

Winthrop University

Department of History

History 211-001 CRN 10983 United States History To 1877

Fall 2020 On Line

Instructor: Dr. Edward Lee

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Credits: 3 undergraduate hours

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via Zoom.

Scope Of Course

Commencing with Christopher Columbus' 1492 voyage to America, this course moves swiftly through nearly four centuries of our nation's past. In History 211, we will examine the social, economic, and political factors which gave birth to our country and the forces which, by 1860, plunged us into a bloody Civil war. Along our journey, we will consider events such as colonialism, the clash of cultures, slavery, the Salem Witch Hysteria, the American Revolution, the United States Constitution and its ratification, and the Age of Jackson. The course climaxes with the expansionism of the 1840s, the birth of the women's equality movement, the turmoil of the 1850s, and the rupture of the Union. We conclude History 211 with Reconstruction. Obviously, we have much material to ponder. Please read the assigned chapters from A People And A Nation, vol. 1 and try not to fall behind. The Mindtap edition of the text is available from the Winthrop University Bookstore.

The Instructor

Dr. Lee has taught History 211 for thirty-five years. A former president of the South Carolina Historical Association, he received a Presidential Citation at Winthrop University for his work in the early years of Distance Education and has earned several teaching awards such as the University's 2016 Faculty-Student Award. Dr. Lee is the author or co-author of fifteen books including South Carolina In The Civil War. He frequently lectures and serves as a commentator on a wide-range of historical topics.

Goals

In History 211, we will improve our ability to interpret and analyze historical data and to orally and in written form use evidence to support our understanding of this data. Reading, writing, speaking, and analytical skills will be sharpened in this course as we “think historically.” The department’s Student Learning Outcomes are addressed through a rigorous adherence to the goals outlined below.

This course satisfies the historical perspective, arts and humanities, and Constitution requirements of the general education program for Winthrop University undergraduate students. It satisfies the following goals: “to communicate in standard English,” “identify sound and unsound reasoning,” “analyze and use a variety of information-gathering techniques,” “use the library and other information sources competently,” and “to recognize and appreciate human diversity (both past and present) as well as the diversity of ideas, institutions, philosophies, moral codes, and ethical principles.”

There are several global learning components to this course, including analyses of the Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution and these documents’ impact on other countries as well as America’s

role internationally. Conflict with nations such as the United Kingdom and Mexico, as well as our longstanding relationship with France will be examined. As one of the required U.S. History survey courses, History 211 also satisfies core requirements for both history majors and minors. Thus, students will satisfy the following goals for student outcomes of the History Department's B.A. degree: "students will be able to communicate effectively core themes, ideas, and subject matter, in both written and oral form" and "students will be able to discuss critically significant issues and themes of United States History."

On-Line Platforms

As education adjusts to the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, many universities have transitioned to an on-line delivery model. Prior to the coronavirus outbreak, on-line education was being used because of the flexibility it offers busy students. As mentioned previously, Dr. Lee has been a pioneer in Distance Learning, which uses remote delivery. In History 211, we will use A People And A Nation vol. I. The Mindtap access from Cengage is available from the Winthrop University bookstore as well as traditional hard copies of the text. Contact the bookstore to secure this access and frequently consult the course's Blackboard on Wingspan where you will find announcements and assignments. Mr. Thomas Cornelius of Instructional Design (307 Tillman Hall, 803 323 3066) will be of assistance to you with technology matters.

Grades

Chapter assignments will be made via e-mail and on the course's Blackboard. Do not fall behind. A successful performance in History 211 requires completion of FOUR requirements: two essay/short answer written exams (scheduled 9/25 and a final exam 12/4) and two written book reviews (due 10/23 and 11/23). The second exam is the Final

Exam, and it is not cumulative. Book Review Instructions are part of this syllabus. Each assignment: the two exams and the two book reviews are worth 25% of your course grade and must be submitted via email on the above date by 5:00 p.m. A ten point grading scale is used in History 211 (i.e., 90=A, 80=B) A +/- system will be used as needed.

Students With Disabilities

Dr. Lee will readily accommodate students with disabilities. If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Office of Accessibility (Third Floor Bancroft Annex) 803 323 3290. Once you do that, the office will notify Dr. Lee and accommodations will be made.

Welcome To History 211!

Book Review Instructions For Dr. Edward Lee's History Course

Select non-fiction books (NOT novels) on the time period covered by this course. Choose books which interest you and notify Dr. Lee of your selection. Keep in mind that these are BOOK REVIEWS-not book reports. Reviews stress analysis and criticism. Reports heavily summarize a book. Criticize. Don't summarize. A good review includes several elements which are woven together in smoothly-flowing paragraphs to form a double-spaced typed paper of about 4-5 pages. There is NO "works cited" page or bibliography for a book review. Your book review should include the following parts:

- On top of page one, type the book's citation. For example, Jones, Maxwell P. My Life In The Counterculture. San Francisco: Free Press, Inc.,1995. (NOTE: line two of the citation is indented five spaces).
- Clearly state the book's thesis or main idea. You may use a quotation to illustrate the thesis. When quoting, smoothly introduce the quote (less than three lines of quoted material), cite the page NUMBER, and follow with your analysis.
- Is the thesis proved to your satisfaction? Be specific.
- Select one of the book's strengths and analyze it.
- Select one of the book's weaknesses and criticize it.
- Give an example of the author's writing style. Quote a sample of how he/she uses language to present his/her information and analyze the example. For instance, "The creek flowed red with the blood of America's youth." (69) Notice that ONLY PAGE NUMBERS are necessary.
- Examine the author's sources. Is the bibliography impressive, fair, balanced? Are there footnotes/endnotes?
- Conduct research on the author's background and qualifications. Dr. Lee will make suggestions for this research.
- Search for TWO other reviews of your book. Quote from them and assess whether or not they agree with your analysis. When quoting from other

reviews, cite them like this: “This book vanishes into a haze of 1960s nostalgia” (American Historical Review, May 1995, 301).

- Would you recommend this book to your classmates? Why? Why not?
- Conclude with your name.

As you will notice, there is NO “works cited” page. This book review is a critique of non-fiction historical literature; it is NOT a research paper. Sprinkle quotations throughout your review and follow with analysis. Begin your review with the book’s citation and end with your name. Everything else can be re-arranged. Since you are the reviewer, be creative and original. You are the critic and have complete freedom to analyze the book in your own style. Read and re-read these instructions. They will be discussed in class. If you need book suggestions or assistance, contact Dr. Lee.