

Course Syllabus: Spring 2016: History 5310: 001/Revolutionary America 1763-1800

Dr. Mark Saad Saka/Sul Ross State University

Office: LH 208/ 432-837-8304

Office Hours: 10:00-12:00, 2:00-3:15 M W.; 10:00-12:00, 2:00-3:15 T, Th.

Office Hours can also be made with an appointment

Course Objectives:

This course covers the history of the birth of the American Republic. We will study and learn the history of the origins, the course of, and the aftermath of the American Revolution as well as the forging of the American Constitution, and the first decade of the new Republic; 1788-1800, what is commonly referred to as the Federalist Era. This is a critical era in American history for obvious reasons, the rest of American history is built upon this foundation.

Course Requirements:

There are a number of course requirements.

1. This course meets once a week. Attendance is critical. One night of class equals an entire week of class, not one regular period. Therefore, regular attendance is a critical part of your grade. (10%).
2. Regular class participation, please contribute and add your ideas and commentaries to the class. Do not hesitate to ask questions. (10%)
3. 4 exams. (each exam will equal 15% of your grade for a total of 60%)
4. Class presentation (20%) The class presentation will be a twenty-thirty minute presentation that you will provide for the class. The subject will be a topic covering the American Revolution, I must approve the topic.

At the end of this course, I will add up your average; 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F.

Required Readings:

James Kirby Martin, **A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the American Republic, 1763-1789**, Wiley Blackwell-3rd edition, ISBN # 978-1118923887

Robert Middlekauff, **The Glorious Cause: The American Revolution, 1763-1789**, Oxford University Press, ISBN # 978-0-19-531588-2, 2005.

Ray Raphael, **A People's History of the American Revolution: How Common People Shaped the Cause of Independence**, Harper Perreniel Press, ISBN # 978-0060004408, 2002

Gordon Wood, **The Radicalism of the American Revolution**, Vintage Reprint, ISBN # 978-0679736882; 1993

The Americans with Disabilities Act:

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze in Counseling and Accessibilities Services in Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box c-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832, telephone number 432-837-8203

Course Outline

Jan. 25-historiographical overview of American Revolution and Constitution-Major themes and Issues/Historical Interpretations—biographies? Primary sources, secondary sources, (txt chapter

Feb. 01-Colonial development/differences between regions/staple thesis/slavery/Indians etc./chapter one and two)

Feb. 08-French and Indian War (text chapter 3)

Feb. 15-Early Protests 1763-1770 (text chapters 4-9)

Feb. 22-Late Protests and Issues/Boston Massacre to 1775 (text chapters 11 and 12)

Feb. 29-Revolution-Read –military/Martin book People's History (txt 13-22)

Mar. 7-Revolution-

Mar. 14-spring break

Mar. 21-the Revolution-(Read "A Peoples History of the American Revolution)

Mar. 28-Articles of Confederation, 1783-1788 (read text 23-24)

Apr. 04-Constitution (read text 25-26)

Apr. 11-Constitution (Red Gordon Wood, The Radicalism of the American Revolution)

Apr. 18-The Federalist Era 1788-1800

Apr. 25- class presentations

May 02-class presentations

May 09-class presentations