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| Scott McAleer Office Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00  Office Location: SSH -109  E-mail: Scott.mcaleer@linnbenton.edu  Disabilities Services Statement  Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. If you have not accessed services and think you may need them, please contact Disability Services, 917-4789. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must complete a Request for Accommodations form every term in order to receive accommodations  **Policies:**  **1.** Be respectful of your classmates, their ideas and their time.  **2.** Turn off all cell phones before coming to class. Text messaging and checking your messages is especially rude. If I see you text messaging or checking your messages you will be asked to leave class, and will receive a zero for any work that you miss.  **3**. Laptops are allowed only during journal writing. They are not allowed at any other time.  **4.** Incompletes:It is extremely rare that an incomplete is granted for this course. Incompletes are only given in the case of a documented emergency (illness, family emergency etc) that would prevent you from completing the requirements for the course. Furthermore the incomplete grade is designed for students who have completed the majority of assignments, not just a few. If I grant an incomplete there is paperwork that must be filled out, and the student must agree to complete the remaining work before the end of the next academic term.  **5.** Please be on time and plan on staying until the end of each class.  **6.** I will **NOT** be accepting e-mailed assignments. Papers and Journals must be handed in on paper to me. This applies to late work as well. I will not open attachments or count your work as “on time” if you e-mail it to me. No exceptions. Papers (late or on time) may not be turned in to the department secretary or anyone else to put in my box. **Papers that show up in my box or under my door will be penalized by one full letter grad**e.  **7**. You must be in class to take the quiz, they cannot be made up. You do however get to drop one, so if you miss a quiz you can drop that one.  **8.** I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course.  **Phone Message Policy**  Please do not leave a message on my voice mail. Feel free to call. But if I’m not in the office do not leave a message.  This applies to instances when you are sick and will miss a class. I don’t need to know that. I’m sorry you are sick but please don’t leave a message.  **When to e-mail and when not to e-mail.**  I know it can be confusing when all of your instructors have different policies on contacting them. Please understand that I have reasons for my policies, most importantly I need to be efficient with my time so I can maximize my benefit to all of my @ 200 students. So………  1. Please DO NOT notify me to tell me you are going to be missing a class.  2. Please DO NOT notify me to tell me you are sick. The exception is an ongoing serious illness.  3. Before you e-mail me about ANYTHING stop and think. Do I really need to e-mail Scott about this? Could I wait and talk to him in person?  4. Please feel free to e-mail me if you don’t understand something. That is my job and what I love to do. If something is unclear let me know. Even then I would much rather talk to you in person. But if our schedules don’t match up an e-mail is OK. | **History of the United States**  **HST 201**  **Course Description:** Provides an overview of the United States from pre-Columbian North American and European antecedents to colonization, Colonial America, Revolutionary America; development of U.S. government, economy and society to 1830.  Prerequisite: College-level reading and writing (WR 121) are strongly recommended for success in this course.  **Required Text/Materials**  Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History Brief Fourth Edition.*  Additional material will be provided as handouts, library reserve items and via the internet.  **Teaching Methods:**  This class will be conducted in a variety of ways. The primary teaching methods will be discussion, lecture, small group assignments, journal response writings, PowerPoint presentations and brief film/documentaries. However there will be a real emphasis on discussion both in small groups and as an entire class. By keeping up with the readings and coming to class prepared to participate you will not only elevate the level of class discussion, but also get more out of the class and drastically increase your chances for success. Also it will be more fun!  **Important Note on Teaching Methods and the use of class time:** One of the most powerful ways to learn about any subject is to interact with the material in a variety of ways. In this class we will explore history through a variety of perspectives. Some work will be done in the classroom, some outside of the classroom. Some work will be done by you individually, some information will be given to you by me, and some work will be done by all of us collaboratively. This will not be an environment where I lecture all class period. It will also not be an environment where I discuss everything that was in the readings the night before. I want everyone to understand this right from the beginning. ***This class is not about comprehensive chronologies. We will not try to “cover everything.”*** This class is about ideas. It is interactive. You have an important role to play.  **Grades:** “I think the big mistake in schools is trying to teach children anything, and by using fear as the basic motivation. Fear of getting failing grades, fear of not staying with your class, etc. Interest can produce learning on a scale compared to fear as a nuclear explosion to a firecracker.” Stanley Kubrick  Not that you are children, but I agree with the above statement, and I think it applies to college students as well. Grades are not good motivators compared to interest. Grades are however what we are stuck with when it comes to measuring student’s grasp of the material. I would be happy to discuss my thoughts on grades, effort, interest and enthusiasm with anyone, but the fact is that grades will be awarded for successfully passing certain milestones and eventually completing this class. There are 200 points available in total, so each component is worth 100 points.  Quizzes/Presentation: Four out of five quizzes x 20 points each plus one 20 point presentation = 100 points. Every two weeks you will be given a multiple choice quiz drawn from the assigned chapters in your text book and from classroom lecture and discussion as well as any other material I may assign. You will also do a five minute presentation at some point during the course (Handout to follow). At the end of the term the lowest quiz score will be dropped. The remaining four quizzes and the presentation grade will be added together to get the final Quiz/Presentation grade.  Journals: 1 x 100 Points = 100 points  Hand out to follow  **Late Assignments**: All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade per class period that they are late up to one week. After one week they will no longer be accepted and you will receive a zero for the assignment. Late Journals will be penalized at one full letter grade for each weekday that they are late until the Tuesday of exam week. They will not be accepted after this and you will receive a zero for the assignment.  **Missed Quizzes/Exams:** Quizzes cannot be made up if they are missed, even if you were sick or had an emergency. Everyone gets to drop one quiz. You should plan on taking all five so that you can drop the lowest, or if an emergency does happen you can drop that quiz. Midterm or other exams can only be made up if you contact me in person, by phone or by e-mail within 48 hours of the missed exam. Then your request will be considered on a case by case basis. Only legitimate emergencies will be accepted as potential grounds for making up an exam. See the *Frequently Asked Questions* document for more information.  The final grade for this course will be based on the sum of all available points according to the following scale.   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Below 130 = F | 130-139 = D | 140-159= C | 160-179= B | 180-200= A |   **Final thoughts and suggestions for success!**  *Fact is there’s nothing out there you can’t do. Yeah, even Santa Claus believes in you*.…Dr. Teeth and the Electric Mayhem  1. The grading structure of this class is designed to reward those who come to class, keep up with the readings, and participate. There is no one big assignment to make or break your grade, but regularly missing small assignments can be a dangerous trap for some people. Keep up, and come to class prepared.  2. There is a direct correlation between coming to class and the final grade you will receive. It’s also much more fun when everyone is there, so come to class.  3. If you have any concerns about how you are doing in the class, please contact me as early as possible. No one walks into a class knowing everything. You are here to learn and improve. I can help. Its part of my job and I enjoy it.  4. The “Frequently Asked Questions” document provides you with lots of information regarding how course policies will be administered, and how to be successful in this course. Please read and understand it.  **Note on Reading Assignments:** All reading assignments listed for a particular week are expected to be complete by the first class meeting of that week. **\*\*\*Important\*\*\*** The things we talk about in class will not always follow the chronology of the readings directly. And we will not always *cover* everything you read about in class. We will linger on some topics for quite a while, others we will not deal with as extensively. We will discuss this more in class, but basically you should be prepared to interact with information in a variety of ways in this class. Some of these interactions will provide you with breadth of information, others with depth, some will overlap, others will not. But don’t expect perfect continuity between the assignment schedule, the readings and class discussion. You are responsible for having the readings done each week even though we will not always spend class time discussing every aspect of the chapters.  **Quiz, exam and due dates**. All quizzes and exams will be held on the last class meeting of that particular week. So if the class meets MWF, the quizzes and exam will be held on Fridays. TR classes will have theirs on Thursdays. Quizzes may be given at the beginning or the end of class. You must be in class at that time to take them. Papers and Journals are also due on the last scheduled class meeting of the weeks that they are due.  **Course Content and Assignment Outline, Tests and Test Dates**   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Course Readings and Assignment Schedule | | | | |  | **Weekly Topic** | **Reading Assignments** | **Important** | | Week 1 | Course Intro, Syllabus, First Americans | Foner: Chapter 1 |  | | **Week 2** | European Exploration: From fool’s gold and cod to tobacco and God. | Foner: Chapter 2 | Quiz 1 | | **Week 3** | The English Colonies: Regional variations in agriculture, culture, religion and economy. | Foner: Chapter 3 |  | | **Week 4** | Changes and challenges in the Colonies: 1650-1750 | Foner: Chapter 4 | Quiz 2 Friday | | **Week 5** | European Imperialism, War, and the road to Revolution | Foner: Chapter 5 | No Class on Wednesday. Journal review day by appointment. |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Week 6** | Revolution | Foner: Chapter 6 | Quiz 3 | | **Week 7** | "A more perfect Union" | Foner: Chapter 7 | Film | | **Week 8** | Origins of the Party System | Foner: Chapter 8 | Quiz 4 | | Week 9 | Jeffersonian America | Foner: Chapter 9 |  | | **Week 10** | The Age of Jackson, Changes to Democracy in America | Foner: Chapter 10 | Quiz 5  Journal Due | | Exam Week | No Final | No Final | No Final |   **E-mail Policy**  Each time you e-mail me please start off by telling me the following information:   1. **Full** Name 2. Class you are in (Be specific) 3. Favorite food (just kidding)   When I say specific I mean something like:    “I am in HST 103 Online.”  Or “I am in your HST 203 face-to-face class, Tuesday –Thursday 9:00 AM.”  It’s important you give me the class # and the fact that it’s online or face to face. If its face-to face you must also tell me what days of the week it meets, as well as what time it meets.  So if you say, “Hi my name is Joe from your history class, what are my grades.” I will say, “Please see the e-mail policy and e-mail me back.” This isn’t only about making my job easier. It also ensures you get the right response from me in a timely manner. Different classes have different requirements. I need to know exactly what class you are in so that I can give you the most accurate information possible. Thanks for your help with this. |