

History 349: Colonial North America, 1600-1760

T*Th 11-12:20pm VKC 151

Professor Adrian Finucane

SOS 257, Office Hours T 1-3pm and by appointment

In this course we will cover the history of North America from early settlement to the eve of Revolution. This includes the histories of the English, Spanish, and French empires on the continent and in the Caribbean; the native groups with which these empires interacted; and the enslaved African laborers brought to North American shores. We will explore the area from Canada to Mexico, from the Puritan colonies of New England to the fortifications in Virginia, and from the plantations of Jamaica to the revolts in the American southwest. Through the semester we will explore the question of how North America changed from the early encounters of the sixteenth century to the eve of the American Revolution. In colonial North America, Europeans, Africans, and native groups encountered each other in a changing landscape, and together created a new world.

Assignments and Grading

This course will use the following grading system: 92-100 (A), 89-91 (A-), 86-88 (B+), 82-85 (B), 79-81 (B-), 76-78 (C+), 72-75 (C), 69-71 (C-), 60-68 (D), <60 (F).

The assignments for this class include a weekly written response to the readings, ID quizzes at the ends of units 1 and 3, a midterm exam, and a cumulative final exam. The format of these exams and quizzes will be discussed in class meetings.

Students will post short weekly responses to the readings on Blackboard by 11:59pm on Mondays, for discussion during the week's class meetings. Responses can consist of questions of interpretation (rather than of fact) raised by the readings or analysis of a major theme in the readings, and should be 100-150 words long. Grades for the responses will be posted weekly. Responses posted after the deadline will not be accepted for credit.

Grade Breakdown:

30% 2 ID Quizzes (15% each)

25% Midterm Exam

20% Class Participation, including weekly response questions

25% Final Exam

Readings

Students are required to buy one book for this course. The rest of the readings will be posted on the class Blackboard site. Students should bring copies of assigned readings to the relevant class meetings for reference during discussion.

Paul G.E. Clemens, *The Colonial Era: A Documentary Reader*. Blackwell Publishing, 2008.

Policies

A useful class discussion requires conscientious preparation by all students. Class discussions will be a vital part of the learning occurring in this course, and for this reason, students are required to attend every class meeting, having thoroughly prepared with the assigned readings. Missing more than one class meeting will significantly lower your course grade. Necessary absences should be discussed with the instructor well in advance.

As per USC policy found at <http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/index.html>: “Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.”

Academic misconduct, including plagiarism, will be penalized. This includes but is not limited to the disruption of class, and any violation of the University of Southern California conduct code. Plagiarism is any copying or representation of an author’s words or ideas without proper citation, whether that author is an academic writer, a fellow student, or anyone else. For further information on identifying and avoiding plagiarism, consult: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/ug_plag.htm.

Students are highly encouraged to contact Dr. Finucane with any questions regarding class policies, materials, or assignments. Email to the address at the top of the syllabus will be answered within 48 hours during the work week. At the discretion of the instructor, there may be changes to this syllabus over the course of the semester.

Class Schedule

UNIT 1: Exploration and Early Settlement

Week 1

August 28: Introduction: Europe, Africa, and America before 1492

August 30: Exploration: Discovering the Americas

Reading: Clemens Chapter 1

Week 2

September 4: Early Encounters

September 6: Settling North America: Spanish Colonies

Reading: Clemens Chapter 3
Schwartz, *Victors and Vanquished*, pp. 1-28, 79-84, 162-167, BB

Week 3

September 11: England in the Chesapeake

September 13: New England Colonies

Reading: Clemens Chapter 5.1, 5.4
Clemens Chapter 6
Clemens Chapter 7

Week 4

September 18: French and Dutch Settlements

September 20: Settling the Caribbean and **ID QUIZ**

Reading: Clemens Chapter 5.2, 5.3
Richard White, *The Middle Ground*, Chapter 2, BB

UNIT 2: Labor and Life in Colonial America

Week 5

September 25: The Labor Problem the Rise of Slavery

September 27: Slavery and Race in North America

Reading: Clemens Chapter 11.1, 11.3
Lorena Walsh, "Slavery in the North American Mainland Colonies,"
BB

Week 6

October 2: Colonial Lands

October 4: Colonial Economy

Reading: Clemens Chapter 9
Virginia DeJohn Anderson, *Creatures of Empire*, Chapter 7, BB

Week 7

October 9: Growing up Colonial: Family Structure and the Life Cycle

October 11: Gender in Colonial North America

Reading: Clemens Chapter 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6
Clemens Chapter 13

Week 8

October 16: Everyday Life and Material Culture

October 18: **MIDTERM EXAM**

Reading: Clemens Chapter 12

Unit 3: Colonial Shifts and Imperial Crises

Week 9

October 23: The Glorious Revolution

October 25: Colonial Politics

Reading: Richard Dunn, "The Glorious Revolution and America," BB
Clemens Chapter 8

Week 10

October 30: The Pueblo Revolt

November 1: New England Tensions

Reading: Andrew L. Knaut, *The Pueblo Revolt of 1680*, pp. 119-170, BB
Rowlandson, *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God*, Excerpts, BB

Week 11

November 6: Slave Life

November 8: Slave Resistance and Rebellion

Reading: Clemens Chapter 11.2, 11.4
Peter Charles Hoffer, *Cry Liberty*, Chapters 2 & 3, BB

Week 12

November 13: Religious Diversity

November 15: Religious Shifts and **ID QUIZ**

Reading: Clemens Chapter 14
Hannah Heaton's Conversion Experience, BB

UNIT 4: Empire

Week 13

November 20: The Growth of Empire

Reading: Clemens Chapter 10

THANKSGIVING

Week 14

November 27: Being British in Eighteenth-Century America

November 29: Contested Borders

Reading: T.H. Breen, "Baubles of Britain," *Past & Present*, BB
Richard White, *The Middle Ground*, Chapter 6, BB

Week 15

December 4: The Seven Years' War

December 6: Toward Revolution

Reading: Clemens Chapter 16

FINAL EXAM Tuesday, December 18, 8-10 a.m., location TBA