COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is concerned with the transformation of agrarian, localized, colonial societies into a developing industrial nation. Topics to be explored include the diversity of the colonial experience; the emergence of a revolutionary consciousness; the creation of a unique republic; economic growth and continental expansion; the changing roles and status of women; social reform; race relations; the Civil War; and Reconstruction.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY: Three lectures and one discussion section per week. Each student is expected to complete the week’s reading assignment before his or her discussion section, and to participate actively and intelligently in the discussion.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Available at the University Bookstore:


Don Fehrenbacher, *Prelude to Greatness: Lincoln in the 1850s*.

Available at Kinkos, 620 University Avenue, as a packet of photocopies:

Alfred Young, "George Robert Twelves Hewes (1742-1840): A Boston Shoemaker and the Memory of the American Revolution."

Barbara Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood."

NOTE: All required readings have also been placed on reserve at both the Helen B. White (undergraduate) Library and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. At the White Library, the call number for the Norton textbook is listed under *A People and a Nation*, rather than the authors' names.
INSTRUCTOR’S OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays, 10-11 a.m.; Wednesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., 4122 Humanities Building

The time and place for the teaching assistant’s office hours will be announced.

EVALUATION: Your grade will be computed as follows: 20% for each hour exam; 20% for discussion section; 40% for the final exam.

SCHEDULE

Week of September 7:

Organizational Meeting

Lecture: A World Apart: The Americas Before European Contact

Week of September 12:

Lectures: The Old World: Europe
           The Old World: Africa
           The Columbian Exchange

Reading: Norton, chap. 1; Risjord, pp. 1-26

Week of September 19:

Lectures: Worlds in Motion: The Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and French Empires
           Early Modern England
           English Expansion: Ireland and the West Indies

Reading: Wood, Black Majority, pp. xiii-166

Week of September 26:

Lectures: The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century
           Slavery: The Fateful Commitment
           Puritanism

Reading: Wood, Black Majority, pp. 167-326
Week of October 3:

Lectures: New England in the Seventeenth Century  
The Imperial Connection  
American Society in the Eighteenth Century  

Reading: Norton, chap. 2; Risjord, pp. 50-71;  
Boyer and Nissenbaum, pp. ix-110  

Week of October 10:

1st HOUR EXAM: Oct. 10  
Lectures: Awakening and Enlightenment  
Origins of American Politics  

Reading: Norton, chap. 3; Boyer and Nissenbaum, pp. 111-221  

Week of October 17:

Lectures: The Coming of the Revolution  
The War Years  
The Confederation  

Reading: Norton, chaps. 4-6; Risjord, pp. 73-93  

Week of October 24:

Lectures: Creation of the Republic  
The Implications of Liberty  
Launching the Experiment in Republicanism  

Reading: Norton, chap. 7; Young, "George Robert Twelves Hewes . . ."  

Week of October 31:

Lectures: The Empire of Liberty  
The War of 1812 and Its Aftermath  
The Problem of Slavery in the Young Republic  

Reading: Norton, chap. 8; Risjord, pp. 111-139  

Week of November 7:

2nd HOUR EXAM: Nov. 7
Lectures: Economic Development in Antebellum America (2 lectures)

Reading: Norton, chaps. 9-10; Risjord, pp. 95-109

Week of November 14:

Lectures: Women's Sphere
          Awakening and Reform
          The Birth of Mass Politics

Reading: Norton, chap. 12; Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood";
         Risjord, pp. 171-193

Week of November 21:

Lectures: Outsiders: Indians and Blacks
          The Slave Community

Reading: Johnson, A Shopkeeper's Millennium (entire book)

Week of November 28:

Lectures: Political Abolitionism
          Westward Expansion and the Growth of Sectionalism
          Crises of the 1850s (Part I)

Reading: Norton, chaps. 11, 13; Risjord, pp. 195-240

Week of December 5:

Lectures: Crises of the 1850s (Part II)
          The House Divided
          The Death of Slavery

Reading: Fehrenbacher, Prelude to Greatness (entire book); Norton,
         chap. 14; Risjord, pp. 242-253

Week of December 12:

Lectures: Reconstruction: An American Tragedy
          Centennial America

Reading: Norton, chap. 15; Risjord, pp. 255-273