

**HIST 2230 A01 History of the United States from 1607
Fall-Winter 2019-20
Professor Sarah Elvins**



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**Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays,
 9:00-10:00 or by appointment**
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The U.S. Survey offers a sweeping view of the evolution of the United States from the period before European contact to the early 21st Century. Major themes include the political maturation of the United States, the centrality of race in understanding American history, the economic development of the nation, and the diversity of the American experience.

Students sometimes think of history as an endless list of dates and names. In this course, I would instead like you to think of history as a process, and to consider *why* things happened as they did. Anyone can look up the date of a battle or a piece of legislation on the internet – the challenge lies in explaining the significance of events, and considering the consequences of decisions made by historical actors. This course will also introduce you to the craft of the historian. We will look at primary materials to consider how we know what we know about the past. Assignments in the course will help students develop skills in research, formulating an argument, and writing. Lectures in the course will provide a framework of events, touching on the political, social, economic and cultural development of the nation.

Evaluation for the course will include:

Term 1

Assignment 1 (750-1250 words; 3-5 pages) Early America	15%	due October 24, 2019
Assignment 2 (750-1250 words; 3-5 pages) Civil War	15%	due November 26, 2019
Midterm Test (in class)	10%	December 8, 2019

Term 2

Assignment 3 (1000-1500 words; 4-6 pages) Triangle Fire	15%	due February 7, 2020
Assignment 4 (1000-1500 words; 4-6 pages) <i>Coming of Age in Mississippi</i>	15%	due March 26, 2020
Final exam during exam period	30%	

The grade distribution will be as follows:

A+ = 88+	C+ = 65-69
A = 80-87	C = 60-64
B+ = 75-79	D = 50-59
B = 70-74	F = 49 and below

BOOKS**Required:**

The following books are available at the Bookstore:

Elizabeth Fenn, *Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-82*

Jacqueline Glass Campbell, *When Sherman Marched North from the Sea: Resistance on the Confederate Home Front*

Mary Ting Yi Lui, *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery: Murder, Miscegenation, and Other Dangerous Encounters in Turn-Of-The Century New York City*

Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*

The main text for the course is Harry Watson and Jane Dailey, *Building the American Republic*. It is available for free here:

<https://press.uchicago.edu/sites/buildingtheamericanrepublic/index.html>

Each week, I will suggest chapters from *Building the American Republic* that correspond to that week's lecture.

Academic Honesty

All written work submitted in this course must be original. The University's regulations regarding plagiarism, cheating and impersonation are found in the section on "Academic Integrity" of the General Academic Regulations in the online Academic Calendar and Catalog the Faculty of Arts regulation (online at http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student_resources/student_responsibilities_integrity.html) which reads:

The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit

student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication. The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

The last date for voluntary withdrawal from this course is January 17, 2020. Evaluation and feedback will be provided to you before this date.

Computers, Cellular Phones, Tablets, etc.

Studies have shown that taking notes by hand encourages students to make sense of the material, and allows you to better retain what you are learning. All phones must be on silent/vibrate mode and stored in pockets, bags or purses for the duration of the class. Texting, checking social media, instant messaging, and surfing the web are not appropriate behaviours in class. Engaging with social media not only is distracting for other students, but studies have shown that it detracts from your learning experience. It is challenging, but make an effort to focus on the lecture – the course will be more enjoyable, and you will do better in it!

Assignments and Late Policy

All written assignments should be typed and double spaced. Further details about written assignments will be provided in class. Pay close attention to due dates. Extensions will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Papers are due in class on the date indicated. Late papers will be penalized 2.5% per day. Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work have been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction. ***Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must pass the requirement for written English in order to pass the course.***

Student Resources – Where to go if you need help!

Academic Resources

You have access to several important resources to help you navigate your classes and university life more generally. There are writing tutors available to help you with your essays through the Academic Learning Centre (ALC): <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>. The History department will also make a writing tutor available exclusively to History students in the department on one day a week. More information about scheduling, etc., TBA.

The ALC page also has resources to help you with study skills, organization, as well as assistance for students using English as an Additional Language (EAL). Other issues, including accessibility services, workshops, and tips about academic integrity are addressed at the Student Advocacy Services webpage

(http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/).

All of the above services can also be accessed under the heading of Student Resources on the Student Affairs website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/studentlife/index.html>.

History students can also take advantage of the huge range of academic materials (including primary and secondary sources, as well as pages to help with writing and referencing) made available by the History subject librarian, tailored just for you! They are available on the Libraries page at this link:

<http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/history>. Students who need research assistance can also schedule an appointment with a librarian through the website.

Student Counseling Centre

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as counseling. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

Student Support Case Management

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

University Health Service

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

Student Advocacy

Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns. <http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy>

UM History Student Association (UMHiSA)

UMHiSA is a history undergraduate student run organization that seeks to establish a sense of community for students studying all facets of history, and provide support for them in their academic career. Students interested in fun times, spirited debate, new opportunities, a community of like-minded students, or all of the above, check out UMHiSA on our instagram account www.instagram.com/umhisa_undergrad/ or emailing umhisau@gmail.com

Finally, I would encourage you to come by my office during office hours, or to make an appointment to come by another time, if you require any clarification about assignments or course content. A lecture course can sometimes feel intimidating to students new to the university. I welcome you to come and introduce yourself, and if you are having any problems with an upcoming assignment, come and talk to me and we can work out a solution.

COURSE SCHEDULE FOR FALL TERM

Lecture Schedule - Term 1

Week 1 September 5

1) Introduction

Reading: *Building the American Republic* (BAR), Ch. 1

Week 2 September 10

2) Native America

September 12 No lecture today – Professor Elvins is away at a conference

Reading: Fenn, *Pox Americana* Intro, Ch. 1

Week 3 September 17

3) Early Settlement

4) New England Way

Reading: *Pox*, Ch. 2

BAR, Ch. 2, 3

Week 4 September 24

5) Colonial Life Matures

6) 18th Century

Reading: *Pox*, Ch. 3, 4

BAR, Ch. 5

Week 5 October 1

7) Africans in America

8) Road to Revolution

Reading: *Pox*, Ch. 5, 6

BAR, Ch. 5

****First Assignment Handed Out**

Week 6 October 8

9) War and Independence

10) Creating a Republic

Reading: *Pox*, Ch. 7

BAR, Ch. 6

Week 7 October 15

11) The Constitution

12) Paradoxes of Jefferson

Reading: *Pox*, Ch. 8 and Epilogue

BAR, Ch. 7

Week 8 October 22

13) Party Politics and Democracy

14) Maturing Economy

Reading: BAR, Ch. 8

****First Assignment Due - October 24****Week 9 October 29**

15) White Man's Democracy

16) The Antebellum Family

****Second Assignment Sheet Handed Out**Reading: *When Sherman Marched North from the Sea*, Ch. Intro, Ch. 1

BAR, Ch. 9

Week 10 November 5

17) Culture of the Old South

18) Life Under Slavery

Reading: *When Sherman Marched North from the Sea*, Ch. 2-4

BAR, Ch. 10

Week 11 November 12**FALL TERM BREAK, NO CLASSES****Week 12 November 19**

19) Antebellum Reform

20) 1850s

Reading: BAR, Ch. 11

*Sherman to end.***Week 13 November 26**

21) Road to Civil War

22) Civil War and Emancipation

Reading: BAR, Ch. 12, 13

****Second Assignment Due: November 26****Week 14 December 3**

23) Civil War cont'd – review for test.

24) **Midterm Test in class December 5**

Reading: BAR, Ch. 14

HOLIDAY BREAK – if you want to get ahead in the readings, take a look at *The Chinatown Trunk Mystery*

WINTER TERM

Week 1 January 7

- 1) War and Reconstruction
 - 2) Moving Beyond Reconstruction
- Reading: BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 1
Chinatown Trunk Mystery, Intro., Ch. 1

Week 2 January 14

- 3) How the West Was Lost
 - 4) Empire
- Reading: *Trunk Mystery*, Ch. 2
 BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 2
- **Assignment sheets handed out: Triangle Fire essay**
January 17, 2020: Last date for Voluntary Withdrawal (VW) of spanned courses

Week 3 January 21

- 5) Gilded Age America
 - 6) Jim Crow
- Reading: *Trunk Mystery*, Ch. 3
 BAR, Vol. 2, Ch. 3

Week 4 January 28

- 7) Leisure
 - 8) Farmers, Workers, Progressives
- Reading: *Trunk Mystery*, Ch. 4

Week 5 February 4

- 9) The Culture of Consumption
 - 10) Roaring Twenties
- Reading: *Trunk Mystery*, Ch. 5
 BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 4

Week 6 February 11

- 11) Great Depression
 - 12) WWII
- Reading: *Trunk Mystery*, to end
 BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 5, 6

****Essay on Triangle Fire due – February 13**

Start reading *Coming of Age in Mississippi* over the break

Week 7 February 18

MIDTERM BREAK – NO CLASSES**Week 8 February 25**

- 13) Homefront and the Cold War
- 14) 1950s Suburbia
- Reading: *Coming of Age*, Part 1: Childhood
BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 7

Week 9 March 3

- 15) Civil Rights I – Eyes on the Prize
- 16) Vietnam
- Reading: *Coming of Age*, Part 2: High School
BAR, Vol. 2. Ch. 8
- **Essay Assignment Sheets handed out, *Coming of Age in Mississippi***

Week 10 March 10

- 17) Civil Rights II
- 18) A Polarized Society
- Reading: *Coming of Age*, Part 3: College
BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 9

Week 11 March 17

- 19) Civil Rights II
- 20) Identity Politics
- Reading: *Coming of Age*, Part 4: The Movement – work on essay assignment due next week
BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 10

Week 12 March 24

- 21) Watergate to Reagan
- 22) 1980s
BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 11
- ***Essay due on *Coming of Age in Mississippi* March 26**

Week 13 March 31

- 23) 1990s
- 24) September 11 and beyond
- Reading: BAR, Vol. 2 Ch. 12

Week 14 April 4

- 25) A fractured nation
- 26) Review
- Reading: BAR, Vol. 2. Ch. 13

FINAL EXAM DURING EXAM PERIOD. STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST REMAIN AVAILABLE FOR THE EXAM PERIOD APRIL

