

Syllabus

History 3322-001/Summer 2012 The American Revolution and the Constitution

Professor: Dr. David E. Narrett Class: 02 Univ. Hall: Mon.-Thurs. 10:30-12:30

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Themes:

This course will explore the nature and meaning of the American Revolution.

We will consider the origins of the conflict, the struggles of war, and issues of social change and justice that affected particular groups and individuals. We will devote attention to the role of leaders as well as the relationship between rulers and the ruled.

The final part of the course will focus on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Students will examine primary sources written during the Revolutionary era as well as historical works written in our own time.

Reading:

Edward Countryman, *The American Revolution* (Revised edition, 2003)

Thomas Paine, Common Sense (Penguin Classics)

James K. Martin and Mark Lender, *A Respectable Army*

Woody Holton, *Black Americans in the Revolutionary Era*

Richard and Joy Day Buel, *The Way of Duty*

David E. Narrett "A Zeal For Liberty" (Article on Library E-Reserve for Hist. 3322)

Richard Bernstein, *The Founding Fathers Reconsidered*

Documents on Internet

In addition to the books listed above, there are required website documents assigned in this course. **All documents can be obtained through opening the links on this syllabus that is available on UTA Blackboard.** Make sure to print the documents well in advance of the particular class for which they are assigned. Bring your documents to class so that we may discuss them.

Grading:

Six Quizzes (Five Highest Grades) 33%

FIRST EXAM **33%**

FINAL EXAM **33 %**

Attendance/participation **10%**

Class attendance and participation also count toward your grade. Unexcused absences can have a negative impact on how well you do.

(**Quizzes** are multiple choice. The instructor will give make-ups only for legitimate absences. Make-up quizzes and exams will take a different form than the tests given in class.)

Final Drop Date June 25

CELL PHONES ARE TO BE TURNED OFF IN CLASS. NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE PERMITTED EXCPET FOR NOTE-TAKING AND OTHER CLASS PURPOSES.

Disability Policy

As defined by University rules, reasonable accommodation will be made to students with disabilities, so as to avoid any instance of discrimination. Student responsibility rests primarily with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Students who have questions regarding University policy should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (272-3363)

Academic Dishonesty

All persons involved in academic dishonesty-- a completely unacceptable mode of conduct--will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. As defined by the Regents'; Rules and Regulations, scholastic dishonesty "includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

CALENDAR

Part I Origins of the American Revolution

June 3 Introduction

The Colonial Background

June 4 Beginning of the Imperial Crisis

The American Revolution, Preface and pp. 3-33

June 5 Britain and the Colonies, I

The American Revolution, 34-66

Documents: Declaration of the Stamp Act Congress (Oct. 19, 1765)

http://www.constitution.org/bcp/dor_sac.htm

Patrick Henry's Resolutions, May 29-30, 1765

<http://research.history.org/pf/declaring/henrysResolutions.cfm>

June 6 Britain and the Colonies, II

This quiz covers pp. 34-107 in Countryman and the documents below.

QUIZ The American Revolution, 34-107

Boston Non-Importation Agreement (1768)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/boston_non_importation_1768.asp

Charleston Non-Importation Agreement (1769)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/charleston_non_impotation_1769.asp

June 10 From Resistance to Revolution

Sons of Liberty, New York (1773)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/assoc_sons_ny_1773.asp

Farmington, Conn. (1774)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/proc_farm_ct_1774.asp

- June 10** First Continental Congress: Resolves and Articles of Association (1774)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/resolves.asp
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/contcong_10-20-74.asp
 Charlotte Town Resolves (1775)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/charlott.asp
- June 11** Towards Independence
 Thomas Paine, Common Sense (entire)
- June 11** Toward Independence
 Toward Independence (continued)
The American Revolution, 107-120
 Lee's Resolution (1776)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/lee.asp
- Declaration of Independence (1776)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/declare.asp
- June 12** FIRST EXAM
- June 13** Revolutionary War
A Respectable Army, pp. 1-98
- June 17** Revolutionary War
QUIZ A Respectable Army, 99-208 (The quiz is on the entire book.)
- June 18** African-American Experience
Black Americans, 1-19, 25-28, 35-56
- June 19** Black Americans, 57-70, 75-79, 90-119, 127-130, 136-140
QUIZ This Quiz covers all assigned reading for this book entire book.
- June 20** Revolution in the States
 The First Federal System
The American Revolution, pp. 121-166
- June 20** Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/virginia.asp
 Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom (1786)
<http://www.vahistorical.org/sva2003/vsrf.htm>
<http://www.lva.virginia.gov/lib-edu/education/bor/vsrftext.htm>
<http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwedo/k12/bor/vsrftext.htm>
- June 24** Women and the Revolutionary Era
QUIZ The Way of Duty, 1-225

Final Drop Date June 24

- June 25** **The First Federal Government/Crisis in the States**
The American Revolution, 200-227
Articles of Confederation (1781)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/artconf.asp
The Treaty of Paris (1782-1783)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/pre1782.asp
- June 26** Crisis in the State (continued)
Shays's Rebellion
<http://shaysrebellion.stcc.edu/>
- June 27** Founders of the Nation
QUIZ Bernstein, **The Founding Fathers Reconsidered** (entire)
- The Constitution Takes Shape**
Virginia Plan (May 29, 1787)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/vatextb.asp
- July 1** **The Constitution Takes Shape**
American Revolution, 167-203
The Constitution of the United States (1787)
http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_transcript.html
- July 1 and 2** **The Constitution Takes Shape**
The Slavery Issue (July 11 and Aug. 22)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/debates_711.asp
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/debates_822.asp (continued below)
- The Constitution Takes Shape—The Presidency (July 17 and 25, 1787)
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/debates_717.asp
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/debates_725.asp
- July 2** **Debating the Constitution**
QUIZ is on Countryman (pp. 204-236) and Narrett, “A Zeal for Liberty”
The American Revolution, 204-236
Documents: The Federalist
Madison: Federalist No. 10, No. 39
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed10.asp
http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/fed39.asp
- July 2** **The Antifederalist Critique**
Narrett, “Zeal For Liberty” (See p. 1 of syllabus)
“Brutus,” no. 1, Oct. 18, 1787
<http://www.constitution.org/afp/brutus01.htm>

July 3

The Bill of Rights

Bill of Rights, 1791 (Amendments 1-10)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rights1.asp

Amendments 11-27 (1775-1992)

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/amend1.asp

Conclusion

July 8

FINAL EXAM (MONDAY, 10:30-12:30)