

History 201: United States History to 1865

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URL: <http://web.sbu.edu/history/ppayne>

Schedule:

History 201 05	U.S. History to 1865	MWF 9:30 – 10:20	P. 310
History 201 06	U.S. History to 1865	MWF 10:30 – 11:20	P. 310
History 201 01	U. S. History to 1865	MWF 1:30 – 2:20	P. 310
History 491 01	Advanced Reading: The Great Depression	W 3:45 – 6:15	P. 309
Office Hours	2:30 – 3:30	MWF	

Course Description:

History 201 is a survey of the history of United States. We begin the course with contact between the peoples of the Americas, Europe, and Africa and continue until the end of the Civil War. Major themes covered will be the political, social, economic, and cultural developments from the colonial period through the mid-nineteenth century.

Objectives:

I want you to develop the following skills and competencies:

- the ability to assess and think critically about historical issues and the interpretation of those issues;
- a basic factual knowledge of this historical period;
- skills in analyzing historical data and reaching informed conclusions about those data.
- Including the following skills:
 - identify the thesis of a piece of historical writing and analyze how authors develop and support their theses with evidence;
 - recognize the difference between primary and secondary sources, and understand the uses and importance of each type;
 - identify the value and validity of different kinds of source materials;
 - use the library and various bibliographic aids to identify and locate different sources relevant to a particular topic;
 - The ability to write a paper that includes:
 - sound research;
 - a thesis that is based on research and argued throughout the paper;
 - proper citations;
 - summarizing other works;

- clear and correct prose.

Books:

Jonathan Earle, John Brown's *Raid on Harpers Ferry: A Brief History with Documents*.

Noble Cunningham, Jr., *Jefferson v. Hamilton: Confrontations that Shaped a Nation*.

Elizabeth Cobbs Hoffman and Jon Gjerde, *Major Problems in American History Volume I: to 1877*.

Additional Resources:

My web page: <http://web.sbu.edu/history/ppayne>

DigitalHistory.org <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/> (Hereafter referred to as DH).

Friedsam Library web page: <http://web.sbu.edu/friedsam/>

Course Blog: <http://history201payne.blogspot.com/>

Moodle

In this course we will be making use of my faculty web page and the course blog. You will need to regularly check each site as well as your SBU e-mail. I will be using the web sites to distribute course handouts and other materials.

Examinations, Assignments & Attendance:

Tests will consist of an essay plus a combination of other questions.

I will randomly take attendance throughout the semester and determine the attendance grade based on percentage of times you in class. Quizzes cannot be made up unless you have an official university excuse or dire personal emergency. I will make announcements in class regarding the scheduling of quizzes, assignments, and handouts. As a general rule, quizzes will be on Fridays and accompany class discussion.

Quizzes will cover the assigned reading materials, primarily from Hoffman and Gjerde, *Major Problems* and will administered both in class and on line via Moodle.

Because quizzes cannot be made up, I am allowing you to drop an in-class quiz grade. Unless you have a university excuse, the first option in dealing with a missed quiz will be to use the dropped grade. The other alternative is to attend and report on one of the approved speakers (see below). It is my discretion as to if and when other assignments can be made up.

You can make up quizzes by attending a talk and writing a one page report. You can also use these talk reports for extra credit to make up for a poor performance

on quizzes. However you cannot exceed the total number of quiz points available.

You must complete every major assignment in this course; I will not pass you if you fail to complete the work.

Turning in your Paper:

Papers are to be turned in during the class time on the due date. A physical copy of the paper will be turned in to me in class and an electronic copy will be turned in using Moodle. Once class has been dismissed the paper is considered late. A late paper will be docked 5 points (half a letter grade) for every day it is late. *Students should not e-mail papers unless there is an extraordinary circumstances preventing the student from attending class and if I give them permission.* Papers e-mailed to me without an adequate excuse (that is a true emergency or university sponsored event that requires the student to be out of town) or prior permission will be docked 5 points. The electronic copy of the paper is, in essence, a receipt.

Papers should not be left in or around my office or departmental mailbox. This is not a reliable way to turn in a paper. I am not responsible for papers left for me to find.

Method of Determining Grade: [dates are in weekly schedule below]

Examination	20%
Cunningham Assignment	20%
Test on John Brown Text	15%
Final	20%
Quizzes	15%
Attendance	10%

A

An A essay or paper demonstrates that a student is using accurate evidence in a thoughtful way that synthesizes information from a variety of course materials. Papers that receive an A are well-argued, well written and organized around a strong thesis. To achieve the grade of "A" a student must submit a paper or essay that goes beyond the basic requirements of the assignment to demonstrate a sophisticated interpretation, thoughtful analysis, and good writing skills.

B

A paper or essay that receives a B grade demonstrates a student's accurate understanding of the material, adequate use of a variety of course sources, and competence in writing.

C

A paper or essay receiving a C grade demonstrates average work that meets the basic requirements of the assignment. A C represents average and often uneven work. C papers or essays often contains some mixture of solid work with factual inaccuracies, vague assertions, errors in or lack of interpretation, inadequate use of the assigned documents, or mediocre writing.

D & F

A failing grade is assigned to work that fails to meet the requirements and expectations for the assignment. Often a D paper or essay falls short of the basic assignment requirements but contains some indication of an effort to meet the requirements (for example having some but not enough factual information, containing too many inaccuracies, or using only a portion of the assigned materials). An F paper or essay fails to meet basic requirements and often also falls short in writing and argumentation as well as use of evidence.

Grade Scale:

93 – 100	A
90 – 92	A-
88 – 89	B+
83 – 87	B
80 – 82	B-
78 – 79	C+
73 – 77	C
70 – 72	C-
68 – 69	D+
63 – 67	D
60 – 62	D-
59 -	F

Helpful tips:

I have prepared a web page on how to do well in a history class that covers many of the frequently asked questions as well as many of the common mistakes students make. (http://web.sbu.edu/history/ppayne/study_skills.htm)

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Disability Support Services Office, Doyle room 26, at 375-2065 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Cheating:

If you are caught cheating you will receive *at minimum* a failing grade for the course with the possibility of further action including pursuing academic misconduct charges.

You should consult the SBU student handbook for more information on academic misconduct. What is cheating? Common sense will essentially answer this

question for you, but cheating is any attempt to gain an unfair advantage in a class assignment. This can include, but is not limited to, copying, plagiarism, using another person's work as your own, and the use of prohibited materials while completing an assignment. For more on plagiarism see the History Department writing guide on the department web page <http://web.sbu.edu/history/writingguideintro.html> and the SBU student handbook.

Make-up Exam Policy: (See also section on quizzes and papers)

If for any university, family or medical reason you find it absolutely necessary to miss an examination then that is acceptable with the proper documentation. If your excuse is not a medical emergency you must contact me before the examination and have my consent to your absence if you wish to take a make-up exam. Medical emergencies can be dealt with as needed. The date and time for the make up will be arranged in consultation with the instructor. Regarding the final, it is not a legitimate excuse to miss a final or request that it be rescheduled because you made travel arrangements that conflict with the final.

A note on reading and class discussion: In order to prepare for discussion you should read the assigned materials *before* discussion day. The Hollitz book has questions near the beginnings of the chapters to guide students in their reading. These will be the questions we will be asking and discussing in class. Furthermore, I will offer suggestions or activities to promote class discussion.

Weekly schedule

(This includes reading assignments & due dates.)

Topic	Assignments
<u>Week 1: August 31 – Sept. 4</u> Introduction & Background for English Colonial Efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoffman & Gjerde (H&G), chapter 1 • Digital History (DH), The First Americans and Exploration and Discovery
<u>Week 2: September 7 – 11</u> Founding & Development of British North American Colonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H&G, Chapter 2 • DH, Colonization
<u>Week 3: September 14 – 18</u> Origins of Slavery in North American Colonies French and Indian War & Implications for Colonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H&G, chapter 3 • DH, “The Origins and Nature of New World Slavery”
<u>Week 4: September 21 – 25</u> Origins of American Revolutionary Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DH, “Patterns of Change 1700 to 1775” • Declaration of Independence (Read the Declaration in

	advance. We will discuss it when we come to it in class.)
<u>Week 5: September 28 – October 2</u> American Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 4 • DH, “The American Revolution” and “The Founders” • Examination October 2
<u>Week 6: October 5 – 9</u> Designing Republican Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 5 • Articles of Confederation • Constitution of the United States of America • DH, The Critical Period & The U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights
Midterm Break: October 10 – 14	
<u>Week 7: October 14 – 16</u> Early National Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 6 • DH, The First New Nation, Anti-Slavery, and Jeffersonian Republicanism • Discussion of Cunningham, paper due Monday October 19
<u>Week 8: October 19 – 23</u> Early Republic & Frontier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H chapter 7 • DH, The Era of Good Feelings
<u>Week 9: October 20 – 24</u> Market Revolution & Jacksonian Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 8 • DH, Jacksonian Democracy
<u>Week 10: October 26 – 30</u> Second Great Awakening Reform Movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 9 • DH, Pre Civil War American Culture & Pre Civil War Reform
<u>Week 11: November 2 – 6</u> Manifest Destiny War with Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 10 • DH, Religion in the Early Republic & Westward Expansion
<u>Week 12: November 9 - 13</u> Industrialization & Urbanization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 11 • DH, The Roots of American Economic Growth
<u>Week 13: November 16 - 20</u> Rise of Sectionalism and the Republican Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&H, chapter 12 • DH, the Pre Civil War South
<u>Week 14: November 23 (Monday only)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss Earle, <i>John Brown's Raid...</i>

Thanksgiving Break: November 25 – 29

Week 15: December 1 – 4 Origins of the Civil War	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday December 1, test on Earle• G&H, chapter 13• DH, The Impending Crisis
Week 16: December 7 – 11 The Civil War Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• G&H, chapter 14• DH, The Civil War

Reading Day: December 12

Finals:

Exam Time

Class Meeting Hour

Tuesday Dec. 15 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

MWF 10:30

Monday Dec. 14 10:35 a.m. to 1:05 p.m.

MWF 1:30