

History 3302 (010)—American Colonial History

Angelo State University, Spring 2009

12:30 – 1:45 p.m. TR, meeting in A 225

Dr. David P. Dewar

Phone: 942-2157; david.dewar@angelo.edu

Office: A 110G; Office Hours: 10 - 11a.m., 3 – 4:30 p.m., MW; 2 – 5 p.m., T&R

Introduction

This course will cover North American history through the American Revolution, roughly from pre-history to 1781. Although much of the material will focus on the British colonies, consideration will also be given to French, Dutch, Spanish, and Russian settlements as well as the people all European empires encountered in western explorations. Students should note that this is a reading and writing intensive course. Classes will consist of lectures on Tuesdays and discussions most Thursdays. Discussions will center on the week's assigned readings which are listed on the course calendar below.

Course Materials

- ✓ Robert J. Allison, ed., *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano Written by Himself* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2007).
- ✓ Stanley N. Katz, John M. Murrin, and Douglas Greenberg, eds., *Colonial America: Essays in Politics and Social Development*, 5th edition (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2001).
- ✓ Thomas S. Kidd, ed., *The Great Awakening: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2008).
- ✓ Peter C. Mancall, ed., *Envisioning America: English Plans for the Colonization of North America, 1580-1640* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's 1995).
- ✓ Sheila L. Skemp, ed., *Judith Sargent Murray: A Brief Biography with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 1998),
- ✓ Alan Taylor, *American Colonies: The Settling of North America* (Penguin, 2002).

Course Construction

Classes

Tuesdays I will lecture. Thursdays I'll complete lectures and we'll talk.

Papers

- ✓ You will write one 3- to 5- page paper that synthesizes two of the four required Bedford/St. Martin's books. That is, you must find a thesis that demonstrates a common thread connecting the experiences of those portrayed in the books. You may do one early in the semester synthesizing *Envisioning America* and *Olaudah Equiano*. It would be due March 12. Or, you may wait until later in the semester and synthesize *The Great Awakening* and *Judith Sargent Murray*. That paper would be due May 7.
- ✓ You will write a 10- to 12-page research paper due May 14 as you enter the final exam. It requires you to use primary and secondary sources to discuss some aspect of American history up to the American Revolution.

Discussion

A significant part of the grade you earn will come from class discussions. If I lecture too long on Thursdays, I will give credit to those in attendance. Everyone gets 6 points as exams are on Thursdays.

Exams

There will be three exams. Multiple-choice and identifications

Grading

Short paper	50 points
Long paper	200 points
Exams	150 points
Discussion	<u>50 points</u> (3 per week + 5 at my discretion for quality insights)
Total	450 points

Important Details

- ✓ Attendance is important to your grade because you must be in class to participate. If you do not speak, however, and you attend every class, you will earn no more than the 6 points everyone gets and any created by lengthy lecturing.
- ✓ You can miss class four times. More than four absences reduces your grade by 5 points for each absence beginning with the fifth. Save your absences for illness or emergency.
- ✓ All assignments will be completed and submitted on schedule. Makeup work, except in the most extreme circumstances, is not acceptable. If such a circumstance can be anticipated, you **must** see me ahead of time. If it cannot, documentation will be required.
- ✓ The Writing Center can help you with construction of your essays. In addition, I will be happy to read drafts. The Writing Center (942-2093) is in the library (305C).
- ✓ **Plagiarism is the worst of academic crimes and will not be tolerated.** Plagiarism is representing someone else's work as your own. If you plagiarize you will fail the course on the first offense. If you do not know what plagiarism is, please see me. ASU has an honor code that binds students and faculty to academic integrity. Please read it in the Student Handbook, <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>, pp 30-34.
- ✓ If you have a documented disability or disorder that requires special consideration for you to complete the class successfully, please see me in my office at your earliest opportunity so we can arrange accommodations.
- ✓ Turn off your cell phones before class starts unless you're waiting for an organ transplant or word about a close relative's death. Inform me before class in either case.
- ✓ Do not check the cell phone you didn't turn off for text messages during class. I will deduct 10 points from your grade each time I catch you doing so.
- ✓ You may not take notes on electronic devices—computers, iPhones, or cell phones.
- ✓ I will provide you with Blue Books for exams.

Calendar, Class Schedule, Reading, and Assignments

Week 1—Atlantic World Cultures

Reading: Taylor, 3-22
Katz, Murrin, & Greenberg (*hereafter KMG*), 3-16

January 20	Introduction to course and source materials
January 22	Native and African cultures before colonization

Week 2—Europeans Head West

Reading: Taylor, 24-49; 51-66; 92-113
KMG, 19-46
Mancall

January 27	The Age of Discovery
January 29	Spain, Portugal, and France

Week 3—England Heads West

Reading: Taylor, 117-137
KMG, 154-181

February 3 A Little English History (Library)
February 5 Practicing Colonization—Ireland and Roanoke

Week 4—English Settlements in the Chesapeake (the South)

Reading: Taylor, 138-157
KMG, 301-328

February 10 Virginia
February 12 Maryland

Week 5—English Settlement in New England (the North)

Reading: Taylor, 158-186
KMG, 269-300

February 17 Massachusetts Bay and the Puritans
February 19 Puritan Dissenters & Unintentional Colonies

Week 6—Other English Colonies

Reading: Taylor, 222-272

February 24 The Middle Colonies, NC, SC, GA
February 26 **First exam**

Week 7—American Slavery

Reading: KMG: 355-379
Equiano

March 3 Europeans and Slavery
March 5 English and Slavery

Week 8—European Conflicts with Each Other and Natives

Reading: Taylor, 187-203;
KMG, 329-354

March 10 Bacon's Rebellion
March 12 King Phillip's War and Edmond Andros

Week 9—No Class—Spring Break

Week 10—Evolution, Revolution, and Witches

Reading: Taylor, 276-300

March 24 Rethinking Puritanism
March 26 England's Glorious Revolution & Salem's Witches

Week 11—Wars and Peace

Reading: Taylor, 420-443

March 31 War in Europe and America & The Long Peace
April 2 **Second Exam**

Week 12—Economic Considerations Mold British North America

Reading: KMG, 467-496

April 7 Immigration & Changing Ways of Work
April 9 Regional Variations & Gendered Work

Week 13—American Cultures: Reason and Religion Meet

Reading: Taylor, 338-362
KMG, 636-663
Great Awakening

April 14 The Enlightenment
April 16 The Great Awakening

Week 14—Uncomfortable Coexistence: European Empires in America

Reading: Taylor, 363-419
KMG, 593-619

April 21 Russia, Spain, France, and England Compete
April 23 More War to Settle Disputes over Empire

Week 15—The French and Indian War & The American War for Independence

Reading: KMG, 664-690
Judith Sargent Murray

April 27 The Transatlantic War to End All Colonial Wars
April 29 The American Revolution

Week 16—Paper Writing—No class

May 7 **Short Paper due**

Final Exam—10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Thursday, May 14
Research paper due

