Instructor:
Dr. James R. King
Office: 214 O'Donohue
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Textbook:

Requirements:
All students registered for the course are responsible for class attendance and all scheduled examinations. Examinations will cover the assigned reading in the textbook and the material covered in the lectures. The lectures are intended to introduce students to particular problems and issues which are central to the development of the society and culture of the United States. They are not meant to be a substitute for the careful narrative of events provided by the textbook.

Examinations:
There will be two scheduled mid-term examinations during the term in addition to the final. Students will need a blue exam book for each examination as well as a Scantron. Examination books for all three examinations must be turned in to me by September 14. In preparing for each examination, students should take careful note of the geographic locations associated with the material covered because questions related to them will be included. It is simply impossible to understand events adequately if you are uncertain about the geography involved. Students who miss an examination will be allowed to do a make-up, but if so it must be understood that it will be up to the student to be at the scheduled time for the make-up. Students who unable to do the make-up at that time will have to do so on December 1.

Class Attendance:
Students are required to attend class. The lectures are an integral part of the course and excessive absences will be treated as a failure to fulfill the requirements of the class. Examples of excused absences would be serious health problems, deaths of members of the immediate family, or for scheduled university activities. The student has the full responsibility to substantiate that an absence is excused. Any unsubstantiated absences will be considered unexcused. Any student who has four (4) or more unexcused absences may receive an F for the course. Any student who has more than three (3) unexcused absences may have his/her grade lowered one letter grade at my discretion.
Regular and repeated tardiness will also be subject to the above penalty. Classes meet for one-hour and twenty minutes each day. Students are expected to participate in the entire class. Anyone who has cause to leave before the scheduled end of the class must notify me in advance. There is no excuse for leaving class before it is dismissed. Regularly arriving late for class is also inexcusable because it intrudes on the concentration of other students. For the same reason, pagers and cell phones must be turned off during class. Students who will be coming from work should inform me in advance that they might need to be late for class from time to time.

**Course Outline and Reading Assignments:**

**Introduction**  (August 28)

The Background of American History (August 28 - September 4)
- American Pre-History.
  - The European background of American history: Political, Social and Economic patterns on the eve of the age of discovery.
  - The age of the Reformation.
  - The era of Exploration and Discovery of the Americas.
  - Spanish settlement in the Americas.

The English Settlements and the Early Colonial Period (September 6-11)
- English exploration and the settlement of Virginia.
- Pilgrims and Puritans -- the New England colonies.
- Lord Baltimore and Maryland.
  Read: Chap. 2, pp. 29-47.

The development of English Colonial Society (September 13-25)
- The English Civil War and America.
- The founding of the Carolinas.
- The middle colonies: New York, the Jersies, and Pennsylvania.
- The Glorious Revolution.
- Colonial life in transition.
  Read: Chap. 2, pp. 48-58; Chap. 3, pp. 59-80

**Mid-Term Examination** (September 27)
Colonial Society in Maturity  (October 2-4)
   The Hanovarian Succession.
   The nature of English parliamentary government in the eighteenth century.
   Royal administration of the American colonies.
   Intellectual movements during the 18th century.
   The social structure and economic life of the colonies.
   Read: Chap. 4, pp. 81-108.

The Background and Development of the American Revolution (October 9-16)
   The growth of the British Empire.
   British colonial wars in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.
   The clash of American and British interests after 1763.
   The outbreak of fighting and the early struggle.
   The intervention of France.
   The southern campaign and the end of the war.
   Read: Chaps. 5, pp. 109-139.

The Constitution and the Creation of the Republic (October 18-25)
   The U.S. immediately after the Revolution.
   The Articles of Confederation.
   The Constitution of 1787.
   The administration of Washington--blueprints turned into reality.
   The presidency of John Adams.
   Read: Chap. 6-7, pp. 140-193.

Mid-Term Examination  (October 30)

The early Republic and the impact of the presidency of Jefferson. (November 1)
   The impact of the struggle between Britain and Napoleonic France on the United States.
   The Louisiana Purchase.
   James Madison and the War of 1812.
   Read: Chap. 8, pp. 195-219.

The Era of Good Feeling and the Rise of Andrew Jackson (November 6-15)
   The presidency of James Monroe.
   John Marshall and emergence of the Supreme Court as the third branch of the Federal government.
   Early westward expansion and the crisis over Missouri.
   The election of 1824 and development of Jacksonian democracy.
   The presidency of Jackson and his Successors.
Read: Chaps. 9-10, pp. 220-265.

Economic and Social Development of the United States to 1850 (November 20)
The development of effective transportation in the early 19th century.
The early industrial revolution and its influence on the U.S.
Intellectual and social movements to the mid-19th century.
Read: Chaps. 13, 313-335.

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Slavery and Sectionalism (November 27)
The rise of the cotton economy in the South.
The Mexican War and the western extension of slavery.
The growth of general opposition to slavery within the western community of nations.
American Abolitionist movements.
Read: Chap. 11, pp. 266-312.

Sectionalism and War (November 29 - December 6)
The crisis over California.
The Kansas-Nebraska Act and bleeding Kansas.
The breakdown of internal civility in American political life.
The founding of the Republican Party and the splitting of the United States political life on sectional lines.
The election of Lincoln and the outbreak of war.
King Cotton and the southern plan for Secession.
Union policy and actions during the Civil War.
The collapse of the Confederacy.

Final Examination (Tuesday, December 6: 8-10 pm.)