

WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE
BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
GENERAL COURSE OUTLINE

HST	111	The American Experience to 1877	(3-0)	3
Course Prefix	Course Number	Course Title	Lec-Lab	Credit Hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Survey of the American experience through the pre-revolutionary period, the expansion westward and the Civil War. Special stress is placed upon the social, economic, cultural, political, and constitutional development of the United States.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

- I. Introduction: America and the Expansion of Europe
- II. The Colonial South, the Colonial System, and New England Puritanism
- III. The Anglo-French Conflict, British Politics, and the American Revolution
- IV. The Growth of American Unity; the Revolution as a Social Movement, and Nationalism and the American Revolution
- V. The Confederation Period
- VI. The Motives of the Founding Fathers
- VII. The Federalist Period
- VIII. Thomas Jefferson: Ideas and Reality, Politics and Neutrality
- IX. The Causes of the War of 1812
- X. Nationalism and Sectionalism
- XI. The Jacksonian Era
- XII. American Society During the First Half of the 19th Century
- XIII. "Manifest Destiny"
- XIV. The South and the Expansive North
- XV. Civil War
- XVI. Reconstruction

METHOD OF PRESENTATION

1. Lecture
2. Discussion
3. Films
4. Overhead transparencies

(Discussions will include both primary and secondary materials. Pretest will be given to students to determine degree of accomplishment in the course.)

STUDENT OUTCOMES (The student should...)

1. comprehend the American experience through the pre-revolutionary period, the expansion westward, and the Civil War.
2. reason effectively and evaluate factual material in their true perspectives through the interpretative analysis of the American past.
3. be required to write a paper on a subject related to this course. His/her ability to research, organize, analyze, and write will be taken into account.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

1. Three exams and six to eight quizzes comprised of objective and essay questions
2. A research paper consisting of six to eight typewritten pages

TEXTBOOK

Brinkley, *America's History Vol 1*, 12th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Prepared by: Michael Harkins
Fall, 2008