

HIST 1483 003 Fall 2020

What Becomes the United States, History to 1865

Instructor: Dr. Anne Hyde

How to find me: Office 556 Monnet Hall (Office Hours: M 3-5 and TH 2-4)

Email: anne.hyde@ou.edu

WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?

Everyone is interested in their own past and how it connects to a larger stream of time. This course introduces you to the wonders of thinking like a historian, by enriching and complicating your knowledge of the U.S. and its past. History is not a set of facts to memorize. Like engineering, law, dance, or economics, it is a disciplinary way of thinking. I'm so looking forward to meeting you and introducing you to the contested, and always shifting, debates about who Americans are, where they came from, and how they have imagined their past and future.

WHY IS THIS COURSE IMPORTANT?

Everything -- statues, protests, sugar, ideas about citizenship, grades, the Civil War, dog breeds, taxes, OU football chants, immigration – has a history. Developing academic and personal skills to find and assess material from the past will give you a sophisticated view of the present. This year, we find ourselves a troubled nation, so understanding how we got here matters. We won't agree about many things, but we will develop better arguments to support our ideas. Finally, we'll do history: academic research and formal writing and you'll leave the course knowing you can achieve a high bar of academic work.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BE ABLE TO DO BY THE END OF THE COURSE?

1. Develop and use your BS detectors (a.k.a Critical Thinking Skills)

- Determine the validity of facts in U.S. History
- Understand where evidence comes from and how it is used to make decisions
- Explain your own experiences by building an accurate framework of U.S. history

2. Recognize the complex history of race in the U.S.

- See how race and racism is snarled in every part of U.S. history
- Describe complex events from a variety of perspectives
- Summarize and assess conflicting arguments about U.S. history

3. Find and evaluate historical evidence

- Contextualize evidence using a wide range of material from U.S. history
- Use historical evidence to make written and oral arguments about U.S. history and the present

4. Write and rewrite a research paper

Make a claim about U.S. history, presenting evidence from the past to build an argument

5. Add to your toolbox of academic and personal skills: careful reading, taking useful notes, evaluating evidence, developing significant questions, writing and rewriting, using academic formats, engaging in important discussions, changing your mind, deciding what matters to you, and managing your time. These skills will serve you in every aspect of your OU career and make you a better student, friend, parent, partner, employee, boss and community member.

HIST 1483 003 Fall 2020

ASSIGNMENTS:

Lecture Activities
and Quizzes: 20%

Mini Exam: 4%
Midterm: 10%
Final Exam: 12%

Primary Source
Analysis Paper:
12%

Reading
preparation,
and online
discussions,
20%

Research Paper,
Prep Assignments,
Draft: 22%

WHAT ARE COURSE POLICIES?

1. **Come to class and wear a mask.** Each class will be divided between lecture when I present information, discussion around the course reading, preparing for quizzes, papers, and exams. Each meeting introduces new material and has carefully designed activities to help you learn, to practice new skills, and to apply the course reading and new ideas. We're going to use i-clickers so that you can assess what you know, find out what other students think, and get credit for coming to class. If you forget your clicker, you can hand me a piece of paper with your name and answers on it. Unless you are absent for an OU sanctioned activity, you can't make up clicker points, but there will be some extra credit opportunities.
2. **Turn off your cell phones and take notes by hand.** This is because of how distracted we are by technology, how much multi-tasking erodes our focus, and how much it disturbs other people. Here is some [good research](#) and here is [some more](#) about how much better students do in class if they turn off laptops, tablets, and cell phones. So, turn them off and put them away. I'm not anti-technology and we have online activities, but class time is our moment to focus together without distraction. If you must take notes on a computer, we'll have a section in class where you can sit.
3. **Come on time, stay for the whole class, and be polite by not talking when I'm talking.** I don't post lecture slides, so coming to class is the only way you can get the material that you will be tested on in quizzes, exams, and papers. We will talk about HOW to take notes, how to listen, and how to succeed in this class. Learning how to focus and take notes is a crucial skill that you'll use forever.
4. **Buy/rent/find an i-clicker 2 and remember to bring it to class, every day. *You must register your clicker by 6 pm Monday, Sept. 1 and have it in class that day.*** See instructions below.

HIST 1483 003 Fall 2020

5. **Ask for help if you need it. Ask questions!** Get to know the range of academic and personal support that OU offers. I'll have in-person and email office hours every **Monday before class 4-6 PM** and every **Thursday 3-5 PM** so I'm happy to answer e-mail then and to see you in person.
6. **Take responsibility to know when things are due and to plan your time.** There is a lot to keep track of and things change. If something doesn't make sense or you can't find something – it is very possible I made a mistake or something is wrong – but you have to tell me!! **We have weekly quizzes due every Thursday by 10 pm all on Canvas.** We also have weekly discussion prompts, required online discussions, and annotation exercises. A writing assignment turned in after the deadline will receive 75% of the points possible. After two weeks, no credit is possible. Extensions are only granted to students who document an OU sanctioned activity, serious illness or family emergency.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BUY/FIND/USE?

-All the readings are on-line. Some are .pdfs and some are web-based and tricky to access off campus.
-i-clicker (REQUIRED BY AUGUST 31, 2020)

Additional Materials

Most readings and other material is on our Canvas site or at <http://explorehistory.ou.edu>. The History Department created the Exploring U.S. History website where you can find instructions on papers, tutorials on writing, and links to the primary and secondary sources required for each paper.

Directions to register your iClicker remote:

1. Log into OU Canvas (<https://canvas.ou.edu>) with your OUNetID (4x4) and password, then select HIST1483 003
2. Once in your course, click the iclicker registration link in the Navigation bar.
3. The *Register Your iClicker Remote* page appears. Enter your iClicker remote ID and click Register.
4. Your remote is now registered. You can remove your remote registrations from Canvas at any time by clicking Remove on the *Register Your iClicker Remote* page.

Week 1 and 2 Schedule: EVERYTHING IS ON CANVAS

WEEK 1: College Level History and Our Present Moment

Monday, Aug. 24, 2020, 7:30 PM: The Undead Past and Living History

Before class, view: Lawyer and Author Michele Alexander's Video, ([on Canvas](#)) AND listen to: "Why Historians Study History," January 22, 2016, [0:00 – 14:41], link below . . .
<https://www.benfranklinsworld.com/why-historians-study-history-doing-history/>

Wed. Aug. 26, 2020, 7:30 PM Indigenous America: Worlds that Disappeared

Before class, 1) Read, Charles Mann, "1491" – [LINKED HERE](#); 2) FIRST ONLINE ASSIGNMENT: Introduce yourself. **Post by Wednesday 6 PM. Purpose: to see what you already know and to practice using the Canvas Discussion Board.**

In class: Discussion of Charles Mann, Vocabulary and Note-Taking

After class **ONLINE SYLLABUS AND LECTURE QUIZ – Due Thursday 10 PM and**

WEEK 2: Before 1600: Indigenous Histories of America

HIST 1483 003 Fall 2020

Monday, August 31, 2020, 7:30 PM: Lecture: Population Debates and Mississippian Kingdoms (NOTE-TAKING CHECK in as activity)

Before Class, Reading: 2) BRING AND REGISTER I-CLICKERS

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2020, 7:30 PM: “

Before class:

After class, take Reading and Lecture Quiz by 10 PM Thursday

WHEN ARE BIG ASSIGNMENTS DUE?

Mini-Exam:	Friday, Sept. 18, 2020
Paper 1:	Sunday, Oct. 4 2020
Take Home Midterm:	Friday, Oct 16, 2018
Paper 2 Topic and Bibliography, Intro and Outline:	Fri. Oct. 30 and Mon. Nov. 16
Paper 2 Final Draft:	Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2020
Take Home Final Exam:	Sent out: Friday, Dec. 11 Due: Tuesday, Dec. 15

WEEKLY TOPICS: (For more details see our Canvas site)

Week 3: Slavery, Empires, and Religion

Week 4: World's Collide: Europeans Colonize America

Week 5: First Colonial Successes in North America

Week 6: Race and Creating Legal Slavery in the Chesapeake

Week 7: 17th century Rebellions in New England and New Spain

Week 8: Witches, Sailors, and Servants: Community and Colonial Authority

Week 9: Resistance and Revolution: Indigenous Rebellions and Revolutionary Colonists

Week 10: Revolutions and their Cost: Unstable Republics

Week 11: Making a New Government: The People, Slavery, and Political Compromise

Week 12: Life in the Early American Republic: From Baltimore to Santa Fe

Week 13: Indian Removal and An Empire for Slavery

Week 14: Expansion, War, and Revolutions

Week 15: North and South Face Demands to Abolish Slavery

Week 16: Toward Civil War: Laws, Courts, and Racial Violence