

HIST2300.161
AMERICAN HISTORY BEFORE 1877
SPRING 2015

Tuesday-Thursday 11:00–12:20

Instructor: Dr. Mark Stoll

Office: HH 135 **Office hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30–9:15, and by appointment

E-mail: Mark.Stoll@ttu.edu **Web:** <http://courses.ttu.edu/mstoll/>

Teaching Assistants and Discussion Sections:

Willie Armstrong

willie.armstrong@ttu.edu

HH31 TT 9-10:30

701 — T 8:00 — HH106

711 — R 8:00 — HH106

Carson Benn

carson.benn@ttu.edu

HH141 12:30-2 p.m.

741 — T 2:00 — HH004

751 — R 2:00 — HH130

James Vice

james.vice@ttu.edu

HH281 T 10-11, Th 9-11

721 — T 12:30 — HH130

731 — R 12:30 — EX SCI 120

Textbooks:

William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England*

James D. Rice, *Tales from a Revolution: Bacon's Rebellion and the Transformation of Early America*

R. B. Bernstein, *Thomas Jefferson*

Paul E. Johnson and Sean Wilentz, *The Kingdom of Matthias: A Story of Sex and Salvation in 19th-Century America*

Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*

James M. McPherson, *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*

Philip Jenkins, *A History of the United States*, 4th ed.

Format: Lecture and discussion sections.

Grading:

- Three examinations. Students must bring **bluebooks** on exam days.
- There will be a quiz over each book to be discussed.
- All make-up exams and quizzes will be given on the last Monday of classes *only*.
- Each midterm counts 22% of the final grade; the final counts 32%; and the six book-quiz grades together count 24%.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken in class and in discussion sections. Students with perfect attendance will receive a **bonus** of 3 points on their final grades. Students who miss more than 2 classes will **lose 1.5 points off** their final grades for *each absence over two*. Absences may be excused with written evidence of dire need, that is, death in the family, hospitalization, illness, etc. Students who have been absent shall present written excuses to the professor.

Electronics in the Classroom: Because electronic devices distract both the student and other students around them, all electronic devices must be turned off during class time. This means no texting or other use of cell phones, and no laptops. Laptops may be used only if the instructor gives permission, but students must use the computer for class-related activities only, such as note-taking. This means no e-mail, social media, Internet surfing, video watching, or other non-

academic activities. Students using unauthorized electronic devices during class will be asked to leave and counted absent for the day. If, during an exam, a student is seen using any electronic device, the exam will be collected immediately at that moment and receive a failing grade.

Map quiz: Because geography shapes and influences history, students must know the basic facts of U.S. geography. All students will be *required* to pass a geography map test. This test will require students to locate, on an outline map of the U.S., 20 of the features named on the following list. A passing score is 80%. The test will be taken in discussion sections during the third full week of class. Students will have opportunities to retake the map quiz if they fail, but *must pass before March 13*. Students must be able to locate the following on an outline map:

All 50 states by name	Rio Grande	Washington, D.C.
Canada	Appalachian Mountains	New York City
Mexico	Rocky Mountains	Philadelphia
Pacific Ocean	Sierra Nevada	Boston
Gulf of Mexico	Cascade Range	Atlanta
Atlantic Ocean	All 5 Great Lakes by name	Chicago
St. Lawrence River	Great Salt Lake	New Orleans
Hudson River	Puget Sound	St. Louis
Ohio River	Great Basin	Denver
Mississippi River	Great Plains	Santa Fe
Missouri River	Chesapeake Bay	Salt Lake City
Arkansas River	Florida Keys	Los Angeles
Columbia River	Cape Cod	San Francisco
Colorado River	Cape Canaveral	Seattle
	Long Island	

Note: These geographical features can be found in most encyclopedias and atlases. You might also try your luck on Wikipedia or Google Maps. Attached to this syllabus is a blank map for you to practice with.

The jargon part that no one reads but has to be here:

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Core Foundational Component Area Criteria Description: Courses in this category focus on the consideration of past events relative to the United States, with the option of including Texas History for a portion of this component area. (1,2) Courses involve the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role. (1,2) THECB Core Objectives Description Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. (1,2) Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. (1,2) Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making. (1,2) Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities. (1,2) Texas Tech University College-Level Core Competency Statement Students graduating from Texas Tech University should demonstrate an understanding of the historical origins of the United States and be able to identify and describe the importance of key individuals and events in United States history. (1,2) Texas Tech University Core Student Learning Outcomes: Identify and explain the origins and evolution of the political systems and political cultures that have shaped the United States. (1,2) Identify and analyze the various social and cultural factors that have shaped the daily experiences of people living in the U.S. (1) Develop and demonstrate analytical arguments in written and/or oral forms, related to American history. (1) Assessment of Learning Outcomes: (1) Exams (1) Reading quizzes.

Spring 2015 Course Schedule

**Complete the readings for each date *before* discussion is scheduled.
Dates are tentative; the professor reserves the right to make changes.
Changes to the Web page supersede earlier versions of the syllabus.**

Jan 15 INTRODUCTION

Jan 20 AMERICA BEFORE CONQUEST

Jan 22 EXPLORATION AND EMPIRE

Jan 27 SPANISH EMPIRE

Week of Jan. 26: Discussion and quiz: William Cronon, Changes in the Land

Jan 29 ENGLISH COLONIZATION

Feb 3 VIRGINIA

Week of Feb. 2: Map quiz

Feb 5 THE PURITAN COLONIES: NEW ENGLAND

Feb 10 THE FRENCH IN AMERICA

Week of Feb. 9: Discussion and quiz: James D. Rice, Tales from a Revolution

Feb 12 COLONISTS, SLAVES, AND IMMIGRANTS

Feb17 **EXAMINATION #1**

Feb 19 THE GREAT AWAKENING; THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND POLITICAL IDEALS

Feb 24 THE CAUSES OF THE REVOLUTION

Feb 26 THE REVOLUTION

Mar 3 THE CONSTITUTION

Week of Mar. 2: Discussion and quiz: R. B. Bernstein, Thomas Jefferson

Mar 5 THE NEW GOVERNMENT TESTED

Mar 10 REPUBLICAN "REVOLUTION OF 1800"

Mar 12 THE WAR OF 1812

Mar 14–22 **SPRING BREAK—No Class**

Mar 24 GOOD FEELING AND BAD: THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE; JACKSONIAN DEMOCRACY

Week of Mar. 23: Discussion and quiz: Paul E. Johnson and Sean Wilentz, The Kingdom of Matthias

Mar 26 JACKSON'S PRESIDENCY

Mar 31 **EXAMINATION #2**

Apr 2 THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING

Apr 7 THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Apr 9 SLAVERY

Apr 14 SLAVERY

Week of Apr. 13: Discussion and quiz: Frederick Douglass, Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

Apr 16 ABOLITION AND "POSITIVE GOOD"

Apr 21 WESTWARD EXPANSION; THE MEXICAN WAR; COMPROMISE OF 1850

Apr 23 RISING CONFLICT

Apr 28 SECESSION AND WAR

Week of Apr. 27: Discussion and quiz: James M. McPherson, For Cause and Comrades

Apr 30 THE CIVIL WAR

May 4 **All Make-Up Exams and Quizzes—All Day in HH135**

May 5 RECONSTRUCTION; POSTWAR AMERICA

FINAL EXAM: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday, May 9

Note: Any student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. See University Standard Operating Procedure 34.19.

Note: Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note: instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, please contact Student Disability Services in West Hall or call 806-742-2405.

The professor reserves the right to change this syllabus at his discretion. Changes will be announced in class and posted on the class Webpages.

