COURSE NO.  COURSE TITLE           INSTRUCTOR
343   Colonial America           Charles L. Cohen

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The History of Colonial America Revealed: being a Survey of the mainland settlements from the first outpouring of the English and their confrontations with the Indigenous Inhabitants through that most celebrated Victory over the French securing British imperial hegemony over a trackless world, with heed given to such divers phenomena as the weather, legislatures, weeds, genders, witches, and slaves.

LECTURES

Two fifty-minute lectures/week. A third period will feature discussion of the readings, possibly some slide presentations, and at least one excursion to the State Historical Society. The fourth period will be devoted to an intensive examination of Bacon's Rebellion; students will read many of the most pertinent documents, and will discuss the origins, progress, and results of the Rebellion, in preparation for writing a term paper on it.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

2 3-page book reports, one term paper on Bacon's Rebellion, and one final examination.

GRADING SYSTEM

Book reports: 15% each; term paper: 40%; final examination: 30%.

REQUIRED READINGS

Bernard Bailyn, THE ORIGINS OF AMERICAN POLITICS; Alfred Crosby, THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE; Michael Hall, EDWARD RANDOLPH AND THE AMERICAN COLONIES; Christopher Jedrey, THE WORLD OF JOHN CLEAVELAND; Kenneth Lockridge, A NEW ENGLAND TOWN; Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, GOOD WIVES; Alden Vaughan, AMERICAN GENESIS; "Bacon's Rebellion" (a collection of documents); additional readings on Bacon's Rebellion as may be necessary to write the term paper.
History 323
Spring, 1965
MWF 11:00-11:50, 2111 Humanities
Section: 1 1:20-2:10, 316 Mau.

Charles L. Boker
4115 Humanities
2:30-3:30, 100 (Lect.)
M, T 1:30-2:30, 2:30-4:00

COLO L AL A M ER I C A

The following books are required reading, and may be purchased at the older university book store:

Bernard Bailyn, THE ORIGINS OF AMERICAN POLITICS
Alfred Crosby, THE COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE
Christopher Jecroy, THE WORLD OF JOH. CLERW L A D
Kenneth Lockridge, AMERICAN subdiv.
Laurel Ulrich, SOCIO LIVES
Ihlen Vaughan, AMERICAN SUB.

All of the above items have also been placed on 3-hour reserve in both the State Historical Society and the College Library.

The following packet is required reading for the section; it may be purchased at your old Kinko's on University Avenue:

"Bacon's Rebellion"

This reading has not been placed on reserve.

Requirements: 1) Two 3-page book reviews. Each counts 10% of the grade. Note that each review may be turned in on a number of dates. 2) Class participation. 10% of the grade. Note that students will evaluate each other. 3) Term paper, 40% of the grade. 4) Final examination. 30% of the grade. 5) A cheerful countenance and an inquiring mind. These are not figured into the grade, but they will make the course more interesting and enjoyable for all concerned, the instructor most of all.

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<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>The Land of America</td>
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<td>Amerindian Society</td>
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<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>Discussion - Crosby, Columbian exchange</td>
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<td>England on the Verge of Colonization</td>
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<td>Discussion: FIRST BOOK REPORT DUE - 1st option (Crosby)</td>
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mar. 11 founding Virginia
12 Virginia, 1624-1660
15 discussion - Vaughan, American Genesis
17 founding Massachusetts
20 The expansion of New England
22 discussion: P. H. N. BORCHTON 2d option (Vaughan)
25 Dutch
27 organizing the empire

apr. 1 discussion
4 The lost Indians
6 The beginnings of Pennsylvania
(on reserve at the State Historical Society and the College Library)
11 New England Society
13 Witchcraft and Society
15 discussion, Lockridge, New England Town
17 -21: 1. rule: check the administration
23 Southern Society
27 Slave Society
29 discussion - Ulrich, Local Lives, SECOND SUCH REPORT DUE - 1st option
(Lockridge)

April 1 The Glorious Revolution in America
3 The turn of the Century
5 ROCO WYMAN
7 Theocracy of provincial America
10 The Society of provincial America
12 discussion: ROCO 3. 1. (April 4) - 2d option (Ulrich)
17 Final Examination

20 The Enlightenment

22 Education in Colonial America

25 Discussion. 3:00-4:00 READING 32 - 50 option (Cleveland)

30 The British Empire

1 Colonial Politics

3 Discussion - Hallam, Politics

5 Warfare

1 America in 1763

10 Discussion - Review. The NES 301
The opening section periods will be devoted to the study of Bacon's Rebellion, an unusual event that troubled Virginia in 1676-77. We will read many of the documents associated with the affair and try to understand what they tell us. The class will break into small groups, and each group will be assigned a text to study. The assignments and general discussion questions follow:

Jan. 5 - Introduction

Jan. 8 - The person's view: Sec. 1

What caused Bacon's Rebellion according to Thomas Naton?

Jan. 10 - The plot thickens: Docs. 2, 3

How do these two accounts differ from Naton's?

Jan. 14 - Two very narratives: Sec. 4, 5

How do these accounts contradict the previous ones?

Jan. 18 - Political politics: Docs. 1-11

How was Virginia organized politically, and how was this structure threatened by royal grants?

Jan. 21 - Frontier irritations: Docs. 12-17, 18-22

How unified was Virginia's ruling elite, and how well did it respond to the Indian threat?

Jan. 25 - The only good Indian ...: Docs. 23-29

What really happened on Bacon's Indian campaigns?

Jan. 28 - Bacon a colonist: Sec. 33?

What did "Bacon's men" intend to accomplish?

Feb. 1 - Documents: Docs. 31-37, 19-24, 24-27

What did the rebels want to accomplish by attacking Oxford?

Feb. 4 - In the name of the king: Docs. 30-47

What was royal policy towards Virginia?

Feb. 7 - Some grievances: Docs. 52-56

Who complained of what abuses?

Feb. 11 - Shred the law: Sec. 60?

How do these statutes compare to "Bacon's Acts"?

Feb. 13 - Kremlin: Docs. 51-52

How well was royal policy carried out?

Feb. 21 - The rebellion answer: Sec. 9?

What were the causes and consequences of the rebellion according to Lewis?

Feb. 24 - Conclusions

Feb. 28 - "I will laugh at tearing paper. The local topic is the Rebellion: we have seen what is more evident in our very midst of it."
The morning section periods will be devoted to the study of Bacon’s rebellion, an upheaval that troubled Virginia in 1676-77. We will read many of the documents generated by the affair and try to understand what they all mean. The class will be broken into small groups to facilitate discussion; membership in a group will be constant throughout the semester.

Ch. 1 - Introduction

Jan. 30 - Mr. person’s view: Sec. 1
Feb. 1 - The plot thickens: Secs. 2, 3
Feb. 13 - So many narratives: Secs. 4, 5
Feb. 20 -
The text above should be written primarily from the documents, but you are encouraged to read what modern historians have thought. The following items have been placed on reserve at the Historical Society, and some may also be found in the college library. These books do not exhaust the available accounts; you may use the sources you prefer.


Robert Quarrier, The Colored in Transition: The Southern Colored in the Nineteenth Century

Ishmael Reed, The Longest Revolution

Ansel Adams, American Slavery, American Freedom

Louis Hartz, Colonial Virginia


Wilcomb Washburn, The Governor and the Rebel

Thomas Jefferson Hart Benton, Archibald of the Revolution