

Three Rivers Community College  
US History I CRN 11253  
K201/GO1 Wed: 6:30 – 9:15

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### Syllabus: Fall 2009

#### Required Texts:

Tindall and Shi. America: A Narrative History. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Volume 1 to 1877.

Garraty, John. Ed. Historical Viewpoints Since. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Volume 1 to 1877.

Twain, Mark Huckleberry Finn

In addition to the above texts a series of primary and secondary source handouts will be provided.

**Course Description:** *Early American History* traces developments in American history from the colonial era to 1877 focusing on political, economic, social, and cultural developments.

**Course Objectives:** Lectures, selected readings (primary and secondary source) and assignments are designed to: provide the student with an understanding and appreciation of American History as well as enable the student to think critically and analytically in determining cause and effect relationships of historical movements.

**Attendance:** Lectures in this course complement and supplement the assigned readings they do not repeat them. As a consequence your attendance is, in this course, a requirement. Each class represents a full week of academic instruction. More than two missed classes will result in a reduced grade (one-full letter grade for each additional class). Chronic lateness will be treated as an additional absence. You must sign the attendance sheet prior to each class. See me about any anticipated unavoidable absence well before the date in question.

#### Assignments/Exams:

- ❑ There will be three exams in this course.
- ❑ An analytical book review (including a 5-10 minute presentation in class).
- ❑ Five critiques (about one [+]page[s] in length) on the articles assigned from the book *Historical Viewpoints* or from handouts that I give in class.
- ❑ A test on the book Huckleberry Finn.

In order to be successful in this class, you must read the assigned material carefully and participate regularly in class discussions. If classroom discussion is unusually weak or lacking, quizzes will take its place. The purpose of a quiz is to test that which would normally be determined through vigorous class discussion; therefore, when discussion is weak or limited to only a few students, a quiz will surely follow.

**Grading Policy:** *The five critiques, the book review, the test on Huckleberry Finn and any quizzes that may be given will represent 50% of the final grade. The three exams will account for the remaining 50%.*

**Further Notes**

- ❑ Quizzes and critiques and the test on Huck Finn missed due to absence or lateness cannot be made-up.
- ❑ Unless there are extenuating circumstances, absence from the three exams must be made up prior to the next class. Absence from the final exam must be made up by the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. It will be your responsibility to make arrangements with me to make up exams.
- ❑ Late papers (i.e. book reviews, major essays, etc.) will lose one letter grade per day. **There will be no exceptions.** If you know you are going to be absent from class on the date a paper is due either turn in the paper a week before or e-mail me the paper as an attached file before the start of class on the due date.
- ❑ Each of the assigned papers must be typed. Papers must use 10 to 12 point Times New Roman font (or a similar type font). **MLA format** will be followed for headings, headers, in-text citations and works cited pages (when applicable).
- ❑ Cell phones and beepers are NOT to be used in class.
- ❑ Check your e-mail. Topic outlines and articles may be sent as attached files in order to reduce paper use.
- ❑ PowerPoint presentations, articles, topic outlines and other pertinent materials for this course will be posted on Blackboard.

Please be advised that the instructor reserves the right to change or modify the syllabus.

**College Withdrawal Policy:**

Students may withdraw, in writing at the Registrar's Office, for any reason until the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> week of classes. From the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> week through the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor.

**Disabilities Statement:**

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please be sure to notify Chris Scarborough, who is coordinating services to students with disabilities. Since Chris is available at TRCC only on Mondays, Tuesdays, and every other Friday, he should be contacted by phone at (860) 892-5751, or, if you prefer, by e-mail at [CScarborough@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:CScarborough@trcc.commnet.edu)

Date	Assignment
August 26	<b>Topics:</b> Introduction and discussion of syllabus and class requirements; discussion of assigned papers. <b>Overview: The World before Columbus</b>
September 2	<b>Topics: English Colonization</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 1 pp. 5-43 and Chapter 2 pp. 44-97 Garraty: "Daily Life in Colonial America" pp. 30, "William Byrd II of Virginia" pp. 37 and "Witchcraft in Colonial New England" pp. 45
September 9	<b>Topics: Colonial Ways of Life Critique 1 due</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 3 pp. 98-146. Garraty: "The Middle Passage" pp. 55
September 16	<b>Topics: Struggle for Empire</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 4 pp. 147-173.
September 23	Short lecture and <b>Exam 1</b>
September 30	<b>Topic: The Road to Revolution Critique 2 due</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 5 pp. 174-207 Garraty: "The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson" pp. 70
October 7	<b>Topic: The Revolutionary War</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 6 pp. 213-248 Garraty: "George Washington, Spymaster" pp. 82, "Women in the American Revolution" pp. 91, and "The Most Successful Revolution" pp. 99
October 14	<b>Topics: US Beginnings Critique 3 due</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 7 pp. 249-278 and Chapter 8 pp. 279-319 Garraty: "Shays' Rebellion" pp. 110, "Alexander Hamilton: The Founding Wizard" pp. 152
October 21	<b>Topics: The Jefferson – Madison Administrations</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 9 pp. 320-352 and Chapter 10 357-384 Garraty: "Marbury v. Madison" pp. 162 and "Jefferson, Adams, and the American Dialogue" pp. 172
October 28	Short lecture and <b>Exam 2</b>
November 4	<b>Topic: The Age of Jackson, Test on Huck Finn</b> Readings: Tindall: Chapter 11 pp. 385-415 Garraty: "Andrew Jackson and the Annexation of Texas" pp. 184
November 11	<b>No class: Veterans Day</b>

**Readings: Tindall: Chapter 12 pp. 416-456**

November 18 **Book Reviews due/Presentations**

Readings: Tindall: Chapter 13 pp. 458-488

November 25 **No class: Thanksgiving break**

**Topics: Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War**

Readings: Tindall: Chapter 14 pp. 492-528

December 2 **Topics: Slavery in the South and the Crises of Union Critique 4**

Readings: Tindall: Chapter 15 pp. 531-564 and Chapter 16 pp. 565-606

Garraty: "John Brown: Father of American Terrorism" pp. 253

December 9 **Topic: The Civil War Critique 5 due**

Readings: Tindall: Chapter 17 pp. 655-710

Garraty: "A War that Never Goes Away" pp. 246

December 10 **Exam 3**