

HISTORY 251
Section C
"The United States to 1877"
Fall 2007
Professor Charles W. Sanders, Jr.
1:05-2:20 T-Th
EH 015

NOTE: This syllabus may also be viewed or downloaded from the Hist 251C KSU Online site and the HIST251Ca-1@ksu.edu class list.

Professor:

Dr. Charles W. Sanders, Jr.
Office: Eisenhower Hall, Room 316.
Electronic Mail: chassan@ksu.edu.
Phone/Voice Mail: 532-5824.
Office Hours: 3:00 - 4:00 PM Tuesday, Thursday and by appointment.

This course will be supported by a KSU ONLINE web Site and an electronic class list. Subscription to and participation on our KSU ONLINE site and our class electronic list, HIST251Ca-1@ksu.edu, will be **required**. If you are currently enrolled in the class, you have been automatically subscribed to both and need do nothing further to receive messages.

I will use a mix of the KSU ONLINE site and the HIST251Ca-1@ksu.edu class list to post important announcements and class information such as schedule changes, study guides, grades and responses to students' requests for information and guidance.

I. Required Texts:

1. George B. Tindall and David E. Shi, *America: A Narrative History*. Brief Seventh Edition, Vol. 1 (Norton and Company, 2007).
2. Sheila L. Skemp, *Benjamin and William Franklin: Father and Son, Patriot and Loyalist*. (Bedford Books, 1994).
3. David W. Blight, ed., *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by Himself*. 2nd Edition. (Bedford Books, 2003).

II. Course Scope,

Requirements, Grading:

Welcome to History 251! In this course we will study the story of the social, economic, political, and cultural history of our country from the colonial period through our Civil War and Reconstruction. Through texts, slides, music, original documents and the words of the participants themselves, we shall examine that history and attempt to determine who we were and how we became the people we are today.

I expect our time together to be lively as well as informative. The course will not be a recitation of dry and lifeless facts. The story of America is one of much drama, humor, joy and sadness. It is a story of miraculous achievements, unspeakable horrors, staggering trials and astounding triumphs. It is a story, as historian Bruce Catton correctly observed, that is best told through the presentation of "history with the blood in it." The objective of this sort of history is to capture the "feel" of the past as well as the "facts," and this is the type of history I propose to offer you.

Points: 375 points possible, distributed as follows:

Required: (total=325):

We will have seven scheduled chapter quizzes (25 points each, combined total=175 points) and three exams valued at 50 points each. The dates for the administration of each of these are listed in this course syllabus, and the questions will be drawn from lectures, readings, and class discussions.

Optional Points: (total=50):

In addition to the three examinations and the seven scheduled quizzes, students will have the opportunity to obtain 50 **ADDITIONAL** points through ten *unscheduled* quizzes that will be administered over the course of the semester. These quizzes will be worth 5 points each and will consist of one or two short-answer questions. The questions will all be drawn from the previous day's lecture. The quizzes will be administered at the opening of the class.

Understand that points available through these unscheduled quizzes are **NOT** included in the required points

available in this course. These are "bonus" points that will be added to your totals at the end of the semester. Because they are bonus points, there will be **NO** opportunity to make up unscheduled quizzes. Quizzes administered at the opening of class will commence at 1:05 sharp. If you arrive in class after the quiz begins, or if you miss class FOR ANY REASON - even an excused absence - on the day of an unscheduled quiz, those points will be lost forever.

KSU Policy On Plagiarism and Cheating:

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure in the course, and/or expulsion from the University. For more information refer to "Academic Dishonesty" policy in *Inside KSU*.

It is expected that all academic work you do in this class will be an individual effort. Do not collaborate with anyone in the completion of an assignment unless you receive prior approval from me. KSU policy holds that on all assignments, exams, or other course work undertaken by undergraduate students, the following pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "On my honor as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

Copyright Statement:

The lecture materials presented in this course are copyrighted. Reproduction of class notes for commercial purposes without the express permission of the copyright holder is prohibited.

Student Disabilities:

Any student seeking an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact me at the earliest opportunity.

III. Course Survival Guide: Readings, Lectures, and Exams

Without question, your best guarantee for obtaining the most from this course - to include a satisfactory grade - is to participate fully in all of its components. Study the material as it is assigned. Attend class, take notes, ask questions, and join the discussion. Be consistent. The steady application of basic study skills throughout the

semester is a much more productive use of your time than frantic cramming on exam eve. Courses at all levels challenge different types of skills and abilities, and History 251 will test not only what you learn, but also the way you learn and what you already knew when you signed up. The course has been constructed on the assumption that you have high-school equivalent skills and preparation in history, reading, and writing.

Lectures: Do *not* miss class. This is especially critical in a course that meets only twice weekly. Lectures are the heart of the course, for they organize the material and point you to the most important themes of the period. Look upon me as your guide through a wilderness of material. I will post to our class list a message containing *outlines* for *each* of the lectures we will have this semester. Be familiar with the terms in these outlines before you come to class. You should then listen closely to the lectures and make note of any questions you have over anything covered in class. Questions in class are welcome. Take note of any terms, events or people discussed, and look them up later in your texts.

Lectures will *not* be a simple rehashing of the material in the textbooks. We will expand on that material, highlight the more important points, and add material not presented in the texts. Throughout the year we will concentrate not only on the "facts" of history, but will also on the impact those facts might have had on the history of our country.

Exams: The objective of the examinations is to measure your understanding of all course materials, both texts and lectures. There will be three exams in the course, and each may contain a mix of essay, multiple choice or true/false questions. Before each exam, I will post a study guide to our KSU Online site and our class electronic list. The guide will identify the areas where you should concentrate your study. If you become thoroughly familiar with the areas listed in the guides, you will have no trouble with the exams.

Quizzes: Questions on the seven scheduled quizzes will also be drawn from *America: A Narrative History* and the information presented in class lectures. The quizzes are designed to test your understanding of the material in the text. They will be composed of either true-false or matching questions, and as with the exams, I will post

study guides to our KSU Online site and our class list to aid you in focusing your preparation.

Make-Up Exams and Quizzes: Make-ups will be allowed *only* in cases of *documented* emergency such as serious illness or the death of a close family member. Absences due to illness will be excused *only* with the presentation of an explanation signed by a physician. This explanation must state that the student was under the care of the physician at the time of the class absence.

All make-ups must be completed *within two weeks* of the scheduled exam or quiz. if you must miss a scheduled exam or quiz, it will be your responsibility to notify me by e-mail at chassan@ksu.edu **before** the exam.

All students will take the final on 13 December, the day designated by the university. The exam *will not* be administered at any other time.

Absences, Office Hours, Administrative Matters:

Needless to say, it is your responsibility to notify me of anticipated or recent absences. Unless an illness or emergency somehow physically deprives you of the ability to communicate, you must contact me immediately (at chassan@ksu.edu) if an absence will affect the completion of any course requirements. I will be most sympathetic and flexible with students who make an honest effort to communicate with me. You are welcome to bring your questions, comments, and concerns to me during office hours, or by appointment. Do not call or e-mail me for grades. I do not dispense confidential information by telephone or over the internet.

Grading:

Grades are calculated on the basis of the points per event as indicated in the syllabus. I will post all grades to our KSU Online site, but you may determine your average at any point during the semester. Simply dividing your point total (the points you have earned on the quizzes and exams) by the total number of points available at the time.

Example: completion three quizzes @ 25 points each and one exam @ 50 points would yield a possible point total of 125 points. If you have earned 105 points on these three exercises, your course average at that time would be 84%.

IV. Tentative Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings:

The listing below is tentative and may require alteration based on the pace of the class. You will be informed of such changes in class, and they will be posted to HIST251Ca-1@ksu.edu, the class electronic list.

AUGUST:

21. Course Introduction and Orientation.
23. Europeans and the "New World." Tindall and Shi, 11-54.
28. Society, Religion and Economy in the American Colonies. Tindall and Shi, 55-84.
30. **(Quiz 1)** British Imperial Policy and the Colonial Wars for North America. Tindall and Shi, 55-106.

SEPTEMBER:

4. "Blows Must Decide!" Action and Reaction in the Colonial Crisis. Tindall and Shi, 107-122.
6. Explosion! 19 April 1775 and Independence. Tindall and Shi, 123-132.
11. **(Quiz 2)** "Patriots" and "Loyalists": The Sad Case of Benjamin and William Franklin. Skemp, *Benjamin and William Franklin*, pages 1-5, 70-152, 155-159, 175-177 and 183-184.
13. The War for American Independence and the Failure of Confederation. Tindall and Shi, 141-178.
18. **Exam # 1**
20. INSTRUCTOR CONFERENCE- NO CLASS
25. "We the People...." The Constitution, The Federalists and the Democratic Republicans. Tindall and Shi, 179-200.
27. **(Quiz 3)** "Crises, Foreign and Domestic" and The Triumph of Republicanism. Tindall and Shi, 201-234.

OCTOBER:

2. The War of 1812 and The Emergence of American Nationalism. Tindall and Shi, 234-262.
4. **(Quiz 4)** "A Fire Bell in the Night": Jacksonian Democracy and the Growth of Sectionalism. Tindall and Shi, 262-279.
9. "King Andrew" in the White House: Nullification, the Bank Wars, and the "New" American Social and Political Culture. Tindall and Shi, 279-301.
11. "Growing and Developing": American Society at Mid-Century. Tindall and Shi, 302-341; 346--355.
16. "Manifest Destiny" and the Wars with Mexico. Tindall and Shi, 357-382.
18. **Exam # 2.**
23. The American Exception: The Antebellum South. Tindall and Shi, 384-400.
25. American Slavery. Tindall and Shi, 400-408; Blight, ed., *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, 1-104.
30. **(Quiz 5)** Antislavery and Abolition: Conflict, Compromise and the Rise of the Republicans. Tindall and Shi, 408-434.

NOVEMBER:

1. John Brown, Abraham Lincoln, and Secession. Tindall and Shi, 439-446
6. "Horror on the Rappahannock": The Fredericksburg Campaign, November- December 1862. Tindall and Shi, 462-464.
8. "What Will the Country Say?" The Chancellorsville Campaign, April-May, 1863. Tindall and Shi, 472-473.
13. **(Quiz 6)** Domestic Policy and International Diplomacy at Mid-War. Tindall and Shi, 464-472.
15. "High Water Mark." The Gettysburg Campaign. Tindall and

Shi, 473-476.

20. "Brown Water War." Naval Combat and The Vicksburg Campaign. Tindall and Shi, 473.

22. THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO CLASS

27. The Home Fronts Late in the War. Tindall and Shi, 463-472.

29. (Quiz 7) Grant Moves South: The Overland Campaign, May-July 1864. Tindall and Shi, 477-478.

DECEMBER:

4. The Petersburg Campaign, June 1864-April 1865. Tindall and Shi, 483-484.

6. The End...and Afterlife: Appomattox and the Legacy of the Civil War. Tindall and Shi, 484-487.

13. **Final Exam.** 2:00-3:50, EH 015. *ALL* students will complete the exam this day at this time and location.