

Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus
Department of Social Sciences
HS201 History of the United States, from Colonial Times to 1865
Spring 2012

HS 201 (CRN 30580)

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 11:00-11:50, Room: CM113

Office: NP/227; Phone: 240-567-1397. Office Hours: Tues./Thur.9:30-10:00; Wed. 9:00-11:00

Evan Friss (Evan.Friss@MontgomeryCollege.edu)

Course website: http://www.evanfriss.com/?page_id=703

Course Description: This course covers U.S. History from colonial times to 1865. We will explore themes related to European exploration, settlement, and culture in the British North American colonies; movement for independence and constitutional government; foreign relations and foreign policy; efforts toward a more democratic and egalitarian society; social, cultural, and intellectual growth in the new republic, Western expansion and economic development; conflict over slavery and the nature of the union; and the Civil War. Assessment levels: EN 101/101A, RD 120. HS 201 fulfills a General Education Program Humanities Distribution requirement.

Objectives: Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Compare and contrast indigenous and European societies and cultures.
- Describe the processes of conquest and colonization in the “New World.”
- Explain the factors and ideas leading to American independence and the formation of the United States.
- Explicate the various causes and consequences of national expansion, sectionalism, and the Civil War.
- Trace the evolution of slavery and other labor systems as increasingly contentious political issues.

Required Texts: Foner, Eric, *Give Me Liberty An American History. Volume I. Second Edition* (ISBN: 0-393-97873-7).

Although the textbook will form the core of the reading, you will also be required to read, watch, or listen to a variety of primary sources, which are available on the course website.

Assignments and Grades:

Over the course of the semester you will complete a midterm exam, a final exam, several quizzes and short writing assignments, an oral presentation, and one paper. Each of these assignments will be explained in more detail later in the semester. Grades will be determined according to the following scale:

Participation, Quizzes, and Short Writing Assignments (30%)

Oral Presentation (15%)

Midterm Exam (15%), Final Exam (20%)

Paper (20%)

Course Policies:

Course participation is an important aspect of the class so attendance is mandatory. Anyone who arrives more than fifteen minutes late will be considered absent. In cases involving excessive absences from class, I reserve the right to drop the student from the class. Students who submit work late will be penalized one letter grade for each class day until the assignment is submitted. If you have a conflict with a test date, you must let me know beforehand and we can make alternative arrangements; otherwise, there are no make-up exams. Students who plagiarize or participate in another form of academic dishonesty will automatically fail the course. For more on Academic (Dis)honesty see: http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/pnp/#Chapter_4 (this link also provides information about the College's Standards of Behavior).

Montgomery College Policies:

It is the student's responsibility to drop a course. Non-attendance of classes or failure to pay does not constitute official withdrawal. All students registered for audit are required to consult with the instructor before or during the first class session in which they are in audit status, and students are required to participate in all course activities unless otherwise agreed upon by the student and instructor at the time of consultation. Failure to consult with the instructor or to so participate may result in the grade of "W" being awarded. This action may be taken by the instructor by changing the "AU" to "W" before the drop with "W" date.

Any student who needs an accommodation due to a disability should make an appointment to see me during my office hours. In order to receive accommodations, a letter from Disability Support Services (G-SA 189; R-CB 122; or TP/SS-ST 122) will be needed. Any student who may need assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation must identify to the Disability Support Services Office; guidelines for emergency evacuations for individuals with disabilities are found at: www.montgomerycollege.edu/dss.

If you are a veteran or on active or reserve status and you are interested in information regarding opportunities, programs and/or services, please visit the Combat2College website at www.montgomerycollege.edu/combat2college.

Please call (240) 567-5000 or go to www.montgomerycollege.edu when there is bad weather to learn if the college has cancelled classes. Montgomery College is not part of the Montgomery County Public Schools and therefore follows a different schedule. In the event that classes are cancelled due to weather or other reasons, please consult your MC email for instructions and assignments.

Your Montgomery College e-mail account is the official means of communication for our class and you are expected to check it regularly.

Schedule:

January 23: Introduction

January 25: History: Why and How?

January 27: The New World

Foner, Chapter 1

January 30: The New World

[John Smith's Instructions on Colonization](#)

February 1: Collision of Cultures

Foner, Chapter 2

February 3: Collision of Cultures

[Description of Natives](#)

February 6: Collision of Cultures

[Examination of Mrs. Anne Hutchinson](#)

February 8: Colonial Expansion

Foner, Chapter 3

February 10: Colonial Expansion

[William Penn, "England's Present Interests Discovered" \(1675\)](#)

February 13: Life in the Empire, Slave and Free

Foner, Chapter 4

February 15: Life in the Empire, Slave and Free

[Slave Code for Washington, D.C.](#)

February 17: Museum Visit (NO CLASS)

February 20: The Revolution

Foner, Chapter 5

February 22: The Revolution

[Common Sense](#)

February 24: The Revolution

[Declaration of Independence](#)

February 27: Repercussions of the Revolution

Paper Due

Foner, Chapter 6

February 29: The Constitution

Foner, Chapter 7

March 2: The Constitution

[The Constitution](#)

[Federalist Paper #10](#)

March 5: The New Republic

Foner, Chapter 8

March 7: The New Republic

[George Washington's Farewell Address](#)

March 9: Midterm Exam

March 12: Spring Break (No Class)

March 14: Spring Break (No Class)

March 16: Spring Break (No Class)

March 19: The Market Revolution

Foner, Chapter 9

March 21: The Market Revolution

[Herman Melville, "Bartleby, the Scrivener"](#)

March 23: Oral Presentations (Group #1)

March 26: Jacksonian Democracy

Foner, Chapter 10

March 28: Jacksonian Democracy

[Gen. Winfield Scott's Address to the Cherokee Nation \(May 10, 1838\)](#)

[Andrew Jackson's First Inaugural Address](#)

March 30: Jacksonian Democracy

[Alexis de Tocqueville, "Democracy in America" \(Preface\)](#)

April 2: Slavery

Foner, Chapter 11

April 4: Anti-Slavery

[Frederick Douglass, My Bondage and Freedom \(Excerpt\)](#)

[Confessions of Nat Turner](#)

[Letter from William Lloyd Garrison](#)

April 6: Pro-Slavery

[George Fitzhugh, "The Universal Law of Slavery"](#)

April 9: The Reform Impulse

Foner, Chapter 12

[Declaration of Sentiments](#)

April 11: The Reform Impulse

[Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*](#) (read one section)

[Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*](#)

April 13: Oral Presentations (Group #2)

April 16: An Impending Crisis

Foner, Chapter 13

April 18: An Impending Crisis

[James Polk's War Message](#)

April 20: An Impending Crisis

[Lincoln's Cooper Union Speech](#)

April 23: The Civil War

Foner, Chapter 14

April 25: The Civil War

[Emancipation Proclamation](#)

April 27: The Civil War

[Thomas Nast Image](#)

Students should come to class with an image, cartoon, or article that depicts Emancipation and be prepared to discuss it.

April 30: Oral Presentations (Group #3)

May 2: The Construction of Reconstruction

May 4: Review Day

May 9: Final Exam (10:15-12:15)