

AMH 2010- American History from contact to 1877 – Spring 2025

Class # 24230 Section # 5SN2

T 3rd period (9:35-10:25)- Keene-Flint 105

Th- 2nd & 3rd periods (8:30-10:25)- Keene-Flint 105

Dr. Steven Noll

Office Hours-Keene-Flint Hall 217-

M & W- 10-11 AM

Tues-11 AM-12 noon

& by appointment (including ZOOM)

Office phone #- 273-3380 (This is a direct line to my office).

History Department- 392-0271

E-Mail- nolls@ufl.edu this is the best way to get in touch with me- I check e-mails daily.

Hashtags for this class

#wordsmatter (the importance of what we say & how we say it)

#itscomplicated (simple answers are usually for simple minds)

#noproblemnopenalty (see leniency)

State course description- In this course students will examine United States history from before European contact to 1877. Topics will include but are not limited to Indigenous peoples, the European background, the Colonial Period, the American Revolution, the Articles of Confederation, the Constitution, issues within the new republic, sectionalism, manifest destiny, slavery, the American Civil War, and Reconstruction.

Note Provided by the University of Florida: All topics in this course will be taught objectively as objects of analysis, without endorsement of particular viewpoints, and will be observed from multiple perspectives. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, or belief. Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to explore readings and subject matter in this course. All perspectives will be respected in class discussions.

This American History course covers the history of the United States from the European contact period to the end of Reconstruction. **It is important that you keep up on the assigned readings, as they supplement, not duplicate, classroom lectures.**

Your grade for this course will be determined in the following manner:

Final exam-	30%
Midterm exam-	25%
Papers-	20% (2 at 10 % apiece)
Quizzes	15%
Readings	10%

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale. There will be extra credit available- the assignment will be given after the midterm.

	A	93-100	A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	68-69	D	66-67	D-	64-65
F	<64				

The midterm exam will be given on Canvas at the mid-point of the semester on Thursday, March 6th. It will be a take-home closed book exam. This exam will be composed of both essay questions and short-answer identifications. There will be no final exam for the class. Instead, you will construct a blog that will focus on issues you choose dealing with course content and its interaction with larger historical questions. Much more on this as the semester progresses. The blog shell with a sample blog that I have developed can be found on the front page of our class Canvas site.

There will also be seven quizzes given again through Canvas. They will be short in duration (5-10 minutes) and consist of multiple-choice questions dealing mainly with the issues raised in class and the text. One question on each quiz will be taken from the supplemental readings. Only six quizzes will be counted into the final grade averaging, I will drop the lowest grade. These quizzes are given to ensure that you are keeping up on the reading and have a working knowledge of the subject matter. Your paper will be a short (4-6 pages) paper on the assigned readings. It will be due Friday, November 12th at the beginning of the class period. You will receive information on the paper through Canvas during the second or third week of classes. Each week, you will turn in on Friday through Canvas a short one-page summary and analysis of the WFC readings for that week. There are 11 weeks of WFC readings, therefore you may have 1 pass where you do not have to turn in the reading assignment. You will receive either a 1 or a .5 (or a 0!) for each week's assignment. The total points you can earn for this assignment is 10. More on this as the semester progresses.

Writing Assessment Rubric for the weekly WFC assignments

Content

Satisfactory: Writing responds to the topic with evidence and complexity by critically evaluating and synthesizing sources; provides an adequate discussion with basic understanding of sources. This will be a grade of 1 or .5.

Unsatisfactory: Writing either includes a central idea(s) that is unclear, or off-topic, or provides only minimal or inadequate discussion of ideas. This will be a grade of 0.

Argument and Support

Satisfactory: Writing engages with course materials, supports claims with evidence, combines generalizations with specific examples from course materials. This will be a grade of 1 or .5.

Unsatisfactory: Weak generalizations with little or no support; uncritical acceptance or rejection of arguments, debates, and biases; inadequate use of course materials. This will be a grade of 0.

Style

Satisfactory: Word choice is consistent with formal academic writing style. Sentence structure is concise and complete. Paragraph structure organizes the content for the reader. This will be a grade of 1 or .5.

Unsatisfactory: Style does not improve over the semester; informal or inaccurate word choices, incomplete sentences, lack of paragraph structure. This will be a grade of 0.

I encourage questions and class discussion. Please do not hesitate to ask both factual and interpretative questions. If you have specific questions on the subject matter or grading, please come see me during office hours. I also encourage you to contact me by e-mail as I respond promptly to questions, concerns, or comments.

Syllabus & Course Instructions

Due to the increasingly technological nature of our society, I find it necessary to address the issues of cell phones in class. Please turn off all of these electronic devices before coming to class, as they are disruptive to the learning environment and distracting to other students. Thank You.

I also need to address tardiness to class in a more formalized manner. Lateness is also disruptive and distracting to a positive learning experience. Constant carping on this issue both demeans the class and takes away from learning time. Therefore, I urge you, as responsible adults, to arrive to class on time ready to learn. To encourage on-time behavior, one point will be deducted from each quiz that you are tardy. This policy will start with Quiz 2. Again, your cooperation is appreciated. Thank You.

Class attendance is an important component of your learning experience. Since students are adults, a mandatory attendance policy will not be in effect for this course. However, the system of unannounced quizzes is instituted to encourage student attendance. Make-ups for quizzes will not be available, except for excused medical absences (signed by authorized medical personnel) or attendance at official university functions.

Please be aware of the University's policy on plagiarism. The Internet has made this situation more problematic but understand that plagiarists will be caught. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please do not hesitate to ask. All plagiarism offenses will be reported on a Faculty Adjudication Form and forwarded to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. You may get more information on UF's

Judicial Affairs process at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Three books for this course will be needed for this course campus bookstore. If you experience any problems in buying the books, please let me know as soon as possible. The text, American Yawp, is available on-line and FREE. Thank you. The course books are:

1. American Yawp Available on line at <http://www.americanyawp.com/> (in syllabus below, called “**Text**”)
2. New York Burning. By Jill Lepore, 2006.
3. Sam Patch, The Famous Jumper. By Paul Johnson, 2003.

There are also articles to be read throughout the semester that have a writing component assigned to them. They are noted as WFC (for the book from which they are taken entitled Women, Families, and Communities) in the weekly syllabus. They will be found as PDFs in the assignment tab of Canvas and are readily accessible for free.

Be sure to purchase the correct volumes & editions of the books.

Weekly Syllabus & Readings-

It is important that you keep up on the readings, as they will provide the base knowledge for class lectures and discussions.

- Week One- January 13-17
Text- Chapter 1-“The New World.”
- Week Two- January 20-24
Text- Chapter 2- “Colliding Cultures.”
WFC- Chapter 1- “Pocahontas, Powhatan, & the Struggle for Virginia.”
- Week Three- January 27-31
Text- Chapter 3- “British North America.”
WFC - Chapter 2- “Women & Families in Slavery” and Chapter 3- “Three New England Women.”
- Week Four- February 3-7
Text- Chapter 4- “Colonial Society.”
WFC - Chapter 4- “Abortion & Gender Relations.”
Read- New York Burning.

Paper on New York Burning Thursday February 6th- canvas turn-in

Week Five- February 10-14

Text- Chapter 5- "The American Revolution."

WFC- Chapter 5- "The Origins of Domestic Patriarchy."

Week Six- February 17-21

Text- Chapter 6- "A New Nation."

WFC- Chapter 7- "The Day of Jubilee is Come."

Week Seven- February 24-28

Text- Chapter 7- "The Early Republic."

WFC- Chapter 8- "Domestic Servants & Their Children."

Week Eight- March 3-7

No readings- STUDY for the exam!!

Midterm Exam- Thursday March 6th- canvas turn-in

Week Nine- March 10-14

Text- Chapter 8- "The Market Revolution."

WFC- Chapter 9- "The Modernization of Greenleaf & Abigail Patch."

March 17-21- SPRING BREAK

Week Ten- March 24-28

Text- Chapter 9- "Democracy in America."

Read- Sam Patch, the Famous Jumper.

Paper on Sam Patch Thursday March 27th- canvas turn-in

Week Eleven- March 31-April 4

Text- Chapter 10- "Religion and Reform."

WFC- Chapter 10- "Women & Politics in the Era Before Seneca Falls."

Week Twelve- April 7-11

Text- Chapter 11- "The Cotton Revolution."

WFC- Chapter 11- "Cherokee Women & the Trail of Tears."

Week Thirteen- April 14-18

Text- Chapter 12- "Manifest Destiny."

WFC- Chapter 12- "Enslaved Women, Truancy, and the Geography of Resistance."

Week Fourteen- November 21-23

Text- Chapter 13- "The Sectional Crisis."

Text- Chapter 14- "The Civil War."

WFC- Chapter 14- "Slavery, Violence, and Gender in the American Civil War."

Last Day of Class-Tuesday- April 23rd

Final Blog Posting- You must have posted your final blog by the end of the final exam time- Friday December 17 at 12 noon

Student Learning Outcomes for AMH 2010

A student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- describe the factual details of the substantive historical episodes under study.
- identify and analyze foundational developments that shaped American history since 1877 using critical thinking skills.
- demonstrate an understanding of the primary ideas, values, and perceptions that have shaped American history.
- demonstrate competency in civic literacy.

University Policies and Resources

University policy requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students requiring accommodations:

Students requesting classroom accommodations for disability issues must first register with the Disability Resource Center. This office will provide documentation to the student who then must provide this documentation to me. I am more than willing to do whatever is necessary to ensure an optimum learning environment for all students. Students can request academic accommodations with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with me and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

UF course evaluation process:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students> Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in

their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

University Honesty Policy:

University of Florida students are bound by the Honor Pledge. On all work submitted for credit by a student, the following pledge is required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Student Honor Code and Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code, as well as the process for reported allegations and sanctions that may be implemented. All potential violations of the code will be reported to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. If a student is found responsible for an Honor Code violation in this course, the instructor will enter a Grade Adjustment sanction which may be up to or including failure of the course. For additional information, see <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

In-class recording:

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party-note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Procedure for conflict resolution:

Any classroom issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact Joseph Spillane (spillane@ufl.edu, 352-273-3355). Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (<http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>, 352-392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>, 352-392-1261).

Resources available to students:

Health and Wellness:

- U Matter, We Care: umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>, 352-392-1575
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 352-392-1161
- University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

Academic Resources:

- E-learning technical support: learning-support@ufl.edu, <https://elearning.ufl.edu>, 352-392-4357.
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union; <http://www.career.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-1601.
- Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>.
- Academic Resources: 1317 Turlington Hall; 352-392-2010; <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu>
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>