

HST 109: American History to 1865

Arizona State University

Summer B 2016 – June 29 through August 9

Class Number 43847

Professor: Anthony Pratcher II, M.A. (Anthony.C.Pratcher@asu.edu)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

History 109 is a historical overview of the territory which becomes the United States of America from the initial European Encounter with North America until the conclusion of the American Civil War. In this course, we will survey the social, political, and economic development of the United States through five chronological modules. Students will be assessed through regular class discussion on multimedia material, weekly quizzes, a 1000-word book review, and a final group project. The class modules (Land, Labor, Revolution, Slavery, and Citizenship) each focus upon an important element of the collective American experience. We'll watch and listen to 5-6 hours of secondary sources per module to cover salient themes and topics—you are expected to synthesize this material in preparation for weekly discussion with your assigned group-members. In addition, you will also be quizzed weekly on assigned chapters from *The American Yawp*. These assignments will help students complete a three-page book review of Alan Taylor's *American Colonies* and a final project based upon Eric Foner's *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men* where your group will be tasked with completing a 30-40 minute VoiceThread presentation which explores the role of private property in American History up through 1865.

REQUIREMENTS:

This Internet course will be delivered via Blackboard, which is available through MyASU at <http://my.asu.edu> or the Blackboard home page at <https://myasucourses.asu.edu>. In addition to a reliable computer and Internet access, you must have an active ASU email account, a web browser (Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, etc.), Adobe Acrobat Reader or Preview (free), Adobe Flash Player (free), and Microsoft Word.

Over this six-week course, you will read a textbook, review two monographs, watch documentaries, listen to podcasts, take weekly quizzes, and participate in weekly discussions on assigned material. We will move through the course quickly, so be prepared to dedicate significant time to them. (According to ABOR policy, a three-credit course requires 135 hours of student work, so expect to spend a minimum of twenty hours per week working on this course.) The quizzes and essay discussion assignments are required and graded components of the course that allow each student to demonstrate knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of the course materials. All course content except the books will be posted on the course site.

The syllabus lays out your responsibilities. While we may make adjustments, your basic work duties are those you see here. If you take the class, you agree to follow this document.

REQUIRED READING:

- Alan Taylor, *American Colonies: The Settling of North America, Vol. 1* (2002). ISBN: 9780142002100
- Eric Foner, *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men: The Ideology of the Republican Party before the Civil War* (1970, 2005). ISBN: 9780195094978

Books are available at the ASU bookstore online and in Tempe, other collegiate bookstores, and many online booksellers. Some students report that they save money, reduce the ecological costs of transportation, and support their local economies by buying their books used from small, local merchants who sell books through sites such as Half.com and Amazon.

Strategic time management and reading skills can help you get the most out of the books. If you have limited time, you can still glean the main ideas presented in the material without reading every word. Focus on chapter introductions and conclusions to identify the main arguments an author is trying to make, and then go back and read the first sentence or more of every paragraph to identify the supporting points and evidence. While strategically browsing the assigned readings, make sure you can identify key terms and questions posed in the study guides and assignments, and take notes as needed. You can use the index to quickly identify pages where key terms and themes are discussed. This is an acceptable, worthwhile, and recommended approach.

GRADING:

Summary of Assignments

Item	Points	Date
Textbook Quiz (5)	150	Mondays @ 11:59pm
Weekly Discussion	250	Wed/Fri @ 11:59pm
Midterm Book Review	300	Sunday, July 24 @ 11:59pm
Final Project	250/50	Tues, August 9 @11:59pm

SCALE: /1000 graded points

A+ = 97-100%	A = 93-96%	A- = 90-92%	
B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86%	B- = 80-82%	
C+ = 77-79%	C = 70-76%	D = 60-69%	E = < 60 %

COMMUNICATION:

Since we will not meet face-to-face, we will follow ASU Online’s “three before me” policy for student to faculty communications. When questions arise during the course of this class, please remember to check these three sources for an answer before asking me to reply to your individual questions:

1. Course syllabus
2. Announcements in Blackboard
3. The “Hallway Conversations” discussion board

This policy helps you identify answers before I can get back to you and facilitates the answering of common questions.

If you cannot find an answer to your question, please first post your question to the “Hallway Conversations” discussion board. Here your question can be answered to the benefit of all by other students who may know the answer, the teaching assistant(s), or the professor. In order to help provide timely assistance to other students, you are encouraged to answer questions in the discussion forum when you know the answer.

If you need grading comments clarified, please *privately* email me. We will not collectively discuss grading—it is inappropriate topic for a “reply-all” email. To appeal a grade or ask a question of a personal nature that needs to be communicated privately, please email your professor. Please note that **when emailing, it is very important to indicate which class, section, and group you are in.** Messages that *include this information* and *employ a collegial tone* will *receive highest priority*. Please allow me at least one business day to reply to your email if you do not have a previous appointment.

CLASS POLICIES:

1. Academic integrity: **Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, laboratory work, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions for violations include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification, and dismissal. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.**

We will not tolerate cheating or plagiarism, and we strictly follow the university’s procedures for handling these nefarious crimes:

- a. Cheating: Any student who cheats on any assignment will automatically fail the course and be subject to punishment through proper university channels.
- b. Plagiarism: Representing someone else’s work as your own will be considered plagiarism. If you borrow material from a book, article, or website be sure to acknowledge the source with some type of citation and quote any phrases or sentences borrowed word for word from any author. This policy includes the assigned readings. For

clear comparisons of successful paraphrasing versus plagiarized passages, see http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_paraphrase.html.

Any student who plagiarizes on any assignment will receive a grade of 0 for the assignment and may be issued a failing course grade for academic dishonesty. Any student who plagiarizes a second time will automatically fail the course. Any student who plagiarizes will be subject to punishment through proper university channels.

2. The online class environment: I believe in and deeply respect freedom of expression, a fundamental human right and core American principle. Please exercise it with *reasoned* and *logical* arguments and use evidence to support your positions. We will necessarily talk frankly about conflicts between groups, and I expect students to exercise the utmost courtesy in these dialogues. Personal attacks are never appropriate, and I will insist on a collegial atmosphere online. Inappropriate behavior, such as posting derogatory rhetoric, gaslighting other students, sending inappropriate emails, or using the discussion forums for anything other than the course material, will lead to an immediate reprimand and, potentially, a request that you leave the class.

3. Late assignments:

- Quizzes must be taken by their due date. ***No make-up quizzes will be given.*** If a quiz is due Monday night, we recommend taking it at least 24 hours in advance in case you have technical trouble. In other words, it is your responsibility to plan ahead to avoid potential last-minute quiz issues. The course moves too quickly to alter this policy
- Discussion posts will be docked. Written work will be reduced one full letter grade (10%) for each day late. Accordingly, work submitted ten days past a due date is not worth any points. If you submit late work within the nine days following its due date, it is your responsibility to email your grader (*cc professor*) and request grading. Assignments turned in after the last day of class will not be graded.

4. Make-up work: There is no make-up work except in cases of legitimate, well-documented emergencies.

5. Grade complaints: None can be made until 48 hours after you receive a grade, nor more than one week after it. Within these boundaries, you may submit a written appeal that utilizes the grading rubric to demonstrate why you believe you should have earned more points.

6. Extra credit: There is no extra credit work for this course.

7. Important university deadlines: <http://www.asu.edu/calendar/academic.html>. You are responsible for all important university deadlines including the course withdrawal deadline.

8. Incompletes: I have never given an Incomplete and will not do so without *overwhelmingly* compelling, extremely well documented justification.

9. Disabilities: If you need disability accommodations in this class, please register with the ASU

Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform me as soon as possible. Accommodations will be made for all students registered with the DRC. Information regarding disability is confidential.

10. Religious holidays, extracurricular events, etc.: Please inform me in advance if you will be unavailable on any religious holidays. I will honor all university-sanctioned events but must be provided documentation well ahead of time.

COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Unit 1: Wednesday 6/29 through Friday 7/1

Syllabus

Gain command of the syllabus and course site organization.
Acquire course books immediately and begin reading for next week.
Consult materials posted on course page for this week.
Introduce yourself to your discussion group ASAP.
Reply to at least one of your group members ASAP.
Take Syllabus Quiz by 11:59 PM Friday night.

Unit 2: Saturday 7/2 through Friday 7/8

Land

Discussion: Early Encounters
Read *American Yawp* Ch. 1-3
Take quiz by 11:59 PM Monday night.
Skim *American Colonies*: Intro & Part I.
Consult materials posted on course page for this week.
Complete initial response to discussion group by Wednesday at 11:59 PM.
Complete reply to discussion group member by Friday at 11:59 PM.

Unit 3: Saturday 7/9 through Friday 7/15

Labor

Discussion: State Formation
Read *American Yawp* Ch. 4-6
Take quiz by 11:59 PM Monday night.
Skim *American Colonies*: Part II.
Consult materials posted on course page for this week.
Complete initial response to discussion group by Wednesday at 11:59 PM.
Complete reply to discussion group member by Friday at 11:59 PM.

Unit 4: Saturday 7/16 through Friday 7/22

Revolution

Discussion: Capitalist Democracy
Read *American Yawp* Ch. 7-9

Take quiz by 11:59 PM Monday night.

Skim *American Colonies*: Part III

Consult materials posted on course page for this week.

Complete initial response to discussion group by Wednesday at 11:59 PM.

Complete reply to discussion group member by Friday at 11:59 PM.

Unit 5: Saturday 7/23 through Friday 7/29

Slavery

Discussion: Economic Expansion

DUE SUNDAY, JULY 24: 1000-Word Review of *American Colonies*

Read *American Yawp* Ch. 10-12

Take quiz by 11:59 PM Monday night.

Skim *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men* Intro – Ch. 4

Consult materials posted on course page for this week.

Complete initial response to discussion group by Wednesday at 11:59 PM.

Complete reply to discussion group member by Friday at 11:59 PM.

Unit 6: Saturday 7/30 through Friday 8/5

Citizenship

Discussion: Sectional Strife

Read *American Yawp* Ch. 13-15

Take quiz by 11:59 PM Monday night.

Skim *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men* Ch. 5 – 9

Consult materials posted on course page for this week.

Complete initial response to discussion group by Wednesday at 11:59 PM.

Complete reply to discussion group member by at Friday 11:59 PM.

Final Unit: Due August 9

VoiceThread Project

Each of you will be responsible to narrative a five – seven minute clip on the history of a particular module. You will join with your group members to create a five - seven minute explanation of how “property” has impacted American history from 1865 to present. It is due by 11:59pm the last day of class.

Any coursework still eligible for credit (see class policy on late assignments) must be received by the last day of class at 11:59 PM in order to be graded. We have very limited time to complete grading and post final course grades, so assignments will not be accepted after this deadline. No exceptions!