

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

Semester II Year 1981-82

| <u>COURSE NO.</u> | <u>COURSE TITLE</u>                   | <u>INSTRUCTOR</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 101 -001          | American History to the Civil War Era | Sewell            |

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to introduce undergraduates to the study of American history; to acquaint them with the major forces shaping American institutions, character, and thought; and to inculcate an understanding of history as a discipline. Its major theme is the development and testing of American nationalism from colonial times through the Civil War and Reconstruction.

LECTURES

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays plus a discussion section.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

Two hour exams plus a final exam. All exams are essay type.

GRADING SYSTEM

A-F

REQUIRED READINGS

To be announced.

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Department of History  
Semester II, 1980-81

History 101

U. S. History to the Civil War Era

Mr. Sewell

Required Texts:

John Garraty, The American Nation, vol. I. Harper & Row.

Edmund Morgan, The Puritan Dilemma. Little, Brown.

Robert A. Gross, The Minutemen and Their World. Hill & Wang.

John W. Ward, Andrew Jackson: Symbol for an Age. Oxford.

John Blassingame, The Slave Community. Oxford.

David Donald, Lincoln Reconsidered. Vintage.

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Schedule:

Week of January 19

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chaps. I-II

Lectures:

Introduction

Social Change in Colonial America

Witchcraft at Salem

Week of January 26

Readings:

Morgan, Puritan Dilemma, chaps. I-VI

Lectures:

Toward Religious Toleration

Fish and Ships: The Colonial Economy

Democracy or Deference: Colonial Politics

Week of February 2

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chap. III

Morgan, Puritan Dilemma, chaps. VII-XIII

Lectures:

Origins of the American Revolution

Why the British Lost

A Case for the Losers: The Loyalists

Week of March 23

Lectures:

A White Man's Democracy  
Review

SECOND HOUR EXAMINATION: March 27

Week of March 30

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chaps. XII-XIII  
Donald, Lincoln Reconsidered, chap. II

Lectures:

Intellectual Ferment and Social Reform  
The Women's Movement in Early America  
Abolitionism

Week of April 6

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chap. XI  
Blassingame, Slave Community

Lectures:

The Peculiar Institution  
Manifest Destiny  
Crisis and Compromise: Slavery in National Politics

Week of April 13

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chap. XIV

Lectures:

Birth of the Republican Party  
Disruption of the Democracy

Week of April 20

Readings:

Garraty, American Nation, chap. XV  
Donald, Lincoln Reconsidered, chap. XI

Lectures:

The Secession Crisis, 1860-1861  
Grant and Lee  
Lincoln and the Racial Question