COURSE DESCRIPTION: In ways great and small, the American Revolution touched the life of every person who lived through it and profoundly influenced the subsequent history of the United States. Indeed, the Revolution has been called "the most crucial event in American history." This course traces conditions that culminated in revolution and warfare, examines the remarkable amount of political experimentation that led to the creation of a unique republic, considers how ordinary men and women responded to and shaped events, and assesses the impact of the Revolutionary era upon American development. In addition, the course considers how representations and memories of the Revolution have changed over the span of American history--and to what effect. Assigned readings include both modern scholarly accounts and eighteenth-century documents. Students are encouraged to explore the many facets and the continuing legacies and challenges of the nation's founding epoch.

COURSE CREDITS: For all undergraduate students, History 344 is a 4-credit course. The fourth credit is for the required weekly discussion sections.

REQUIRED READINGS:
Note: All assigned books and the course packet are also on three-hour reserve at the Helen C. White Undergraduate College Library.

Books (available locally at University Bookstore on State Street and at other local vendors):
- Bailyn, Bernard. To Begin the World Anew: The Genius and Ambiguities of the American Founders
- Bonwick, Colin. The American Revolution (2nd edition)
- Ketcham, Ralph (ed.). The Anti-Federalist Papers and the Constitutional Convention Debates
- Lee, Jean B. The Price of Nationhood: The American Revolution in Charles County
- Paine, Thomas. Common Sense
- Silverman, Kenneth (ed.). Benjamin Franklin’s Autobiography and Other Writings
- Wilkins, Roger. Jefferson’s Pillow: The Dilemma of Black Patriotism

Course packet (a packet containing brief essays and contemporary documents is available at Bob's Copy Shop, 616 University Avenue; phone 257-4536).

CURRENT INFORMATION ON LEARN@UW: Check the History 344 website in Learn@UW for any current postings of information.

CLASS MEETINGS:
- Jan. 20 Introductory Session
- Jan. 22 Mystic Chords of Memory: The American Revolution in Historical Perspective, 1775-1876
- Jan. 27 Great Britain and Its Empire
Jan. 29  Colonial Landscapes
Feb.  3  Degrees of Freedom (1)
Feb.  5  Degrees of Freedom (2)
Feb. 10  Evangelicalism and Enlightenment
Feb. 12  The Theory and Practice of Government
Feb. 17  Warfare and the Empire
Feb. 19  Parliamentary Reforms, Colonial Responses
Feb. 24  Resistance
Feb. 26  Crisis of the Empire
Mar.  3  Independence
Mar.  5  The War for Independence, 1775-77
Mar. 10  The War for Independence, 1778-81

Mar. 12  MIDTERM EXAM
Note: The exam must be taken this day.

Mar. 24  “Cultivating the Sensations of Freedom”: Music of the Revolution
Mar. 26  A Confederation of Sovereign States
Mar. 31  Crises of the 1780s
Apr.  2  Creation of the Constitution
Apr.  7  PREPARATION FOR DEBATE on the Constitution
Apr.  9  DEBATE: Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists
Apr. 14  Ratification and the Bill of Rights
Apr. 16  Establishing Federal Government
Apr. 21  Origins of American Foreign Policy
Apr. 23  Legitimizing Political Opposition
Apr. 28  The Contagion of Liberty
Apr. 30  The Problem of Slavery in an Age of Revolution
May  5  A Continuing Revolution
May  7  Wrap-up Session

May 13  FINAL EXAM (5:05 - 7:05 pm)  Place to be announced.
Note: The final exam must be taken at the regularly scheduled time.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:
  Ronald Binzley: Office Hours: 11:00-noon, Tuesdays & Thursdays
                 5268 Humanities Building (phone: 263-1868)
  John Coakley:  Office Hours: 1:00-3:00 pm, Thursdays
                 5268 Humanities Building (phone: 263-1868)

DISCUSSION SECTIONS: Every undergraduate should be enrolled in one of the discussion sections
listed at the top of page 3. Read the assigned material before your section, so that you may participate
fully and actively in the class. During the semester, the teaching assistants will assign written work
designed to help you enhance your analytic, interpretive, and writing skills.

  Tuesdays  1:20 pm  2211 Humanities Bldg.
             2: 25 pm  2241 Humanities Bldg.
Wednesdays  9:55 am   2637 Humanities Bldg.
           1:20 pm   2241 Humanities Bldg.
           2:25 pm   B135 Van Vleck
Thursdays   1:20 pm   2211 Humanities Bldg.
           2:25 pm   2231 Humanities Bldg.
           3:30 pm   2241 Humanities Bldg.

**GRADING:**    40% - Participation in discussion sections (including assigned written work)  
                25% - Midterm exam  
                35% - Final exam

**A WORD ABOUT PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarism (submitting someone else's ideas and words as one's own) is a serious offense that will result in a grade of F on the assignment. Should a second offense occur, the course grade will be F.

**RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:** According to University policy, a student who expects to be absent from class because of religious holidays must, within the first two weeks of class, notify the instructor (in this case the assigned TA) of the specific date(s) on which s/he will be absent. Students bear the responsibility for arranging make-up assignments. If necessary, reasonable limits on the total number of days claimed by any one student will be set.