

History 200g
THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
Fall 2004

Terry Seip

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Hours: 9:45-11:45 TuTh

9:00-11:00 M

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Lecture Section:

8:00-9:20 TTh THH 201 (45580)

Discussion Sections:

8:00 F VKC 106 (45581) 10:00 F VKC 106 (45585)

8:00 F VKC 111 (45582) 11:00 F VKC 106 (45586)

9:00 F VKC 106 (45583) 12:00 F VKC 106 (45587)

9:00 F VKC 111 (45584) 12:00 F VKC 105 (45588)

HIST 200g fulfills the General Education requirement in the Cultures and Civilizations I category which is designed to “introduce students to the norms and patterns of civilizations associated with the Greco-Roman and European traditions and the legacy of those traditions in North America.” As we work to satisfy the intellectual and methodological requirements of this GE category, we hope to provide you with a useful perspective on the nation's past--a central feature of any solid liberal arts education, and, with the family history project, a historical perspective on your personal past.

I. Readings:

Robert Divine, *et al.*, *America Past and Present*, Brief 6th edition (New York: Allyn & Bacon Longman, 2005 {2004}); includes multimedia CD-ROM and six month access to The History Place Web Site for primary source material which will be used weekly in the discussion sections.

Roderick Nash & Gregory Graves, *From These Beginnings: A Biographical Approach to American History*, 7th ed. (New York: ABLongman, 2005 {2004}), Volume I to 1865

Roderick Nash & Gregory Graves, *From These Beginnings: A Biographical Approach to American History*, 7th ed. (New York: ABLongman, 2005 {2004}), Volume II since 1865

The above items are available at the bookstore as a shrink-wrapped package at a discounted price.

II. Course Requirements:

Three essay exams will be given—two in-term exams (September 21 & October 26) and a final exam (Tuesday, December 14, 4:30-6:30 p.m.).

A research paper of 15+ pages on your family's personal history over the past few generations; we will offer extensive guidelines for the project and an interim project assignment in lecture. The interim

project is due according to last name on October 7 and 12; the full family history project is due November 18 so that it can be returned to you at the final exam.

All students are required to enroll and participate in one of the weekly discussion sections which will begin on August 27. Each Teaching Assistant will hand out a discussion section syllabus in her/his section by the second meeting.

For those who are interested, credit for participation in the Joint Educational Project (JEP) is an option that will be explained in the early meetings of the lecture section.

Each requirement of the course will contribute to your final grade as follows: First Exam: 15%;

Second Exam: 20%; Final Exam: 25%; Discussion Sections: 20%; Family History Project: 20%.

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to Seip as early in the semester as possible. DSP: STU 301, (213) 740-0776, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

III. Tentative Lecture Schedule:

I. Of The Old and New Worlds

Date Lecture Topic

Aug. 24 **Background and Beginnings**

26 Native Americans; Medieval and Renaissance Europe, emergence of the Nation-States; prerequisites for colonization, Spain & France in the New World; the Columbian Exchange; England in the 16th Century, the Reformation and the legacy of the English Reformation, beginnings of representative institutions.

Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout

Nash & Graves, I, essay on **Christopher Columbus**

Aug. 31 **Patterns of Colonial Life**

Of profit and Separatist and Puritan religion and mission--Jamestown, Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, et al.; social, economic, and political institutions and patterns of life, religious declension, expansion, relations with England—Civil War religion and politics, Restoration, Dominion of New England, Glorious Revolution; Virginia-Massachusetts comparison/contrast.

Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout

Nash & Graves, I, essay on **John Winthrop**

Sept. 2 **From Colonies to Provinces; Coming of Revolution**

7 The colonial transformation--economics, political and social structure; new arrivals and the diversification of society in the Eighteenth Century, the Enlightenment in Europe and the colonies, the Great Awakening; the Great War for Empire; the British search for revenue and control; colonial reaction--economics and political personalities, ideas, and ideals;

colonial adaptation of Classical and English political thought, the coming of the War for Independence.

Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout

Nash & Graves, I, essay on **Benjamin Franklin & Abigail Adams**

Sept. 9 **The Family History Project**

Readings: lecture handouts

Sept. 14 **The Revolution and Constitution**

16 The course of the War for Independence, economics, military, diplomatic; the Confederation period and the process of becoming "American"; the drafting, ratification, and meanings of the Constitution.

Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout

Nash & Graves, I, essays on **Thomas Jefferson (1st part)**

Tuesday, September 21, First Hour Exam over lectures, discussions, and readings since the beginning of the class as defined in the discussion section handouts.

II. Growth and Transformation: The Nineteenth Century

Sept. 23 **Launching and Stabilizing the Early Republic**

28 Washington; Hamilton's financial plan, emergence of political opposition; foreign affairs; alternate visions of America--Hamilton and Jefferson. Economics and expansion, the Marshall Court, foreign relations to the Monroe Doctrine.
Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout
 Nash & Graves, I, essay on **Thomas Jefferson**

Sept. 30 **The Antebellum North and West**

Politics: second party system; Jackson & Clay; abolitionism and the dimensions of free labor society, manufacturing and early industry, the decline of artisanship and the emergence of the manufacturing working class and middling classes, urbanization, antebellum reform: communal thought and action, temperance, and the first women's movement; the Trans-Mississippi West to 1840s.
Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout
 Nash & Graves, I, essays on **Tecumseh** and **Kit Carson**

Oct. 5 **The Antebellum South and Slavery**

7 Slavery--international slave trade, institutionalization and growth, material conditions, social structure, and values of the slave labor society; gradualism and the rise of immediatism in northern abolitionist thought.
Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout
 Nash & Graves, I, essay on **Frederick Douglass**

Oct. 12 **Drift to Disunion and Civil War; Reconstruction, Race,**

14 Manifest Destiny and expansion, the Mexican War; the slavery extension problem & compromise efforts 1819-1861; emergence of the third party system; Civil War causation. Lincoln, Davis, and their causes; politics, emancipation, and the military; Reconstruction, "Redemption," and the problem of race to 1900.
Readings: Divine text and documents from The History Place web site as defined on the weekly discussion section handout
 Nash & Graves, I, essay on **Robert E. Lee** and **Mark Twain**

Oct. 19 **Contours of Postwar Society and Reaction: The First 20th Century Reform Impulse**

21 Social Darwinism and the new industrial age, urbanization, labor, the old and new immigration, Native Americans; Agrarian unrest and Populism; Progressivism--origins, nature, goals, successes, and failures.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section handout
 Nash & Graves, II, essays on **Jane Addams** and **Gifford Pinchot**

Tuesday, October 26, Second Hour Exam over lectures, discussions, and readings since the first exam as defined in the discussion section handouts.

III. The American Century

Oct. 28 **Imperialism and the Great War**

Nov. 2 The rise to imperial power, 1865-1917--colonial expansion, Spanish American War; "Big Stick" & Dollar diplomacy; World War I causation, society, military, Wilson's failed peace.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Henry Ford**

Nov. 4 **"Normalcy," Depression, and the New Deal**

The 1920s--politics, economics, and the revolution in manners & morals; causes and consequences of the Great Depression; Roosevelt's relief, recovery, & reform efforts.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Eleanor Roosevelt**

Nov. 9 **War: Hot, Cold, and the "New World Order"**

11 Background and course of World War II, the politics, economics, and patterns of life on the homefront; origins and progress of the Cold War--USSR, Eastern Europe, China, Korea, Vietnam, Middle East, and foreign policy to present; responsibilities of "Globalism."
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Richard Nixon** (essay is oriented toward foreign policy)

Nov. 16 **Civil and Other Rights**

18 The African American and Mexican American Civil Rights Revolutions, a comparison and contrast—leaders, goals, tactics, white response, 1890s to present; advances and problems; the changing immigration patterns in the 1980s and 1990s.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Martin Luther King, Jr. & Gloria Steinem**

Nov. 23 **Four Decades of Revolutions, Uncertainty, and Counter Revolutions**

30 Eisenhower; domestic politics of the Cold War and prosperity; the growth of "consumerism," suburbanization, the media and popular culture. Kennedy's New Frontier, Johnson's Great Society, the "Coming Apart" of the 1960s; the old and new feminism, Nixon & the "Silent Majority," the politics and economics of limitations, Watergate; the burdens and undoing of Carter; the Reagan "Revolution"; Bush, America, and the world.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Elvis Presley**

Dec. 2 **The Nineties and Into the Millennium**

The economic and cultural politics of the 1990s; assessing the European and other legacies in America; thinking about the value of historical perspective as the United States passes the Millennium.
Readings: Divine text and "History Place" documents as defined in the discussion section
 handout Nash & Graves, II, essay on **Ted Turner**

Tuesday, December 14, 4:30-6:30, Final Exam over lectures, discussions, & readings since the second exam as defined in the discussion section handouts.