

HIST 2010-003: U.S. History to 1877
FALL 2009 / T/Th 11:00 to 12:15 p.m.

Dr. Cynthia Jo Ingham

Office: Tucker Hall 3112

Office Hours: T/Th: 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

T/Th: 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.; and by appt.

(Please confirm Tuesday afternoon appointments; I have bimonthly meetings on Tuesdays.)

Rocket Hall 1520

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Course Description: This course is an introductory survey of American history from the period before European contact to the Civil War. The first goal is to offer you a foundation of “what happened when” so that you can then approach the more interesting question of “why.” The second goal is to teach you to *think critically* by understanding the historical process: how sources are analyzed and interpreted and the significance of changing perspectives. The third goal is to help you learn to communicate your thoughts, through the written word and in discussion.

Required Texts:

■ **Textbook:** James L. Roark et al., *The American Promise: A History of the United States*, Vol. 1, Value Edition (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2009).

■ **Supplemental Text:** Gary B. Nash and Ronald Schultz, *Retracing the Past: Readings in the History of the American People*, vol. 1, to 1877, 6th ed. (New York: Pearson, Longman, 2006)

■ **Student Guide:** Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, 6th ed. (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2010)

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation	100 points
<i>Retracing the Past</i> exercises	125 points
Quizzes (6 @ 20 pts)	120 points
Research Project	200 points
Midterm Exam	150 points
Final Exam	150 points

Attendance: · Attendance is required and can make a difference in your final grade. To facilitate record-keeping, there will be assigned seating after the first week of class. · Please avoid arriving late, since it is disruptive. The same is true for leaving early: If you leave early without giving me a valid excuse before class, I will count you as absent. · If you miss a class, it is up to you to get the notes from a classmate; I do not make my notes available to students.

Textbooks: *American Promise* gives you a brief and easily readable summary of key events or movements. The lectures will cover specific topics in depth or consider the history of the period from another perspective. The supplemental text (*Retracing the Past*) is intended to introduce you to primary sources as well as scholarly analysis.

Retracing the Past: You may be expected to answer questions in class; to write a short answer to a question in class; or to work in a group. Please come to class prepared.

On **October 15**, we will have a special discussion on three chapters of *Retracing the Past*, all of which deal with the American Revolution. You will begin with an in-class writing assignment, and then the class will break into groups for discussion. Your participation here is worth 50 points.

Schedule of Classes: The schedule provided here gives the weekly outline of what will be covered, but the specific days of discussion and/or quizzes will be announced the week before. This makes your attendance vital if you hope to keep up. **PLEASE CHECK YOUR UT MAIL** for announcements from me regarding quizzes and discussion questions.

Quizzes: The quizzes will be multiple choice based on the textbook and/or the lectures. **There are no make-up quizzes.** For those who miss a quiz because of an excused illness or emergency in the immediate family, there will be an opportunity at the end of the term to make up some points with another assignment.

Exams: The midterm and final exams will be a combination of essay, short-answer identifications, and multiple choice. I will hand out a study guide in advance. · If you miss the midterm, you must have a valid excuse to take a make-up exam, which must be scheduled within three days. · The final exam is NOT cumulative.

Research Methods Project:

This is NOT a research paper in the traditional sense. Instead, the assignment takes you through the essential yet often overlooked steps of doing research BEFORE you write a paper. I will hand out more specific guidelines later, but here are the broad outlines. You will choose a topic from this “half” of American history; it should be fairly narrow (“slavery,” for instance, is not a viable topic, but the Nat Turner rebellion is). You will DO RESEARCH in order to find six different sources, primary and secondary, that give significant information about your topic. You will summarize each source separately, and then write a final and analysis of your findings, using proper citations according to the guidelines in the *Pocket Guide* (which is Chicago Manual style). We will take this step by step, but you should plan to hand in a statement of your topic and a bibliography of at least four sources in late October. The research project is due on the last day of class. No late papers will be accepted.

Plagiarism and Cheating: READ CAREFULLY CHAPTER 6 IN THE *POCKET GUIDE*. We will go over the *Pocket Guide* in class, but you are responsible for understanding what plagiarism means. I have no tolerance and no forgiveness for academic dishonesty, on exams or writing assignments. If I discover that you copied from other students, turned in work that is not your own, or “lifted” material from other sources under the mistaken impression that the internet is “common knowledge,” you will receive a zero, and I will refer the infraction to the proper administrative office for disciplinary action.

Class Policies: · Please do not bring food into class or eat before or during class. · I do not accept any assignments as e-mail attachments. · Please wait to begin packing up your books until I end the class. · Turn off your cellphone, ipod, blackberries, palm pilots, and all other widgets and gadgets before entering class, and resist the urge to check for text messages until the class is over. If you succumb to your addiction, I will simply mark you as absent for that day. If it persists, I will notify you by e-mail that you are not welcome in the class. · Unless you become ill, I expect you to remain in class for the duration. If you must leave, **please do not return to the class.** It is extremely distracting. Thank you.

· In inclement weather, you are responsible for determining whether the University is closed; otherwise, class will be held as usual.

Special Accommodations: If you have a special circumstance that affects your ability to fulfill the course requirements as listed on the syllabus, please seek assistance from the Office of Accessibility and come talk with me. If you are having ANY difficulties with the class, the readings, the lectures, the assignments, whatever—please do not struggle in silence! There are many resources around campus, and I’m willing to help in whatever way I can.

Office Hours/Contact: If you are unable to meet with me during my regular office hours, please see me to discuss an alternative time, or contact me by e-mail.

Schedule of Lectures (*subject to change, with prior notice*):

Week of Aug. 25, 27: Introduction/Ancient America/The Atlantic World
American Promise, chap. 1

Week of Sept. 1, 3: Europeans Encounter the New World
American Promise, chap. 2
Retracing the Past, chap. 1
Quiz

Week of Sept. 8, 10: Britain's Colonies, Part One
American Promise, chaps. 3 and 4 (to about 1660)
Retracing the Past, chap. 3

Week of Sept. 15, 17: Britain's Colonies, Part Two
American Promise, chaps. 3 and 4 (to 1700)
Retracing the Past, chap. 2
Quiz

Week of Sept. 22, 24: Colonial Life in the Eighteenth Century
American Promise, chap. 5
Retracing the Past, chap. 5

Week of Sept. 29, Oct. 1: Imperial Struggles
American Promise, chap. 6
Retracing the Past, chap. 6
Quiz

FALL BREAK: No Class Oct. 6

Week of Oct. 8: The War for America
American Promise, chap. 7

Week of Oct. 13, 15: Rebellion and Revolution
American Promise, chap. 8
**Retracing the Past*, chaps. 8, 9, 11

Oct. 20: STATEMENT OF TOPIC and BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Week of Oct. 20, 22: These United States
American Promise, chap. 9
Retracing the Past, chap. 10
Quiz

Week of Oct. 27, 29: Republican Ascendancy
American Promise, chap. 10
Retracing the Past, chap. 12

Week of Nov. 3, 5: Jacksonian America
American Promise, chap. 11
Retracing the Past, chap. 14
Quiz

Week of Nov. 10, 12: The Slave South
American Promise, chap. 13
Retracing the Past, chap. 16

Week of Nov. 17, 19: The West/Manifest Destiny
American Promise, chap. 12
Retracing the Past, chap. 17
Quiz

Week of Nov. 24: Gold Rush
Nov. 25-27 THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week of Dec. 1, 3: The House Divided
American Promise, chap. 14

Week of Dec. 8, 10: The Civil War
American Promise, chap. 15

Final Exam: Thursday, Dec. 18: (10:15 to 12:15 a.m.)