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DBH104  
Office hours:  
After class or by appt.

### **HIST 302: THE NEW NATION, 1789-1860**

This course examines American history from the end of the Revolution until the outbreak of the Civil War. The divisions below are chronological; in each we will examine some of the major forces that shaped American thought and culture. Among these forces are the creation of uniquely American institutions, the Market Revolution, religious revivalism and reform, American expansionism, and the problem of slavery in a democratic society.

*Required readings:* All in paper, all in the bookstore.

Sean Wilentz, *Major Problems in the Early Republic*  
Joseph Ellis, *Founding Brothers*  
Melton McLaurin, *Celia, A Slave*  
Louis P. Masur, *1831: Year of Eclipse*  
Michael F. Holt, *The Fate of Their Country*

*Grading:* I use letter grades A through F, with plus or minus (+; -) where appropriate as described in the university catalog. I want to stress that you will be graded in comparison to your peers, your fellow classmates, and not according to some absolute scale locked inside my mind.

*Weekly routines and holidays:* The readings below are arranged by general topic. You should easily get through a chapter or two per week, and the discussions and lectures will count on your keeping up.

*Written work and examinations:* See the attached sheet for specifics. An overview is:

- 1) Sept.25 : First Essay (20%)
- 2) Oct.22: Review of *Kingdom of Matthias* (20%)
- 3) Prospectus for research paper
- 4) Nov.20: Research Paper (35%)
- 5) Wednesday Dec.13, 8:00 a.m.: 2-hour final exam (25%)

**This will be the *only* time the final is given.**

*Class attendance:* I'll overlook three unexplained absences. All other absences must be documented as medical or family emergency, or official university obligations.

*Disabilities:* Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services, located in Counseling Services on the lower level of Pittman Hall (726-4078 or 726-2105). I will grant reasonable accommodations only upon written notification from Disability Support Services.

## WRITTEN WORK

**Sept. 25:** Using the assigned readings, by this date prepare a typed, double-spaced essay of about four (4) pages to consider the following issue:

*Jefferson's rise to power and the changes associated with his name have been termed the "Jeffersonian Revolution." Focus on some element of American social history (politics, law, economics, gender, etc.) write an analysis of this assertion for the period from the 1780s through 1820. You should show how your topic changed and also the continuities, and you should be able to assert whether or not the term "revolution" is misleading or accurate.*

Use your readings. Document your response.

**Oct.22:** Prepare a four (4) page paper that draws on the broad range of topics in Masur's *1831: Year of Eclipse*. You might want to investigate the rise of abolitionism, for example, or the development of the second American party system, or perhaps more specialized topics such as banking in the new nation or nullification in South Carolina. You'll need to do outside reading on this. You are encouraged to develop your idea with me and to use additional research materials.

**Nov. 20:** One 12-15 page research paper, on a topic of your choice--but related closely to the themes of the course. You must submit your paper topic to me for approval by *Oct. 1*, and you must present a one to two page *prospectus* for your paper to me by *Nov. 1*. This prospectus must include your main thesis or research question, the basic issues you will deal with in exploring your topic or proving your argument, the types of materials you will be using, including a preliminary bibliography, and the places where you will find those sources (library, interlibrary loan, internet, etc.).

**FINAL EXAMINATION:** Wednesday, December 13, at (eek!) 8:00 a.m. *Note:* There are **no** waivers for senior status, early airline tickets, or such. This is the only time the final will be given.

**GRADING:** (Grades are letter, A to F, as outlined on p. 36 of the catalog; work that is late is penalized a letter/day to a maximum of two letter grades. On the third day late, the project fails.):

**DOCUMENTATION/PLAGIARISM:** Documentation according to Turabian/Chicago Manual of Style is preferred. Plagiarism is *de facto* evidence of dishonesty and will be dealt with accordingly, so don't fail to document your materials.

Readings marked with an asterisk (\*) are from Wilentz, *Major Problems*

## **I. The Federalist Republic**

### 1) 8/30: Political Discourse in the New Nation

\*Hamilton, 25  
\*Madison, 27  
\*Kramnick, 40  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, Prologue

### 2) 9/1: Hamilton's Nationalism

\*Hamilton, 33  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, chs. 1, 2

### 3) 9/4: Other Founders

\*Antifederalists, 30  
\*Pinckney, 32  
\*Nieman, 49  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, ch.3

### 4) 9/6: Washington and the Limits of Authority

\*Washington, 66, 69  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, ch.4

### 5) 9/8: Adams and Insurgency

\*Adams, 70  
\*Kentucky Resolutions, 71  
\*Federalist Newspaper, 73  
\*Appleby, 75  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, ch.5

## **II. The Jeffersonian Republic**

### 6) 9/11: Thomas Jefferson

\*Jefferson, 91  
\*Hofstadter, 102  
Ellis, *Founding Brothers*, ch.6

7) 9/13: Expansion

- \*Louisiana Purchase, 96
- \*Jefferson, 122
- \*McCoy, 109
- \*Sheehan, 138

8) 9/15: Jefferson, Marshall, and Judicial Review

- \*Marshall, 97

9) 9/18-9/20: The War of 1812

- \*Ch.Six, entire

10) 9/22: Research Period: Special Collection

### **III. Expansion and Social Change**

11) 9/25: The Market Revolution

- Begin Masur, *1831*
- \*Bruchey, 212

12) 9/27: Working Classes

- \*Lowell Mills, 198
- \*Craftsmen, 203
- \*Wilentz, 220

13) 9/29: Women and Domesticity

- \*Stansell, 227
- \*Lewis, 133
- \*Southgate, 120

#### **IV. Jacksonian Politics**

14) 10/4: Political Culture in the 1820s

- \*Brown, 351
- \*Formisano, 359

15) 10/6: John Quincy Adams

- \*Adams, 341
- \*Van Buren, 343

16) 10/8: Andrew Jackson

- \*ch.11, entire, especially
  - \*Jackson, 374
  - \*Ward, 365

17) 10/11: Jacksonian Politics

- \*ch.11, cont'd, especially:
  - \*Jackson, 385
  - \*Webster, 389
- Masur, *1831*, esp. "Religion and Politics"

18) 10/13: Nullification

- \*ch.11, cont'd, especially
  - \*Nullification, 379
  - \*Calhoun, 345
- Masur, *1831*, esp. "State and Nation"

19) 10/15: Whig Rebirth

- \*ch.11, cont'd, especially
  - \*Howe, 414

## **V. Revivalism and Social Reform**

### 20) 10/18: The Second Great Awakening

Masur, *1831*, esp. "Religion and Politics",  
\*Finney, 425

### 21) 10/20: Middle Class Reforms

\*Beecher, 427  
\*Mann, 440  
\*Jones, 441  
\*Johnson, 448

### 22) 10/22: Women's Rights

\*Feminist Declarations, 430  
\*Ryan, 454

### 23) 10/27: Workers and Natives

\*Morse, 438  
\*Davis, 461

## **VI. A Slaveholder's Republic**

### 24) 10/29: The Cotton Kingdom

\*Genovese, 264  
\*Fredrickson, 273

### 25) 11/1: Plain Folk and Planters

\*Planter, 239  
\*Yeomen, 256

### 26) 11/3: **No Class**

27) 11/8: Slave Culture

:

- \*Hammond, 240
- \*Accounts of Slavery, 248
- \*Levine, 279

28) 11/10: The Limits of Resistance

McLaurin, *Celia, A Slave*

29) 11/12: Proslavery Thought

- \*Attacks and Counterattacks, 257
- \*Hammond, 488
- \*Christian Defense, 492
- \*Faust, 515

## **VII. The Perils of Expansion**

30) 11/15: Abolition and Antislavery

- \*Walker, 473
- \*Garrison, 476
- \*Immediatism, 478
- \*Grimke, 482
- \*Dubois, 503
- \*Harding, 509

31) 11/17: Manifest Destiny

- \*O'Sullivan, 525
- \*Graebner, 551
- \*Hietala, 562

32) 11/19: War with Mexico

- Holt, *Fate*, ch. 1
- \*Polk, 528
- \*Mexican View, 534

33) 11/22: The Election of 1848

Holt, *Fate*, ch. 2  
\*Abolitionist Views, 538  
\*Wilmot Proviso, 538  
\*Sumner, 542  
\*Calhoun, 544

34) 11/29: Political Realignment

Holt, *Fate*, ch. 3

35) 12/1: Bleeding Kansas

Holt, *Fate*, ch. 4

36) 12/3: Dred Scott

xerox materials

37) 12/6: John Brown

38) 12/8: The Election of 1860

Fehrenbacher, *Prelude to Greatness*, chs. 6-7

39) 12/10: Secession