**HIST 176: The United States to 1877 (*online*)**

**Spring 2019**

**Instructor:** Dr. Lee Willis

**Contact:** [lwillis@uwsp.edu](mailto:lwillis@uwsp.edu); 715-346-4478

**Office hours (477 CCC):** 11:00-12:00 noon, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and by appointment.

**Text rental (available at the University Bookstore):**

Roark, et. al. *The American Promise: A History of the United States*, vol. 1 (Bedford- St. Martens).

**For purchase (available at the University Bookstore)**

Robert Gross, *The Minutemen and their World* (Hill and Wang, 1976). Also available on reserve in the University Library.

Melton McLaurin, *Celia, A Slave* (University of Georgia, 1991). Also available on reserve in the University Library.

**Additional readings (available as PDFs on CANVAS):**

Ira Berlin, “From Creole to African: Atlantic Creoles and the Origins of African- American Society in Mainland North America." *The William and Mary Quarterly* 53, no. 2 (1996): 251-88.

Amy Gilman Srebnick, “A Body Floating Between Two Tides,” in *The Mysterious Death of Mary Rogers* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996), 13-32.

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**:

This course meets the General Education Program requirement for Historical Perspectives and U.S. Diversity. By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Describe significant events of United States history to 1877.
2. Identify the people who helped shape those events.
3. Recognize the varieties of evidence that historians use to offer diverse perspectives on the meaning of the past.
4. Evaluate competing historical claims that inform the present.
5. Describe the various dimensions of diversity and marginalization within the United States.
6. Explain the means by which persistently marginalized groups have negotiated the conditions of their marginalization.

**Assignments and responsibilities:**

Canvas: Students are responsible for logging on to the course Canvas site each week to complete online quizzes and other assignments.

Weekly reading quizzes (50%): Each week students are expected to read approximately one chapter in the Roark textbook and complete the chapter reading quiz. These assignments are open book and are designed to check for understanding and to encourage analysis. You can take each quiz twice and the highest score will be counted.

Primary source reaction papers (20%): These assignments are designed to help you think about the process of historical research, the evidence that historians use to answer questions about the past, and to incorporate content that you have learned from the textbook reading.

Article precis (10%): A precis is a brief analytical review. You must write a precis for both the Berlin and Srebnick articles and upload them to Canvas by 11:00 pm on their due date. Specific instructions and electronic copies of the articles are provided in the content section of CANVAS.

Book precis (20%): You must write a precis for both the Gross and McLaurin books and upload them to Canvas by 11:00 pm on their due date.

**Grades:**

The final grade will break down as follows:

Weekly reading quizzes (16 total): 50%

Berlin article precis: 5%

Srebnick article precis: 5%

Reaction papers (7 total): 20%

Gross book precis: 10%

McLaurin book precis: 10%

**Course outline and due dates:**

Week of January 22: Course introduction and the Native Peoples of North America. Read “Introduction to Primary Sources” and “Precis for 176” handouts. In the textbook, read chapter one and complete chapter one quiz in Canvas by Friday, January 25 at 11:00 pm.

Week of January 28: Europeans Encounter the New World. Read chapter two and complete chapter two quiz by Thursday, January 31 at 11:00 pm. Re-read “Precis for 176 handout” then read Ira Berlin, “From Creole to African.” As you read, think about what Berlin is arguing and what examples he uses to convince you of his argument. What is the change over time that he is describing? How is this a different interpretation from what others have argued before?

Week of February 4: The Emergence of Colonial Societies. Read chapter three and complete chapter three quiz by Thursday, February 7 at 11:00 pm. Read William Byrd diary entry and complete reaction paper by Thursday, February 7 at 11:00 pm. Re-read Berlin, “From Creole to African” and begin taking notes for your precis due next week.

Week of February 11: The Emergence of Colonial Societies, continued. Read chapter four and complete chapter four quiz by Thursday, February 14 at 11:00 pm. **Precis on Berlin article due Friday, February 15. Paper should be uploaded to Canvas by 11:00 pm.**

Week of February 18: Colonial Crisis. Read chapters five and six; complete chapters five and six quizzes by Thursday, February 21 at 11:00 pm.

Week of February 25: The War for Independence. Read chapter seven and complete chapter seven quiz by Thursday, February 28 at 11:00 pm. Read “Three Virginia Counties Defend Slavery” and complete reaction paper by Thursday, February 28 at 11:00 pm.

Week of March 4: The New Republic: Establishing Government. Read chapter eight and complete chapter eight quiz by Thursday, March 7 at 11:00 pm. Read Dolley Madison letter and complete reaction paper by Thursday, March 7 at 11:00 pm.

Week of March 11: The New Republic: Economic and Political Developments. Read chapter nine and complete chapter nine quiz by Thursday, March 14 at 11:00 pm. **Precis on Gross due Friday, March 15. Paper should be uploaded to Canvas by 11:00 pm.**

Week of March 18: SPRING BREAK

Week of March 25: Politics in the Age of Jefferson. Read chapter ten and complete chapter ten quiz by Thursday, March 28 at 11:00 pm. Read “The Drunkard’s Pilgrimage” editorial cartoon and verse and complete reaction paper by Thursday, March 28 at 11:00 pm..

Week of April 1: Market Revolution, Revival, and Reform. Read chapters eleven and complete chapter eleven quiz by Thursday, March 28 at 11:00 pm. Read Srebnick, “A Body Floating Between Two Tides” and think about her argument and the evidence she uses to convince you of her conclusions.

Week of April 8: The New West and Free North. Read chapter twelve and complete chapter twelve quiz by Thursday, April 11 at 11:00 pm. **Srebnick precis due on Friday, April 12. Paper should be uploaded to dropbox on Canvas by 11:00 pm.**

Week of April 15: Slavery and the Old South. Read chapter thirteen and complete chapter thirteen quiz by Thursday, April 18 at 11:00 pm. Read the Mary Reynolds slave narrative and complete reaction paper by Thursday, April 18 at 11:00 pm.

Week of April 22: From Compromise to Secession. Read chapter fourteen and complete chapter fourteen quiz by Thursday, April 25 at 11:00 pm. Read “Mississippi Declaration of Secession” and complete reaction paper by Thursday, April 25 at 11:00 pm.

Week of April 29: The Civil War. Read chapter fifteen and complete chapter fifteen quiz by Thursday, May 2 at 11:00 pm. Read Pickett’s Charge document and complete reaction paper by Thursday, May 2 at 11:00 pm.

Week of May 6: Reconstruction and Resistance. Read chapter sixteen and complete chapter sixteen quiz by 11:00 pm.

**Thursday, May 16: McLaurin precis due by 11:00 pm**