

HIST 113
History of the United States to 1877
Spring 2016



Nicholas Garrison, Bethlehem, 1754

Dr. Jamie Paxton

Comenius 306

610-625-7897

paxtonj@moravian.edu

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 10:05-11:30

Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:00-2:00

Course Description

Welcome to History 113: The United States to 1877. This course provides an introduction to the political, economic, ideological, and social developments in the United States from contact to 1877. The first half traces the developments that allowed colonists from thirteen disparate colonies to see themselves as one people who should constitute one nation. The second half explores how Americans struggled with the meaning and consequences of their Revolution. They debated the contradiction between the ideals of liberty and equality and the existence of slavery and other forms of dependence. Within a hundred years of the Revolution, these issues had so polarized the North and South that the election of a Republican president, Abraham Lincoln, in 1860 prompted the secession of eleven slaveholding states. Only four years of bloody civil war restored the Union and destroyed slavery. You will also learn how historians work. Because this course is a 100-level history course that fulfills the M1 LinC requirement, we will be focusing on the methods historians use to assess, utilize, and interpret primary sources (the documents, images, artifacts, and architecture that historians use to know about and interpret the past).

Course Objectives

By the end of the course you should have improved your ability to

- identify and discuss major themes and issues in American history from contact to 1877.
- understand the chronology of American history. You need not memorize dates but in order to understand certain developments, the establishment and destruction of slavery for example, you will need to know the chronological sequence of events.
- critically evaluate and interpret a variety of primary sources, including documents, archeological data, pictures, folk stories/music, and oral tradition. You should be aware of the issues involved in interpreting primary sources.
- think historically and make arguments about the causes of change in history. You should be able to formulate arguments about how and why things have changed in the past.
- use writing conventions appropriate to the discipline of history.
- speak and write clearly.

Required Texts

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty: An American History Vol. 1* Fourth Edition (New York: Norton, 2014)

Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard or distributed in class.

Assignments

During the course, you will write two 5-page papers using a variety of primary sources. Each paper should be written in 12 point with one inch margins. Papers must follow academic conventions for citing sources. Historians use the Chicago Manual of Style format. The following http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/RES5e_ch10_s1-

[0001.html](#) links to an online CMS style guide. Instructions for the papers will be provided in class.

Quizzes, Tests & Exams

During the semester you will write eight short quizzes, two tests, and a final exam. The schedule provides for specific dates everything except the quizzes, which are unannounced. As the dates for the tests and the final exam have been set, travel and other non-medical emergencies will not be accepted as a reason for missing or rescheduling.

Grade Distribution

Essay One	10%
Essay Two	12%
Quizzes	10% (Six to eight quizzes. I will drop the lowest grade)
Workshops	18% (7@3% I will drop the lowest grade)
Midterm Tests	18% (2@9%)
Final Exam	20%
Participation	12%

Late Policy

- Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are to be handed in at the **beginning** of the class in which they are due.
- Computer and printing problems, including having a zero printing balance, are not acceptable reasons for late work. If for some reason you cannot print your paper, email it to me before class and then turn in a hard copy before the end of the day.
- Work outside of school, extracurricular activities, and having a number of assignments due in the same week or on the same day are not acceptable reasons for handing work in late.
- Late papers will immediately be assessed a 5% late penalty and 2% will be deducted each day thereafter.
- Unless otherwise stated, emailed essays and assignments will not be accepted without prior permission from the instructor except under the circumstances described above.

Academic Dishonesty

According to the Moravian College Student Handbook, the following constitutes plagiarism: “the use, deliberate or not, of any outside source without proper acknowledgment. While the work of others often constitutes a necessary resource for academic research, such work must be properly used and credited to the original author. This principle applies to professional scholars as well as to students....All work that students submit or present as part of course assignments or requirements must be their own original work....When students use the specific thoughts, ideas, writings, or expressions of others, they must accompany each instance of use with some form of attribution to the source. Direct quotes from any source (including the Internet) must be placed in quotation marks...and be accompanied by an appropriate citation.” Plagiarism will result in the offender receiving zero in the course. Please consult the Student

Handbook. <http://www.moravian.edu/static/studentLife/handbook/academic/academic2.html>

Accommodation

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact the Academic Support Center, located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling [610-861-1401](tel:610-861-1401). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Class Schedule

Week 1	
Mon. Jan. 18	Introduction
Wed. Jan. 20	Old Worlds and New Reading: Foner, <i>Give Me Liberty</i> (GML), 1-22. Sky Woman (Available on Blackboard)
Week 2	
Mon. Jan. 25	Spain, France, and the Netherlands in America Reading: GML, 22-44.
Wed. Sept. 27	Workshop 1 Archaeology and Mohawk Demography (Available on Blackboard) Share with me via Google Drive by class time on Feb 1.
Week 3	
Mon. Feb. 1	English Colonies: The Chesapeake Reading: GML, 45-64.
Wed. Feb. 3	Origins and Rise of Slavery Reading: GML, 96-105, 129-145.
Week 4	
Mon. Feb. 8	Workshop 2 Run Away Slave Ads Share with me via Google Drive by 4pm Friday Feb. 12.
Wed. Feb. 10	English Colonies: New England Reading: GML, 64-87.
Week 5	
Mon. Feb. 15	British America Reading: GML, 88-96, 105-128.
Wed. Feb. 17	Imperial Rivalries Reading: GML, 145-173. Reminder: Essay one is due Feb. 29 so be sure to start working.
Week 6	
Mon. Feb. 22	Term Test on Early America
Wed. Feb. 24	Workshop 3 The Boston Massacre (Available on Blackboard)

	Share with me via Google Drive by class time Mar. 2
Week 7	Imperial Crisis
Mon.	Reading: GML, 174-199.
Feb. 29	Due: Essay 1
Wed.	From Resistance to Revolution
Mar. 2	Reading: GML, 199-209
	NOTE: You and your group will need to watch and respond to a video for workshop 4 due on Mar. 16 . I strongly recommend you do not put off watching the video. Note that this workshop is to be done outside of class. Read Barbara's Welter's "Cult of True Womanhood" first and then watch the video <i>A Midwife's Tale</i> at http://0-moravian.kanopystreaming.com.webpac.lvlspace.org/video/american-experience-midwife-s-tale with your group. Both are available on blackboard. Answer the questions provided at the bottom of Welter article.
	Due: Workshop 4 via Google Drive on Mar. 16.
Week 8	Spring Recess - No Class
Mon.	
Mar. 7	
Wed.	Spring Recess - No Class
Mar. 9	
Week 9	Assessing the Revolution
Mon.	Reading: GML, chapters 6 & 7
Mar. 14	
Wed.	Liberty and Power in the Early Republic
Mar. 16	Reading: GML, chapter 8
	Due: Workshop 4 via Google Drive by class time.
Week 10	Test on the Imperial Crisis, Revolution, and Early Republic
Mon.	
Mar. 21	
Wed.	Market Revolution
Mar. 23	Reading, GML, chapter 9.
Week 11	Workshop 5
	Soldiers and Civilians in the Civil War
Mon.	Share with me via Google Drive by 4pm Friday March 2.
Mar. 28	
Wed.	Jacksonian America
Mar. 30	Reading: GML, chapter 10.
	Reminder: Essay 2 will be due April 13.
Week 12	Antebellum Slavery
	Reading: GML, chapter 11.
Mon.	
April 4	
Wed.	Workshop 6
Apr. 6	Was Slavery Paternalistic?
	Reading: Michael Wayne, <i>Slavery</i> (Available on Blackboard)

	Share via Google Drive or Email to me by class time Apr. 13.
Week 13	Religion and Reform
Mon.	Reading: GML, chapter 12.
Apr. 11	
Wed.	Western Expansion
Apr. 13	Due: Essay 2 to me via Google Drive by class time
Week 14	Workshop
Mon.	Compromise of 1850
Apr. 18	Share with me via Google Drive by class time April 25.
Wed.	Sectionalism and Secession
Apr. 20	Reading: GML, chapter 13.
Week 15	Civil War
Mon.	Reading: GML, chapter 14.
Apr. 25	
Wed.	Reconstruction
Apr. 27	Reading: GML, chapter 15.
Wed.	Final Exam to be held in our regular classroom
May 4	
8-10am	