

History 100.02 The United States in the Age of Transatlantic Revolution
Spring 2012

Prof. Sarah J. Purcell

MWF 9:00 9:50 Mears 115

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 3 4 p.m. and by appointment (I strongly recommend appointments, as I have an irregular schedule because of the Rosenfield Program). I am here to help you learn this semester. Please come see me during office hours or make an appointment, so I can speak with you one on one. Call or e mail me anytime with questions or problems. I am available!

Course Outline and Objectives:

This course provides an introduction to issues of historical causation, argumentation, and evidence, through the lens of U.S. History in the age of the American, French, and Haitian Revolutions. We will consider how historians have formed and changed their interpretations over time as we also discover how and why historical change took place.

One of our main tasks in this class will be to learn to analyze U.S. history in a transnational context. How did the American, French, and Haitian revolutions influence one another? How did their social implications differ? What do we gain by viewing the United States in relationship to other countries, rather than in isolation? How does the narrative of U.S. history relate to British, French, and Caribbean history? How did these revolutions help to form the modern definition of human rights?

Students in this class will also learn to become better historians themselves (and, hopefully, to fall in love with the process of history). You will hone your

Alfred F. Young,

(1999)

*Articles for this class can be found on e reserve through the library catalogue.

Student Responsibilities and Evaluation:

This course will consist of a mixture of lecture, discussion, small group work, and other in class exercises. From time to time you will need to meet with a small group or to view a film outside of class. Students are expected to attend all classes having done the reading and ready to discuss it. Learning is a collaborative process, so speak up and share your ideas with your class mates! Engage with the sources, and share your ideas.

All assignments must be turned in on time and good order. Papers must be typed, double spaced, with normal fonts and margins. All citations must be in footnotes or endnotes in University of Chicago style.

Further information is available at <http://www.english.utoronto.ca/~yay/eng101/>

What is History?

Mon. (Jan. 23) Course Introduction

Wed. (Jan. 25) History: lies and truths

Wednesday Jan. 25 7:30 9:00 p.m. & Monday Jan. 30 4:15 5:45 p.m. "Midwife's Tale" showings

Film is also on reserve at Burling Media Room (in the basement)

Fri. (Jan. 27) Sources and Arguments

Mon. (Jan. 30) Is the Past a Foreign Country?

Wed. (Feb. 1) Visit Grinnell College Archives *meet in Burling Library basement

Fri. (Feb. 3) Discuss "Midwife's Tale"

Assignment Due: Film Review

Mon. (Feb. 6) Atlantic History and Transatlantic History

The American Revolution as a Transatlantic Crisis

Wed. (Feb. 8) Colonial Context

Fri. (Feb. 10) Imperial Crisis

Mon. (Feb. 13) Interpreting the Imperial Crisis

Assignment Due: Document Analysis paper

Wed. (Feb. 15) Revolutionary Ideology, Revolutionary Politics

Fri. (Feb. 17) Declarations of Independence

Mon. (Feb. 20) The Revolutionary War

Wed. (Feb. 22) Women and the American Revolution

Fri. (Feb. 24) What is an Annotated Bibliography?

Mon. (Feb. 27) Race and Power

Wed. (Feb. 29) Crisis of the 1780s

Fri. (Mar. 20) ~~Due 20 Feb 3 (w) 7(e)g/PAMCID10BDC/TT11Tf0.00143ed.~~

Wed. (Apr. 11) Debates over Citizenship and Rights

Fri. (Apr. 13) The United States and The French Revolution

Mon. (Apr. 16) Philadelphia Women

Wed. (Apr. 18) Philadelphia Women's Society