

HST 618: Colonial America
Spring 2022

Prof. F. Thornton Miller
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Office Hours:

Virtual—by email: Tuesday, 9:30-11:00 AM, Wednesday 8:30-12:00 Noon

If a student would like to, I can also, by appointment, set up a Zoom session for us to meet.

Correspondence by Email

Except for the Virtual Office Hours, I will try to respond to email by the next day. For email received on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, I will try to reply by Monday. My email replies will be during the day Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00. I will not be responding to email after 5:00 or on the weekend.

COVID

If you experience any problems related to COVID, please email me and I will give you an extension on assignment deadlines. If you need to miss the scheduled time window for an exam you can take a make-up exam. If you need to miss the final exam you can take an I/Incomplete and then later take a make-up exam.

Course Objective: to study the English empire in America in the context of the 17th and 18th-century Atlantic world focusing on topics including economic, social, political, constitutional, cultural, and religious development and comparing the colonies and regions of British America.

Course Goals: making written and oral arguments using supporting information; thinking critically about different interpretations of historical developments; understanding gender, racial, ethnic, and class diversity in American society and culture; and understanding American political, constitutional, social, and economic development.

Required Reading

Sources on the internet or on the course Blackboard site, to be assigned and there will be a book report.

Lecture Topics

International Context for English Colonization

Founding the English Colonies/Land, Credit, and Indentured Servants

Virginia and the Little England model

New England as the exception

Colonial and Indian Relations

Mercantilism and the Navigation Acts

Privateering, Dutch Wars, and the Middle Colonies

African slave trade, the West Indies model, Carolina, and the Development of Slavery
Glorious Revolution and Government in the Empire
17th-18th Century Migration to and in America
Gender, Racial, Ethnic, and Class Diversity in Society: Comparison of the Colonies
Center Court and Country Periphery
Enlightenment and Education
Religion and the Great Awakening
Wars for Empire: Britain vs. France and Spain
Ending the 1st Empire/Colonies on the Eve of the Revolution

% Breakdown of the Course

Map Assignment: 2%
Journal: 20%
Book Report: 10%
Exams: 68% (3 exams, 22.6% each)

Exams

There will be three exams. The exams will consist of identification (1/3) and essay questions (2/3). The identification items will be given in advance. They will consist of terms to define, and major events, people, government acts, organizations, publications, treaties, and battles to identify--give a brief description of the item, tell who was involved, when and where it occurred, and state why it was significant. In preparing for the exam, you are responsible for all lecture notes. In the essay part, you will be graded on organization and clarity as well as accuracy of information. You should be comprehensive in discussing all significant points and giving examples to support your statements. Particular dates are not required, but you should show development through time and keep events in the correct chronological sequence.

There will be online reviews before the exams.

The exams will be on Blackboard. You will have a window of several days to take the exams. Once you open the exam link you will have an hour and fifteen minutes to take and submit the exam, like a Tuesday/Thursday seated class.

The exams are "open book." While you are taking the exam, you may consult your notes, the course lecture notes, or the course readings. Obviously, the more you study in advance, and the less you need to refer to the course materials during the exam time, the more time you will have in writing your answers.

Maps

There will be maps to label on America. The maps, and the items to label, will be on the course Blackboard site.

Journal

You will keep a journal on this Blackboard course site. In your journal you will address questions about the primary sources we will be reading in the class. You will also use the journal to explore questions dealing with history and memory. In lectures and in readings we will look at the differences between how things actually happened in the past and how they have been remembered. As we go through the course there will be a series of questions about this for you to respond to and discuss in your journal.

Book Report

You will be writing a Book Report on a history book, approved by the instructor, on Colonial America. More information will be provided on this assignment later.

Course Policies

Students are required to use their Missouri State email account.

Makeup exams are allowed and are given toward the end of the term.

Grading

For your course grade, you must have at least a 94% average for an A, 90% for a A-, 87% for a B+, 84% for a B, 80% for a B-, 77% for a C+, 74% for a C, 70% for a C-, 67% for a D+, and 60% for a D.

Attendance

This is an online course but keep up with the dates on the course calendar on the Main Course Page.

For other policies see, on the Nav bar on the left, University Policies.