough, David “1776” (New York 2006)…..Due Oct. 1st

2. Movie Reviews : (15%) Three movie reviews due Nov.1st
   Historical film relevant to our period of study. Instructor approval
   Two pages for each film, typed and double spaced.
   Title:
   Date:
   Length:
   Producer/Director:
   Historical Setting:
   Brief Summary and Theme:
   Five historical accuracies.
   Five Historical in-accuracies.
   Compare the film with texts or other readings and evaluate the significance and value of the film.

3. Historical Site Visit and Report (20%) due Dec.1st
   Three pages (750 words) typed ..double spaced
   Describe your visit and experience. Develop a relationship between class/text and history.
   *****EXPLICIT EVIDENCE OF YOUR ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.*****

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY :

PLAGIARISM : “TO TAKE THE IDEAS AND WRITINGS FROM ANOTHER PERSON AND PASS THEM OFF AS ONE’S OWN”. (WEBSTER PG. 103 )

ANY WORK PLAGIARIZED WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO

RESPECT THE OPINIONS AND INDIVIDUALITY OF YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS.

LATE WORK:
Late papers will be accepted up to one week after the assigned date. The penalty for all late papers is one letter grade. After one week the papers will not be accepted. A paper is late if it is not handed in the class it is due.
TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

WEEK
8-31  Introduction and Pre-Columbus
9-7   European Condition
9-14  Exploration and Colonization
9-21  American Colonies
9-28  American Revolution “1776”
10-5  Crisis and Articles of Confederation QUIZ ONE
10-12 Constitution and Nation
10-19 Jefferson and Hamilton
10-26 Economy, Culture and Society
11-2  Jackson
11-9  Culture and Society QUIZ TWO
11-16 Sectionalism
11-23 The South and Slavery
11-30 Civil War
12-14 Post War and Reconstruction

FINAL EXAM

There are 15 weeks and topics. I will assign readings from the text accordingly. Chapters one to twenty-four. I will also employ additional readings as time permits.

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