

**SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY****Department of International and Social Sciences****HIST 2111-001: United States History I (1492-1877)****MW****7:30-8:45 P.M.****J 101****Spring 2007**

**Instructor:** Dr. K.B.S. Barrow  
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**Office Hours:** MW 6:00-7:15 P.M.  
TR 5:00-5:50 P.M.  
and by appointment

**COURSE PURPOSE:**

This course is designed to be an integral part of a liberal arts education and of the college experience. It seeks to instill in the student an understanding of the time and place in which he or she lives, as well as of the on-going process responsible for the social, political, and economic evolution of American Society. In addition, this course serves as a catalyst for improved critical thinking, and oral and written communication skills.

**COURSE GOALS:**

The primary goal of this course is to instruct the student in the significant events, personalities, and interpretations of the period of American history. Special emphasis is placed upon the African- American experience and the multicultural nature of the United States. In addition, this course seeks the enhancement of the self-actualization process through the encouragement of reactive cognitive abilities by the method of directed selective perception using formatted reading activities. Further, it is designed to serve a formative function in an ongoing maturation flow in the direction of greater social awareness through an understanding of the tension between personal/subjective and larger historical/objective realities. Through the internalization of gross and specific historical data and the subsequent synthesis of such information with original thought using the method of composition, each student will experience an expansion of critical thinking and communicative abilities. These abilities will be extended to the verbal sphere by regular opportunities for expression within the classroom setting.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon the successful completion of this course, the students will be able to demonstrate requisite knowledge and perspective about this period of American history, with particular emphasis upon the African -American experience, as well as other minority experiences, through performance on required course examinations which they will pass with a minimum score of 70%. Students will be able to:

1. Identify historical issues and explain the way those issues are interpreted.
2. Classify and discuss historical data and come to informed conclusions about that data.
3. Cite knowledge of the American past and understand how it relates to the present.
4. Describe the cultural values of the U.S. and the role of minority views in \ reshaping those views.

**COURSE METHOD AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES:**

This class will be conducted as a lecture/discussion course. Each student will be responsible for taking notes during lectures, completing assigned readings, and participating in classroom discussions. The course will be divided into three units. At the conclusion of each unit there will be an examination which will be both essay and objective questions. Essays will make up the major part of each examination.

To achieve a minimum passing score on essay questions, the student must show a factual knowledge of what happened, critical thinking skills to analyze why it happened, and an ability to synthesize information and thought through successful composition.

To achieve a minimum passing score on the objective questions, the student must show not only factual understanding, but also an ability to distinguish significant historical events from those of less importance. Thus, the student will demonstrate both their knowledge and their capacity to make judgements about the past.

Short objective quizzes may also be conducted as preparation for the major tests. The instructor will provide at his discretion readings and special projects for those seeking extra credit.

## MAKEUP EXAMINATION

The student who misses a major examination and produces a documented excuse, may petition the instructor for a makeup test. A makeup test will consist of a book review of eight to ten typed double-spaced pages. Books may concern any aspect of this period of American history (sports history, African- American history, etc.) and must be, at least , in length, eight to ten pages. Each book must be pre-approved by the instructor. Book reviews should demonstrate the students understanding of the content and thesis of the work, as well as his or her analysis of its value.

## GRADES:

Grades will be calculated upon the following basis:

First Examination.....	January 31.....	20%
Mid-Term.....	February 28.....	20%
Research Paper.....	March 28.....	10%
Book Review.....	April 11.....	10%
Class Participation.....		10%
Final Examination.....	May 1-4.....	30%

A=90-100    B=80-89    C=70-79    D=60-69    F= 0-59

Grade calculation will be consistent with **SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT HANDBOOK** with a ten-point spread between grades, with 90-100 "A" and 60-69 "D".

## ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance is necessary is necessary for success in class. Each student is expected to attend each class **on time**. The roll will be called at the beginning of each session. Late attendance without a documented excuse will constitute an absence. Three or more absences will in the context of test score count adversely towards the student's final grade. Each student is responsible for everything covered in class--even those with excused absences.

The instructor believes that class sessions are important. Students who are either excessively tardy or absent should probably withdraw or re-enroll when they have time to attend.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Boyer, Paul S., et al, The Enduring Vision : A History of the American People:Vol.1: To 1877. 5th Edition Houghton-Mifflin 2004.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS:**

The following course outline is contingent upon the progress of the class

## Unit One

Week One Chapter 1: Native Peoples of America, to 1500

Week Two Chapter 2: The Rise of the Atlantic World, 1400-1625

Week Three Chapter 3: Expansion and Diversity... 1625-1700

Week Four Chapter 4: The Bonds of Empire, 1660-1750

## First Examination

## Unit Two

Week Five Chapter 5: Roads to Revolution

Week Six Chapter 6: Securing Independence, Defining Nationhood, 1776-1788

Week Seven Chapter 7: Launching the New Republic, 1789-1800

Week Eight Chapter 8: Jeffersonianism and the Era of Good Feelings, 1801-1824

Midterm Examination

Unit Three

Week Nine Chapter 9: The Transformation of American Society, 1815-1840  
Chapter 10: Democratic Politics, Religious Revival, and ... 1824-1840

Week Ten Chapter 11: Technology, Culture, and Everyday Life, 1840-1860  
Chapter 12: The Old South and Slavery, 1830-1860

Week Eleven Chapter 13: Immigration, Expansion, and Sectional Conflict, 1840-1848

Week Twelve Chapter 14: From Compromise to Secession, 1850-1861

Week Thirteen Chapter 15: Crucible of Freedom: Civil War, 1861-1865

Week Fourteen Chapter 16: The Crises of Reconstruction, 1865-1877

Week Fifteen Chapter 16: The Crises of Reconstruction, 1865-1877

Week Sixteen REVIEW OF COURSE CONTENTS

Final Examination April 26 – May 1, 2007

### **NOTES ABOUT CREDIT FOR ASSIGNMENTS**

You are expected to participate in all activities and assignments during the semester. Missed, incomplete, or unacceptable assignments will result in Reduction of points for this part of the grading procedure. Your presence and participation for assignments completed during class are necessary in order to receive credit for the same.

### **RECORD KEEPING**

Keep a file of all returned assignments and test grades. In the event the Instructors records and your records are not in agreement at the end of the quarter, it is your responsibility to provide evidence of work completed.

### **CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY**

Cheating is contrary to the policy of Georgia Perimeter College. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves presenting as one's own ideas or work of another.

Violation of the cheating policy may result in a lowered grade on a portion of the Course or a grade of "F" on the course a grade assigned to a student because of alleged cheating policy violation may be appealed by the student through the appeal process of the college. A student found to have violated the cheating/plagiarism policy more than one time, in addition to having a grade or grades lowered, may be referred to the appropriate administrator the violations warrant , a disciplinary charge may be filed against the student wit the Campus Discipline Committee.(See Student Conduct Code).

## **My Attitude**

### **I Promise Myself-**

To be so strong that nothing can disturb my peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person I meet.

To make all my friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make my optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as I am about my own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature I meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of myself that I have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

**My Attitude...Is My Life.**

*...Adapted from "Promise Myself" by Christian D.*

*Larson*