General Information

* Credit hours: 3
* CRN: 98765
* Instructor’s office: 432
* Office hours: by appointment
* Instructor email: dr.hjones@highlands.edu
* Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”: 12/31

Your instructor

* Has taught History for 35 years
* Spirit animal is the praying mantis
* He also rehabilitated & “hacked out” injured wildlife
* Has a PhD from University of Smartness
* And is married to his love of adventure

Course description

* History 2111 Online covers American History from its beginnings until the end of the U. S. Civil War in 1865.
* History 2111 Online will be run through D2L; students, therefore, will familiarize themselves with this classroom management system as assignments, announcements, grades and all other information will be posted there.
* This course will emphasize historical context and historical significance instead of merely going through an endless recitation of meaningless “facts” and dates and the deeds of dead white men—all of which are both irrelevant and sleep inducing.
* Historical context will allow you to place events in the broad scope of history; historical significance will give you the power to understand the consequences of events. Approaching historical events from these two perspectives will provoke critical thinking instead of pointless memorization.
* The most useful learning objective that students can gain from this course is the quality of empathy. Empathy allows one to get inside the skin of another, to think like the enemy, or sense the frustrations, motives, or desires of the “other.” Empathy is a good teaching tool because it forces students to think & calculate along with the despicable (slave raiders, oppressors, SS guards) so as to gain an even greater insight to their respective cruelty & actions. Sympathy for victims will come much easier than empathy for the perpetrators. That’s why empathy is stressed here.

Grades

* Grading for this course is based on a 1000-point system.
* A = 900 – 1000
* B = 800 – 899
* C = 700 – 799
* D = 600 – 699
* F = 599 and less

Expectations & Standards: Grades are based on student performance. Grades are earned & not given. To receive a higher grade, a student must demonstrate proficiency in the material. For different students, gaining that proficiency requires different levels of work, because not all students have the same aptitude for history. An “A” student will display superior performance in course work. A “B” student will display above average performance in course work. A “C” student will display average performance in course work. A “D” student will exhibit minimum requirements for the course. An “F” student will not meet the requirements of the course.

Grading system: Evaluation of each student will be based on an assessment of the following:

Map quizzes 200

Reflections 200

Quizzes 120

Midterm Exam 200

Discussions 80

Final Exam 200

Course Objectives: This course is intended to enhance student performance in four distinct areas:

1) *Critical thinking*. To think critically is to question accepted premises & to investigate the ostensible inevitability of historical events & trends.

2) Knowledge of historical arguments. The student should understand that Historical Knowledge is not merely familiarity with the past(s), but with the arguments that have been put forward about past events. *It is these arguments that students have access to, not the past itself*.

3) Geographical literacy. History is impossible to study without geographical knowledge.

4) Information literacy. Students should be able to integrate information from a variety of sources. All of these course goals will increase student confidence & enhance skills applicable to all college courses and, indeed, life itself.

Course outcomes: The student will be able to . . .

* Explain the causes & consequences of exploration & colonization including issues of trade, cultural diversity, & the origins of the American Revolution.
* Identify issues pertaining to government systems & the evolution of American freedom from the Articles of Confederation to the end of the Age of Jackson.
* Analyze economic development & cultural reform movements during the first half of the nineteenth century.
* Understand the relationship between events connected to Manifest Destiny & the causes of sectionalism & the Civil War.
* Identify decisive events of the Civil War & explain the regional & national consequences of Reconstruction.

Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability must self-identify & should make an appointment with the Access Center (678-872-8004) to coordinate reasonable accommodations.

Academic honesty: please note that plagiarism, or any other form of cheating, will result in a failing grade for the assignment & create a paper trail that will follow the student. If you have difficulty with an assignment, see the instructor for help. Policies on student conduct & academic integrity are found in the College’s “Student Rights & Responsibilities” document. This can be accessed at: <http://www.floyd.edu.subwebs/academicaffairs/academicintegritypolicy.htm>

This message applies only to students receiving financial aid: Federal regulations state that if a student did not attend classes & received failing grades, then the grades were not earned & financial aid needs to be reduced accordingly. Please be advised that any student receiving a 0.00 GPA will be required to prove that the 0.00 GPA was earned by attending classes or completing requirements for each class. Students who have earned at least one passing grade for the semester will not be affected by this regulation. If a student has properly withdrawn from all classes, the student’s financial aid should be adjusted from the time they signed the withdrawal form.

Extended Absence Policy: students who have circumstances that prevent them from continuing to attend classes over an extended period of time sometimes request that the faculty member permit them to submit work in absentia to receive credit to complete the course. If the concurrent absences will constitute more than 15 % of class sessions for the term, then written permission from the Division Dean is required before any course assignments can be completed while missing class. The student must be in good academic standing in the course to make the request. All approved coursework must be completed by the end of the semester in which the course was begun.