

History 2675.001
Honors U.S. History to 1865

Spring 2019

MWF 10 -10:50 am
PHYS 115

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Required Books:

Oakes, McGerr, Lewis, Cullather, and Boydston, *Of the People*, with sources, 3rd ed., Vol. I.
The Constitutional Convention: A Narrative History from the Notes of James Madison, Larson and Winship, ed.

Purpose of Course:

To provide the student with an understanding of the political, economic, and social development of the United States from pre-history until the end of the Civil War. It is hoped that each student also will learn to apply this knowledge in the making of contemporary political, economic, and social decisions.

Course Requirements and Grading Policies:

There will be three (3) tests, a paper, and a final. All will be graded on a strict 100-point scale.

The fourth exam (the “Final”) will **NOT** be comprehensive.

The grades will be assigned as follows:

A = 90 - 100 points
B = 80 - 89 points
C = 70 - 79 points
D = 60 - 69 points
F = 59 and below

Tentative Calendar (Subject to Change)

The major exam and paper schedule is as follows:

Test 1 (20%)	Friday, 8 February
Test 2 (20%)	Wednesday, 6 March
Test 3 (20%)	Monday, 8 April
Paper Due (20%)	Monday, 8 April
Final (20%)	Saturday, 4 May (8 – 10 am)

No extra credit work outside of the opportunity provided on the final will be assigned or accepted.

Students will take three (3) exams and a final and will complete a paper. There will be an up-to-15-point extra-credit question on the final. **All** points will be added together and the total will be divided by the number of grade opportunities (5). The numerical result will be translated into a letter grade according to the table above.

Structure of Major Exams:

Students will be given a review sheet before each major exam that contains questions from which those on the exam will be chosen. It is expected that each student will use the review sheet to prepare for the test. Exams 1, 2, and 3 will consist of three (3) questions from the review. Students will choose one (1) of those three (3) and will write an essay in answer to that question. The Final will be structured in the same way with one difference: in addition to the one essay required in the case of each of the other exams, the student also will have the aforementioned extra-credit opportunity. Student essays are expected to be responsive to the questions asked, coherently constructed, and grammatically sound. The most important objective when answering essay questions should be the **demonstration** of what the student knows about the subject being addressed. Provide as many details as you can. Exam essays will be graded with these criteria in mind.

Papers:

The body of the paper will be ten (10) pages in length.

Papers will be double-spaced with margins (left, right, top, and bottom) of one inch.

Students will use 12-point Times Roman typeface.

Students will cite sources using the style described in Turabian/Chicago Manual handout.

Failure to use the specified style will result in a deduction of points.

Use *The Constitutional Convention* book as your principal source for the paper.

Wikipedia is not acceptable as a source.

Students must turn in a draft of their **COMPLETE** paper by Friday, 8 March, 2019. This will allow the instructor time in which to give students feedback as to the adequacy and competency of their efforts. The instructor will establish a turnitin.com site for this class. Students will upload an electronic copy of the final version of their paper to the site and will hand in a paper copy to the instructor, both by the date indicated above (Monday, 8 April 2019).

The topic of the paper, for all students, will be a comparison of the Virginia Plan, the New Jersey Plan, and the Constitution (as finally approved by the Constitutional Convention) in light of Madison's Notes.

Punctuality and attendance:

Students are expected to be on time for all class meetings and examinations. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Attendance will be used, at the instructor's discretion, to determine whether or not the student receives the instructor's "benefit of the doubt" when grades are assigned at the end of the semester. Students with better than 80% attendance will have their final grade bumped up to the next higher letter grade, at the instructor's discretion, if their final average comes within 2 points of that next higher letter grade.

Office Hours:

MW 8:30 – 9:30 am and 2 – 4 pm in Wooten Hall Room 228.

Contacting Your Instructor:

It is best to contact your instructor via email. I am not in my office outside of office hours very often, but I check my email regularly. I will get back with you as soon as possible. Also, communication via email ensures that there is a written record of the information passed between student and instructor.

Office hours are provided so that students can meet with the instructor when there is an issue that needs to be addressed. If the student is concerned about his or her grade in the course, please see the instructor as soon as possible so that the issue can be addressed while there is still time. Please, do not wait until it is too late to do something before meeting with the instructor.

Information Concerning Grades:

FERPA rules require that information concerning grades be communicated to the person who has a legal right to see and know that information. This means that **I will not communicate information**

concerning a student's grades via email or telephone. *I repeat:* **I will not communicate information concerning a student's grades via email or telephone.** The instructor and student must meet face-to-face.

Handout and Test Return Policy:

Those students missing class when instructional items and graded tests are distributed can pick up missed materials and graded tests during office hours.

Class Notes:

Special circumstances excepted, the instructor will **not** furnish class notes or copies of the presentations to students. If you miss a lecture, get the notes from one of your fellow students in the class.

Student Behavior:

Students are expected to act like responsible adults in class. This means no talking or engaging in any other disruptive activity once class has begun. Students may speak when called upon by the instructor or, within reason, when reacting to something done or said by the instructor. Students who fail to comply with this standard of behavior will receive two warnings. If a third warning proves necessary, then the offending student/students will be told to leave the classroom.

Students may not leave class while an exam is being administered. If you have special circumstances, you will need to meet with the instructor before the first exam so that arrangements can be made.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones should be turned off or on vibrate.

During tests, cell phones and all other electronic devices must be put away so that they are not visible to the student. No text messaging allowed. Sending or receiving text messages during an exam will be considered prima facie evidence of cheating and will be handled accordingly.

Use of Computers in Class:

Students may use computers to take notes in class. However....

While the instructor understands the popularity and convenience of laptops for this purpose, he also knows that far too often students use their computers to play games and surf the Internet. The misuse of a computer during class in this manner not only harms the student engaged in the activity, but it also is a distraction to others around the student who might actually be in class for the purpose of taking notes in preparation for the tests. To protect the studious, students who misuse their computers in this way will, when caught, be told to shut off their computer.

Make-up Policy for Major Exams

A student missing the First, Second, or Third Exam must be made up within a week. This means, for instance, that if the exam is given on a Monday, then, if missed, it must be made up by the beginning of class on the following Monday. A make-up exam will be placed in the History Help Center for students who **meet with the instructor** and arrange to take the make-up. Make-up exams **will not** be automatically placed in the Help Center. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that a missed exam is made up within the specified one-week period. Unless other arrangements are made with the instructor, all students who do not make up a test within the one-week make-up period will receive a "0" ["zero"] for that exam. **THE MAKE-UP EXAM IS ONE ESSAY QUESTION CHOSEN FROM THE REVIEW FOR 100 POINTS.**

Disability Accommodation (ADA/ODA):

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Academic Ethics (Cheating and Plagiarism):

Students will be held accountable for acts of cheating, dishonesty, or plagiarism as defined in the student handbook. This includes, by the way, the use of cell phones to text answers to one another during an exam. Any student found to be engaging in any form of dishonest conduct during the taking of an exam will be expelled from that particular class period and will receive a “0” [“zero”] for that exam.

History Help Center:

Located in Wooten Hall, Room 220, the History Help Center provides assistance to students enrolled in history courses at UNT.

Lecture / Textbook Correlation

The student will use the lecture and the textbook to prepare for exams. The instructor will provide more information on the first day of class concerning how the student should use the following:

Exam Period #1 (10 class meetings, 14 January-6 February)

Textbook Chapters 1 – 5

Lecture Emphases: English and British Rulers
Roots of the English Reformation
Maritime Aspects of European Expansion

Exam Period #2 (10 class meetings, 11 February-4 March)

Textbook Chapters 6 – 8

Lecture Emphases: The Rights of Englishmen
The American Revolution
The Framing of the Constitution

Exam Period #3 (10 class meetings, 8 March – 5 April)

[Spring Break will be the week of 11-15 March]

Textbook Chapters 9 – 12

Lecture Emphases: The War of 1812
The Post-War of 1812 Period
The Jacksonian Era

Exam Period #4 (9 class meetings, 10-29 April; 1 May is pre-Finals day and 3 May is Reading Day)

Textbook Chapters 13 - 14

Lecture Emphases: Sectionalism and Slavery Lead to Disunion
The Civil War

The Instructor reserves the right to make changes to any and all of the forgoing descriptions, instructions and/or information at his discretion.