

HISTORY 163.03 SYLLABUS: U.S. History to 1876

CID #: 4306

Class Location: AB4 Olson Auditorium

Class Meeting Times: 10:00 - 10:50 MWF



Dr. Rosanne Barker
Office: AB4 rm 465
Office Hours: MWF 2:30 -3:30 pm
and by appointment

Fall 2007
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TEXTS and COURSE MATERIALS:

Please purchase the required text in one of the local bookstores because it will contain the CD and a user code number that you will need in order to be able to access the online portions of the text. If you purchase it online, for example through Amazon.com, then you will not receive the necessary code number. The cost of the text is about \$30 cheaper because so much of it has been digitized. Also, do not wait too long to purchase the text because local bookstores send them back about a month after classes begin. After that, it will be very difficult for you to obtain books needed for this semester. Finally, this is a REQUIRED text and you will not be able to pass the course without it.



TEXT: Mark C. Carnes and John A. Garraty , *American Destiny Volume 1 to 1877 (2nd edition)*

I will also assign a few articles to read that will be posted to Blackboard.

--One package (= 10) of Scantron form # 882 or #882E
--#2 pencil(s)



COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a survey course, beginning with the first inhabitants of North America and ending with the period of Reconstruction following the Civil War. It is designed to familiarize you with basic trends and controversies in American history. Broad themes and topics such as religiosity, regional differences, race relations, immigration, social mobility, and gender roles will all be discussed within the context of the developing American economic and political systems.

For the most part, the class will be conducted in a lecture format. Lectures are designed to enhance the course readings. Your job as the student will be to integrate what you hear in lecture with what you read for the course. On average, you can expect to spend two hours reading and studying for each hour you sit in class.

The course is also Blackboard-based. [Blackboard](#) enables me to record grades, post announcements, attach course documents and e-mail students enrolled in the class. Using your student account, you will be able to access the course syllabus and any other pertinent materials for the course. The program is accessible through the SHSU home page. Please check your email and the Blackboard course DAILY for class updates.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Gain factual knowledge of American history from c.1607 to 1877
- Learn fundamental principles and theories pertaining to American history
- Learn to apply course material to improve thinking, problem-solving and decision-making
- Develop specific skills and competencies such as note-taking, listening, and reading comprehension
- Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of what historians do
- Develop a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values through the study of choices made by Americans in the past
- Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
- Acquire an interest in learning more by asking your own questions and seeking answers

The ultimate goal for this freshman course is simply one word: **judgement**. The course is not only about history; it is about preparing you for the "real world." Consider note-taking, for example. When you are the new associate in a big law firm and a senior partner gives you some complex directives, can you rely on your notes to remember where to begin researching the case? What kind of a listener are you? If your boss assumes you understood everything s/he discussed with you, will you know what to do later? Will your future job require research or critical thinking skills, in other words exactly those skills you will be honing in this course? A year from now when I see you at Humphrey=s and ask you about the three basic tenets of Hamilton's financial plan, do you really believe that you will remember, or that I care if you don't? What I do care about is that you learn to question, to evaluate, and then ultimately to decide for yourself what you think is the best answer to the historical riddles posed in this course. These are the skills that will ensure your success in the future.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Lectures are designed to *supplement*, not duplicate, the textbook. Accordingly, attendance is essential. Regular and punctual attendance is expected from all students. A seating chart will be made and attendance will be taken by Ms. Strong at the start of each class. The attendance check will be started at different points on the chart each class; if you are not in your assigned seat at the time attendance is taken, then that will count as an absence. In accordance with University policy, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences. For this course, I will allow four absences before your attendance grade is penalized. Attendance is worth 25 points. After 4 absences, a point per absence will be deducted from the total 25 attendance points possible. If you have more than 6 hours of absence, then you will automatically fail the course.

If you do miss a class, *you* are responsible for getting the notes and anything else that was covered during the hour. I do not make copies of my own notes, nor do I loan films that may have been shown in class. Any/All missed exams will be taken on the last day of class, Wednesday, Dec. 5th.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex (Phone: (936) 294-1720). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT: Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the

university. **Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins.** Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline may be found at the following link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

VISITORS in the CLASSROOM

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular Class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

COURSE EVALUATION: There will be two quizzes worth 25 points each; the dates will be announced at least one class beforehand. If I sense that students are not keeping up with the readings, I reserve the right to add additional quizzes. However, any additional quiz will be announced at least one class period before it is to be given.

There will be four exams, each worth 100 points. Exams are objective and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and map questions, 50 in all. The final will simply be Exam #4 and will *not* be comprehensive.

Then there will be 25 possible points for good attendance.

The total number of possible points for the course is 450 unless additional quizzes are added.

2 Quizzes x 25 points	=	50 points
4 Exams x 100 points	=	400 "
Attendance	=	25 "
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Total	=	475 points

- A = 90-100% (= 405-450 points)
- B = 80-89% (= 360-404 points)
- C = 70-79% (= 315-359 points)
- D = 60-69 % (= 270-314 points)
- F = 59% or below (= 269 points or fewer)

FINAL EXAM: The final is simply **Exam #4** and is not comprehensive. The format of the exam will be similar to the previous three exams.

COURSE OUTLINE: WEEKLY READING ASSIGNMENTS AND LECTURE TOPICS: Ideally, you will read the course materials twice: once before and once after the lecture. If you are one of those people who reads three pages and then can't remember what you just read, then we need to work on reading comprehension. Also, assistance with study skills, procrastination, etc. is available at the Student Advising and Mentoring [SAM] Center located on the second floor of AB4, phone number 294-4444.

Please note that the course outline listed below is tentative and may be subject to change.

UNIT I: COLONIAL AMERICA, 1607-1763

Week 1, Aug. 20

Read the course syllabus, word for word; Carnes & Garraty Ch. 1

Lecture Topics:

Introduction to HIS 163: Surviving (maybe even *enjoying?*) history with Doc. B.
The Age of "Discovery" and Why Americans Choose Columbus

Week 2, Aug 27

Read: Begin Carnes & Garraty Ch. 2

Lecture Topics:

The Founding of Virginia, 1607-1624
Life in the Tobacco Colonies, 1624-1680s
The Slow but Deliberate Development of Slavery

Week 3, Sept. 3

Read: Finish Carnes & Garraty Ch. 2

Lecture Topics:

Labor Day– no class on Monday, Sept. 3rd because it is a national holiday!
The Massachusetts Bay Company and Puritan Immigration
Puritan Towns and Civil Authority

Week 4, Sept. 10

Read: Begin Carnes & Garraty Ch.3

Lecture Topics:

Death, Puritan-Style
Development of the Middle Colonies
Class Structure, Work the 18th Century Agrarian Way of Life

Week 5, Sept. 17

Read Finish Carnes & Garraty Ch. 3

Lecture Topics:

The Great Awakening and Other Challenges to Authority
The Old Colonial System and the French and Indian War

Week 6, Sept. 24

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch.4 & the *Declaration of Independence* beginning on p. A-3 in the Appendix

Lecture Topics:

Sugar and Stamps
Lexington, Concord, and the *Common Sense* of Tom Paine

*** EXAM #1 on Monday, September 21st, covering Unit I ***

UNIT II: The Constitution and Early National Period, 1783-1820

Week 7, Oct. 1

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch. 5

Lecture Topics:

Shays' Rebellion and the Constitutional Convention
The Articles of Confederation Government

Week 8, Oct. 8

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch. 6 & the U. S. Constitution and Amendments beginning on p. A-6 to A-16 through Amendment XV in the Appendix

Lecture Topics:

Debating the New U.S. Constitution
Politics in the 1790s: Interpreting the U.S. Constitution
The Revolution of 1800

Week 9, Oct.15

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch 7

Lecture Topics:

The Louisiana Purchase
The British Again: The War of 1812

Week 10, Oct. 22

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch. 8

Lecture Topics:

The Factory System and the Reorganization of Work
The Transportation Revolution

***** EXAM #2 on Friday, October 26th, covering Unit II *****

UNIT III: Jacksonian America, 1820-1840s

Week 11, Oct. 29

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch. 9

Lecture Topics:

The Second Great Awakening and the Age of Reform
Temperance and Moral Reform
Law and Order in Jacksonian America

Week 12, Nov. 5

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch 10

Lecture Topics:

Abolitionism
American Political Culture & Development of the Second Party System, 1820-1840

Week 13, Nov. 12

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch.10 & 11

Lecture Topics:

Andrew Jackson, Champion of the Common (White) Man
Constitutional Tests: The Trail of Tears and the Nullification Crisis

***** EXAM #3 on Monday, Nov. 19th covering Unit III *****

UNIT IV: The American Civil War and Reconstruction, 1845-1877

Week 14, Nov. 19

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch 13 & 14

Wednesday, Nov. 21st and Friday, Nov. 23rd are part of the Thanksgiving holiday!

Week 15, Nov. 26

Read Carnes & Garraty Chs. 15

Lecture Topics:

Manifest Destiny and the Growth of Sectionalism

Prelude to Civil War

Two Presidents: Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis

Week 16, Dec. 3

Read Carnes & Garraty Ch. 16 & reread Amendments 13, 14 and 15 of the U.S. Constitution

Lecture Topics:

An Uncivil War

Reconstruction and the New Amendments to the Constitution

***** Note: the last day of this class is Wednesday, Dec. 5th*****

FINAL EXAM: The final is simply Exam #4 and is NOT comprehensive; it will cover Unit IV only. The final is scheduled for:

Monday, Dec. 10th, 11:00am - 12:00 pm in Olson Auditorium