

History 146 Colonial American History

Dr. Robert Doan

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Office hour: 10:30-11:30 daily.

Note

In the online environment, the CALENDAR and COURSE CONTENT homepage are the most convenient and clear ways to convey and receive information and set due dates for tasks. Be sure to consult both on a daily basis.

Texts

Robert A. Divine, T.H. Breen, G. M. Fredrickson, R. H. Williams, A. J. Gross, H.W. Brands. *The American Story* (Complete Edition). Longman, 2010. 4th Edition.

MyHistoryLab associated with the Divine text (when you buy text from bookstore it is included).

The Course

Colonial American history is a narrative survey of political, economic, social, and political developments shaping the North America/U.S. from the settlement of the Western Hemisphere by Europeans (Spanish and Portuguese), then the settling of N. America by British (and others) to the writing and implementation of the US Constitution. The course will seek to highlight emerging ideas, and pressures in American life that led to political, economic, and social changes. The nature of colonial life, the development of slavery, North American participation in the trans-Atlantic economy, the growth of regions and regional identity, and the nature of colonial governance will be explored, as will the events leading to, during, and after the Rev. War.

Outcomes

This college history course helps to teach students narrative, analysis, explanation of data, and description. It is often necessary to deal with much information that requires skills and techniques in order to organize and analyze data correctly and meaningfully. This course also imparts the need for accuracy both in a factual and narrative sense so that students will learn to be able to provide a credible time line of events, and understand the relationships between cause and effect as they operate in history. But remember, History is basically a story, and one that actually happened and involved flesh and blood people like ourselves. Understanding their motives isn't really that hard, and if you fit the information into the STORY and their rationale – in short, the BIG PICTURE – it will make sense. That is what I will try to impart.

In the process, students will be presented with a term paper and exams that will allow them to demonstrate that competency in writing, as well as weekly discussions on questions posed by me regarding weekly reading and lecture assignments

In addition, this course will impart useful information concerning the history of the founding of the United States, its principal figures, major events, and the processes that led to our contemporary world. This will help students distinguish between fact and fiction, understand logical argument, detect bias, measure the difference between mere opinion and informed opinion, and gauge prejudice, both conscious and unconscious.

After finishing the course, students will understand how and why North America was colonized, and the nature of the colonial experience. Students will understand the growth of slavery, and its place in colonial society. Students will become familiar with some of the major historiographical controversies and ideas that have driven contemporary investigation of the colonial period. And students will become familiar with the kinds of evidence available for this period in American history, and methods of evaluation.

Teaching Methods

This course is taught by lecture and discussion. Students are expected to have read all assignments, and listened to lectures, in a timely fashion so that they are ready to express informed opinions, and engage in discussion.

Tasks

Each week, with the exception of the week of the mid-term, students will participate in a discussion based upon the text readings, documents or other lecture materials assigned for that week. I will discard the single lowest discussion score before averaging for a grade. Thus, if you are unable to participate one week, it will not harm your average. The average of discussion grades will represent 30% of the total course grade.

Students will write a term paper of 3-5 pages in length. These will be double-paced, and employ an eleven or twelve font, and concern one of a choice of topics; a list will be made available on the homepage at the appropriate date. Students will engage in additional research and use documents in MyHistoryLab associated with the text. Students will submit their papers as email attachments in Word format for a preliminary reading by other students, which will be returned with helpful comments. Students will then have five working days to make any changes before finally presenting the paper for a grade (specific due dates will appear on VISTA calendar). Any essay that plagiarizes in part or in whole will receive a failing grade, and it will be reported to the Executive Dean. The essay will represent 20% of the total course grade. It, with exams, will be graded on a scale of 100 points. No curve grading is employed. Late papers will lose 5% for every day late. A full explanation of the essay will be posted on the course site, and should be read most carefully by students.

Students will take a mid-term and a final EXAM. The mid-term exam will cover the material up to the week in which it is offered. The final covers mainly the second half of the course, but also has a section that is comprehensive. Students will be offered study guides and questions from which essay exam questions will be selected. For the mid-term the essay section represents 70% of the examination grade. Additionally, the exam will have a twenty-question, timed multiple-choice section. This part of the mid-term represents 30% of the total score, and offered online as a timed quiz. Students will be given most of a week to take the mid-term (though only a couple hours once you start). The mid-term exam score represents 20% of the course grade. Additionally, all students must arrange to take a proctored final exam. This may be done at a distance

or at BCC (the best option). Full instructions will be provided later. The final will be like the midterm except essays will be written in person, but also represent 20% of the final grade.

Finally, the last 10% of grades will be determined by five quizzes based upon chapters from the narrative text by Ayers, et al. These will be timed multiple-choice question quizzes, and be announced in advance. Study guides will also be made available on the homepage. The lowest grade of the five will be discarded.

Grades

The grading scheme is as follows:

A=94-100%	C+=72-75%
A-=88-94%	C=67-71%
B+=84-87%	C-=61-66%
B=79-83%	D=51-60%
B-=76-78%	F=Below 50%

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule is provided in full with all important due dates on the CALENDAR within Vista. Please consult it daily.

What follows are official guidelines of the Social Science Division:

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Revised Fall 2009

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with [Disability Resource Centre](#), and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*