

**History 2700**  
**U.S. History to 1877**  
**Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 am to 10:50 am**

**Spring 2008**

**Instructor:** Marianne Fellows McKnight

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**Consultation**

**Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 to 1:00 pm and by appointment

**Texts:** [www.digitalhistory.uh.edu](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu)

McClellan, *Changing Interpretations of America's Past*, Vol 1

**Course Description:**

This course covers American History from the Pre-Columbian period through Reconstruction. It provides a thorough treatment of the major themes in this period – convergence of peoples and cultures in America, colonization, the creation of a new nation, the ideals of liberty and equality inherent in the new political identity, territorial growth, the rise of the middle class, the landscape, technological innovation, economic development, sectionalism, the Civil War and its conclusion.

**Course Objectives:**

In addition to helping students acquire a substantive knowledge of early American history, this course is also designed to sharpen critical thinking, improve writing skills, and engage in meaningful dialogue with others. Students will participate in the interpretive nature of history as they deal extensively with primary and secondary sources. In this way, they will learn the historian's craft.

**Requirements/Grading:**

Class attendance and the reading of the text, documents, and other assigned materials are extremely important. Please pay close attention to the schedule and do the reading before coming to class as this will facilitate discussion and participation.

Grades are based on 2 types of assessments: exams and the interpretation and analysis of primary and secondary sources.

**EXAMS:** There are three written exams. The objective portion is to be taken online. The other portion will be administered in class and comprises short answer, or identification questions, and essays. Study terms and essay questions are posted on the course website. Combined, these exams are worth 300 points.

**DOCUMENT ANALYSIS EXERCISES:** There are 18 chapters in *Changing Interpretations* assigned.. Students are to select 15 out of the 18 and answer 2 of the questions at the end of each chapter. These answers should be in essay form. A **minimum** of 1 page single spaced or two pages double spaced per chapter is required to get credit. These essays are to be kept in a folder or notebook and turned in at the end of the semester. I recommend strongly that you see me during the semester and allow me to see how you are doing on this assignment so that I can provide feedback. Not only must these essays reference the sources found in *Changing Interpretations*, they should also bring in relevant sources found on the digital history website.. All sources consulted must be cited. A table of contents is required. Each essay is worth 20 points for a total of 300 points. We will be discussing many of these chapters and questions in class.

**CALENDAR: Readings / Tests/ Lecture and Discussion Topics**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Digital text</b>	<b><i>Changing Interpretations</i></b>
Jan 8, 10	Introduction; The First Americans	1
15, 17	Exploration & Discovery	2, 4
22, 24	Colonization; New World Slavery	6, 7
29, 31	Patterns of Change	9
Feb 5, 7	Review; <b>TEST #1</b> <b>Online portion available 2/7 at 11:00am until 2/9 at 11:55pm</b>	
12, 14	The American Revolution	13, 14
19, 21	The Critical Period; The U.S. Constitution	15
26, 28	The First New Nation; Jeffersonian Republicanism	16
Mar 4, 6	Era of Good Feelings	17
11, 13	Review; <b>TEST # 2</b> <b>Online portion available 3/13 11:00am until 3/15 at 11:55pm</b>	

18, 20	American Economic Growth; Jacksonian Democracy	19, 21
25, 27	Pre Civil War Amer Culture; Reform; Antislavery	23, 24
Apr 1, 3	Pre Civil War South, Impending Crisis	26
8, 10	Civil War	27
15, 17	Civil War; Reconstruction	28
22, 24	Review, <b>TEST # 3</b> <b>Online portion available 4/24 at 11:00 am to 4/26 at 11:55pm</b>	
<b>April 29</b>	<b>Document Analysis Essays Due in my office, CT 094B, between 9 and 12:00pm</b>	

**Summary of assessments and their due dates:**

Test #1	A- written	Feb 7
	B- online	Feb 7 - 9
Test #2	A- written	Mar 3
	B- online	Mar 13 - 15
Test #3	A- written	Apr 24
	B- online	Apr 24 - 26

**ADA STATEMENT:**

"Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disability desiring accommodations or services under A.D.A. must contact the Disability Resource Center, (801)-957-4659. The DRC determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of these accommodations and services."

**GEN ED STATEMENT:**

This course fulfills the History requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life.

While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

