

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
HIS 176, section 3: American History to 1877 (online)
3 Credit hours, Spring 2016
Dr. Schubert

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Course Description

This is a survey of events and developments in the history of the United States up to 1877. The course will begin by focusing on the Native Peoples of America and the Rise of the Atlantic World, continue on to the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, the early Federal era, the early Republic, sectional struggles over slavery, and conclude with the Civil War and Reconstruction. You will be considering some of the many contexts of these events and developments, including their political, social, cultural, and religious meanings. The class takes place entirely online, and you will be working with **two** websites, Aplia and Desire to Learn (D2L).

This course fulfills both the “Historical Perspectives” and “U.S. Diversity” categories of UWSP’s General Education Program (GEP). It is also a foundational course for the majors of History and Broad-Field Social Sciences.

Learning Objectives

Through this course, you will improve your ability to:

- Describe the interactions of distinct peoples, cultures, religions, and political groups with one another in the United States before 1877.
- Identify and explain various components of U.S. culture(s) of the past, as distinct from the culture of today (e.g., the U.S. in the 21st century).
- Evaluate primary and secondary sources as historical evidence
- Identify, interpret, and assess historical arguments.
- Use instructional technology for learning in an online environment

Required Text

The only course expense is the purchase price for your access code for Aplia, an online resource that you are required to purchase (see below for purchase information). As of last fall, 2015, this price was \$76 (but that price is subject to change without notice here). Aplia will provide you access to a digital copy of the textbook, as well as assignments. You will not be purchasing a physical textbook.

- In case you’d like the title of the course textbook found on Aplia, it is: Paul S. Boyer, C. E. Clark, Jr., et. al. *The Enduring Vision, Vol 1: to 1877*, concise, 7th Edition. Cengage Learning, 2013.

Optional Materials

All other materials will be provided by the instructor and placed on E-Reserve or on D2L. Instructions on how to access these will be given as needed.

We will be using MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines for written assignments in the class. If you need to a review these guidelines, you may wish to consult:

- Diana Hacker. *Rules for Writers*, 6th or later editions. Print.
- You'll find MLA (and other) guidelines on the UWSP Library webpage at <http://libraryguides.uwsp.edu/citation>
- Other sites you may want to consult include:
 - University of Wisconsin—Madison. *The Writing Center*. Web. 1/7/2016. <http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocMLA.html>
 - Purdue University. *OWL (The Purdue Online Writing Lab)*. Web. 1/7/2016. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Accessing the Two Course Websites

Aplia

Students are required to purchase access to Aplia, a digital learning platform published by Cengage Learning. As of Fall semester 2015, the cost of Aplia was \$76 per student (the price may change without notice here). This course fee includes access to a digital copy of our textbook. Please keep in mind that you won't be able to access much on the Aplia course site until the first day of class—i.e., January 25, 2016.

Here are the steps to take to acquire access to Aplia. Please do this as soon as possible once class begins, or even a day or two before (be sure to read the “Important Note” below).

1. Students purchase the code here:
<http://login.cengagebrain.com/course/5Y3S-734C-YY6J>
 2. Students must register the code to get into the course. The course code (AKA course key) for our class is:
5Y3S-734C-YY6J
 3. For further help with registration as well as other questions, you can go to:
<http://services.cengage.com/dcs/aplia/start/prepare/register/#/user-guides>
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** You can access Aplia for a free trial period for up to two weeks after you make the purchase (i.e., until the end of the day on Feb. 14, 2016). If, during that time, you decide to drop the course, you can receive a refund on your purchase. If you decide to drop the course after that two-week period, however, you cannot receive a refund. Sorry, but I cannot change the publisher's policy; any questions regarding this or other Cengage policies must be negotiated between you and the publisher.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L)

This course will also use a site on Desire2Learn (D2L), which is the course management system at UWSP. This is provided to registered UWSP students at no cost. Please keep in mind that you won't be able to access the D2L site until the first day of class—i.e., January 25, 2016.

- 1) To reach the class website go to <www.uwsp.edu> and click on “D2L” at the top of the page. Log in to D2L, providing your logon ID and password.
- 2) On the right you should now see a list of the D2L courses you are enrolled in (scroll down if you don't see them). Click on *United States to 1877 SEC 03*
- 3) You will now be on the homepage of the class website, looking at something called “News”. I will post information here every week to keep you up to date on what is going

on, deadlines, etc. Click on the various menu items at the top of the page to explore further.

Computer Requirements and Tech Help

This course will take place entirely online, so please make sure you have access to a computer that meets the system requirements given below for both Aplia and D2L. (If you do not own a computer that is powerful enough, see if you can use one on campus or at your local library.)

- The list of system requirements for Aplia is available at <http://www.aplia.com/support/sysreq.jsp>.
 - You can conduct a system check to determine if your computer meets the requirements for using Aplia at the following link: <http://www.aplia.com/support/config.jsp>.
- To ensure that you are using the recommended personal computer configurations for D2L, refer to the D2L settings link: <http://www.uwsp.edu/d2l/Pages/requirements.aspx>.

These systems are quite user-friendly and I can offer some basic advice regarding how to get around the websites. For serious technical computer problems though, you must consult a specialist on your own.

- Aplia: If you need technical assistance with Aplia, you can start at the Aplia Support page, <http://www.aplia.com/support/>.
- D2L: If you need technical assistance with D2L or to report a problem with D2L you can seek assistance from the UWSP Help Desk. (<http://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/HelpDesk/default.aspx>)

Making certain your computer works is your responsibility. It is very rare that anyone has computer problems severe enough to seriously affect class performance. However, if you miss several assignments due to ongoing computer issues and these problems are not resolved by Week Eight, I may ask you to drop the class.

Course Grade

To be determined by Chapter Problem Sets, Primary Source Sets (done on Aplia), three essays (described and submitted on D2L), a few small “mini-assignments,” and professional behavior (e.g., getting work in on time, etc.). There are no Mid-term or Final Exams. Your grades will appear in the gradebook on Aplia (not on D2L).

Chapter Problem Sets	326 points
Primary Source Sets	383 points
2 Film Responses	200 points
Final Reflection Essay	100 points
Mini-Assignments	up to 26 points
Professionalism	See below.
TOTAL:	<hr/> 1035 points

Grades in this course reflect achievement of different levels of mastery:

A-Range	Exceptional or exemplary work
B-Range	Very good work. Exceeds minimum standards.
C-Range	Acceptable work. Meets minimum standards.
D-Range	Barely meets minimum standards.
F (Failing)	Does not meet minimum standards.

Grading scale: 93%+: A; 90%+: A-; 87%+: B+; 83%+: B; 80%+: B-; 77%+: C+; 73%+: C; 70%+: C-; 67%+: D+; 63%+: D; less than 63%/F. (UWSP does not recognize a grade of D-, so any grade of less than 63.0% will result in a grade of F for the course.)

Further Details

Problem Sets

In Aplaia, the online tests/quizzes you will take are called “problem sets.” The majority (but not all) of your course grade will be based on these.

There are two types of problem sets: **Chapter Problem Sets** and **Primary Source Sets**. Both types will be graded. Aplaia calls these “Grade It Now” (GIN) assignments. That means you will have three chances to complete the questions in a given problem set and also receive feedback on your responses. The highest grade of your three attempts at a problem set is what will appear in your gradebook.

All the problem sets are available to you to take, beginning the first day of the course. You can take as long as you like to finish a problem set, up until the due date. However, you must finish every problem set by the due date in order to earn full credit.

- **HINT:** *Be sure to start work on a problem set at least an hour or more before the due date/time to make sure you finish!*

All problem sets are “open book.” In fact, I encourage you to consult your notes and your textbook while completing problem sets. You may use other materials, but remember: The problem sets were written specifically for this textbook and these readings, so the most efficient way to do them well is to understand the assigned readings thoroughly.

Chapter Problem Sets

After reading each chapter, you will be tested on your comprehension of the material via the Chapter Problem Sets on Aplaia. In these problem sets, you will be asked to demonstrate your understanding by engaging with a variety of materials including maps, images, and texts. Chapter Problem Sets will be due on Wednesdays at 11:45 pm.

Primary Source Sets

The ability to identify, understand, and interpret primary sources is an essential skill in History--so you will be working with Primary Sources in this class. Frequently, Primary Source Problem Sets will present you with primary sources related to the previous week's content and ask you to interpret those sources. Like the Chapter Problem Sets, the Primary Source Sets will be on Wednesdays at 11:45 pm.

- **NOTE:** *The Primary Source Sets will include a mix of written and visual primary sources. Each chapter also includes its own primary sources, but these are NOT necessarily the ones you'll see in the graded Primary Source Sets. (If you do not*

understand what a “primary source” is, don’t worry. This will be discussed in an early practice assignment on Aplia.)

Two Film Responses

Two written assignments will give you an opportunity to assess historical evidence and develop an analytical attitude toward historical materials, interpretations, and narratives presented through the medium of film. You will be watching two specific films assigned by the instructor and writing a brief critical response, following a prompt. You’ll find these prompts on the “Content page” on the D2L website, and you will also be submitting your responses to the D2L Dropbox. The assigned films will be available to you to view online, free of charge.

Final Reflection Essay

At the end of the semester you will complete a “final reflection essay” instead of a final exam. A prompt with more information will be posted on D2L at least one week before the essay is due, and you will submit your essay to the D2L Dropbox.

Mini-Assignments

This category provides some credit for non-graded mini-assignments such as establishing your Aplia account and doing the practice tutorials the first week of class (e.g., Using Aplia Assignments, History Maps, History Essays, and History Critical Thinking). I may also add brief graded assignments in this category. I will always make it clear in my instructions whether an assignment is graded or ungraded.

Professionalism

College is your gateway into the working world. In this class I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace, and I ask, hope, and expect that all students do the same.

There’s not a separate “participation” or “professionalism” grade category, but professionalism can still affect your final grade in various ways. Some examples include:

- Students who stop participating in class activities or online assignments may be reported as not attending, and may be dropped from the class.
- Students who exhibit highly unprofessional behavior may be subject to penalties to their final grades, up to and including failure in the class. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to:
 - plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty
 - highly disruptive or disrespectful activity in person or in online forums.

Basically, what I expect is pretty simple:

- Do all assigned work yourself and do it on time.
- Give others credit for their work.
- Treat your classmates and me with the respect that you would like to receive.

If you follow these simple principles, this class will go very smoothly!

Due Dates

Due dates for assignments are not negotiable. Late assignments will be accepted without penalty only with strong cause, e.g., in the case of a verified illness or emergency. Please discuss any conflicts or problems with me in advance or as soon as possible.

Communicating with the Instructor

- In-person: I have an office on the UWSP campus and will post office hours soon (see the top of this syllabus for contact information). You can come to these or contact me to make an appointment for another time. You can also phone and leave a message—but you'll probably get a faster response by email, since I am not in my office every day.
- Online: the most frequent ways we'll probably communicate are online: 1) through the Discussion Forum on D2L (called "Instructor's Office" on the "Discussion" page), and 2) via email.
 - If you post questions on the Instructor's Office, everyone will be able to see and read our communications—which can be helpful, since other members of the class may have the same questions you do.
 - To have a private conversation, always feel free to email me at lschuber@uwsp.edu. I normally check email at least once a day, on weekdays (but not weekends). I'll check more often during the first few weeks of the course, as you get used to working with the websites. I ask that you also check your email regularly, as I occasionally send notices to the class. When you email I try to respond within at least 36 hours. Very occasionally messages have been known to disappear in the system and not reach me—so if you don't hear back from me, do not hesitate to email again, or call me.

Note: Whenever you email me—and your other instructors, as well--always provide your full name and the course/section you are in. (Remember that your instructors are usually responsible for several classes and may not be able to place you immediately without a little help.) Also, please use appropriate forms of address with your instructors—it really does mean something! Like many others, for example, I prefer to be called "Dr. Schubert".

UWSP Policies

Add/Drop Period

It is your responsibility to know when you should consider dis-enrolling from a course and the deadlines for doing so. Please refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for Drop/Add dates and deadlines.

If you enroll in the course after the first day of classes, please contact me to inform me that you have added the course. Even when you add a course late, you are still responsible for all of the material presented before you enrolled.

Equity of Educational Access

I will make every effort to accommodate verified disabilities so that students can do their best work in this course. If you have a learning or physical challenge which requires accommodation, please contact the UWSP Disability Services office with your documentation as early as possible in the semester. They will then notify me, in a confidential memo, of the accommodations that will facilitate your success in the course. For more information, see their website at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/>. Their office is in LRC 609, and their phone number is: (715) 346-3365.

Religious Beliefs

If necessary, relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first three weeks of class.

Policy on Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is strictly forbidden by UWSP's policy. Examples of such behavior include--but are not limited to--students copying each other's work or submitting work that is not their own, including the use of writing cut directly from the internet and pasted into papers without citing the source: this is considered plagiarism, i.e., stealing. Writing a paper for one class that you also turn in to fulfill a writing assignment in another class without the knowledge of the instructors is also forbidden (in this case I will consult with the other instructor and one of us will apply the penalty). I encourage you to review your rights and responsibilities as outlined on the web page for the Office of the Dean of Students: (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>):

- "Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students"
- "Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures"
(UWS/UWSP Chapter 14)

Students found plagiarizing work will receive a 0 for the assignment without the option to rewrite; the final grade in the course may also be affected. (This does not apply, however, to your first writing assignment, in which I ask you to deliberately plagiarize something.)

**Have questions after reading the syllabus?
Feel free to ask me about them!**

**For the semester schedule of
readings and assignments,
please read on**

Readings/Assignments Schedule

On the schedule below, each date is assigned a chapter(s) from your online textbook and an assignment. (Aplia also gives the due date for problem sets in your Course Outline). **The deadlines for all assignments are always on Wednesdays, at 11:45 PM.** It may be useful to remember that there is something due every Wednesday in the semester, except for the first week of class and the week of Spring Break.

- When a chapter is listed, read that chapter on Aplia and complete the associated problem set by 11:45 PM on the date given.
- When a primary source problem set is listed, you are responsible for completing it by 11:45 PM on the date listed.
- This schedule also gives assignments which must be turned in through the D2L Dropbox. These D2L assignments will have detailed instructions that are found on the D2L “Content” page.
- You are always welcome to complete assignments before the deadline, if you wish. (All the Problem Sets will be open, and many/all of the prompts for the writing assignments available, on the first day of the course. Each Problem Set will close on the deadline given.)
 - *NOTE: Unless stated otherwise, all assignments will be graded and included in your course grade. Assignments labeled “practice” will be factored into your “Mini-Assignments” grade on the basis of participation only (not on how well you did).*
- Failure to complete any assignment before the deadline will result in a grade of “0” for that activity.
- If you have any questions about a particular assignment, feel free to contact me.

Week 1

Mon., Jan. 25

Introduction to D2L, Aplia, and U.S. History to 1877: *explore* D2L and Aplia; *do* Practice tutorials; *read* prompts for upcoming assignments

- 1) On Aplia: Practice Problem Sets (in the Aplia “Course Outline,” look under Week 2 for these—they are under Week 2 because that is the week they are due)
 - Introduction to Using Aplia Assignments (practice; worth 2 points)
 - Aplia History Map Tutorial (practice; 2 points)
 - Aplia History Essay Tutorial (practice; 2 points)
 - Aplia History Critical Thinking Tutorial (practice; 2 points)

All these practice tutorials must be completed by 11:45 pm, Wednesday, 2/3 to get credit as a “Mini-assignment,” (graded by participation only).
- 2) Upcoming: D2L mini-assignment: “Plagiarize!” (ungraded mini-assignment, worth 8 points). To get credit, it must be completed by 11:45, Wed., February 17. The information for this assignment is found on the D2L “Contents” page.

- 3) Upcoming: You may wish to begin preparing for Film Response Paper #1, which will be graded. For this paper you will watch the *Nova* documentary, *The Great Inca Rebellion*, available on www.PBS.org (see the prompt on the “Content” page of the D2L website for details). You will be writing a brief response paper, following the instructions given in the prompt. It will be due in the D2L Dropbox at 11:45 pm, on Wednesday, March 2.

Week 2

Mon., Feb. 1

On Aplaia: Chapters and Problem Sets (Aplaia):

- Chapter 1: Native Peoples of America, to 1500
- Chapter 2: The Rise of the Atlantic World, 1400-1625
 - Problem Sets must be completed by Wed., 11:45, 2/10, 11:45 pm.
 - **All Problem Sets will now be graded** unless otherwise indicated

Week 3

Mon. Feb. 8

Chapters and Problem Sets (Aplaia):

- Chapter 3: The Emergence of Colonial Societies, 1625-1700
- Chapter 4: The Bonds of Empire, 1660-1750
 - Problem Sets must be completed by 2/17, 11:45 pm

Week 4

Mon., Feb. 15

ALSO DUE THIS WEEK: the mini-assignment “Plagiarize!” is due in the D2L Dropbox at 11:45, Wed., Feb. 17. (See prompt on D2L for details)

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplaia):

- Chapter 5: Roads to Revolution, 1750-1776
 - Problem Set must be completed by 2/24, 11:45 pm

Week 5

Mon., Feb. 22

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplaia):

- Chapter 6: Securing Independence, Defining Nationhood, 1776-1778
 - Problem Set must be completed by 3/2, 11:45 pm

Week 6

Mon., Feb. 29

ALSO DUE THIS WEEK: Film Response Paper #1: *The Great Inca Rebellion* is due at 11:45 pm, Wed., March 2 in the D2L Dropbox (see D2L prompt for details).

- ***Now be sure to read the prompt (on D2L) for the next paper, Film Response #2!***

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplaia):

- Chapter 7: Launching the New Republic, 1788-1800
 - Problem Set must be completed by 3/9, 11:45 pm

Week 7

Mon., March 7

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia)

- Chapter 8: American at War and Peace, 1801-1824
 - Problem Set must be completed by 3/16, 11:45 pm

Week 8

Mon., March 14

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 9: The Transformation of American Society, 1815-1840
 - Problem Set must be completed by 3/30, 11:45 pm.
 - *Please note that, because of Spring Break, this due date falls during Week 10 (not Week 9)*

Week 9

Mon., March 21

SPRING BREAK—nothing is due (have a good week!)

Week 10

Mon., March 28

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 10: Democratic Politics, Religious Revival, and Reform, 1824-1840
 - Problem Set must be completed by 4/6, 11:45 pm

Week 11

Mon., April 4

ALSO DUE THIS WEEK: Film Response Paper #2 (regarding a specific film) is due 11:45, Wed., April 6 in the D2L Dropbox (see D2L prompt for details).

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 11: Technology, Culture, and Everyday Life, 1840-1860
 - Problem Set must be completed by 4/13, 11:45 pm

Week 12

Mon., April 11

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 12: The Old South and Slavery, 1830-1860
 - Problem Set must be completed by 4/20, 11:45 pm

Week 13

Mon., April 18

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 13: Immigration, Expansion, and Sectional Conflict, 1840-1848
 - Problem Set must be completed by 4/27, 11:45 pm

Week 14

Mon., April 25

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia)

- Chapter 14: From Compromise to Secession, 1850-1861
 - Problem Set must be completed by 5/4, 11:45 pm

Week 15

Mon., May 2

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia):

- Chapter 15: Crucible of Freedom: Civil War, 1861-1865
 - Problem Set must be completed by 5/11, 11:45 pm

Week 16

Mon., May 9

- The prompt for your final written assignment, a Reflection Paper, will be posted on D2L this week. It will be due in the D2L Dropbox by Wed., May 18
- Last Day of Class: Friday, May 13

Chapter and Problem Set (Aplia)

- Chapter 16: The Crises of Reconstruction, 1865-1877
 - Problem Set must be completed by 5/18, 11:45 pm

Week 17 (Finals Week)

Mon., May 16

- DUE ON WED., MAY 18 AT 11:45 PM:
 - Final Aplia Problem Set (ch. 16)
 - Reflection Essay, in D2L Dropbox

Congratulations on Finishing the Course!