History 315K (39165): The United States to 1865  
Fall 2012 — MW 3:30 — WCH 1.120  
H. W. Brands (GAR 3.306; hwbrands@austin.utexas.edu; M 5-6, W 2:30-3:30)

Teaching assistants: Matthew Bunn (SI), D. B. Briscoe, Dharitri Bhattacharjee, Creighton Chandler.

Summary: The course will cover all aspects of American history to the end of the Civil War. The basic themes of the course will be the emergence of an American identity, the evolution of American self-government and the expansion of American territory.


Tests: There will be 3 tests, each worth 15 points and consisting of identifications and short essays. Each test will cover one third of the course material. There will be no comprehensive final exam.

Papers: There will be 3 papers, each worth 15 points. The papers will be approximately 500 words long and will be based on the assigned documents for the course. (Particular prompts will be forthcoming.) Late papers will incur a penalty of 1 point per day.

Quizzes: There will be 12 pop quizzes, each worth 1 point. These will be based on the readings and lectures. There will be no make-ups on the pop quizzes.

Grading: A = 90 to 102. B = 80 to 89. C = 70 to 79. D = 60 to 69. F = 0 to 59. No plus/minus.

Supplemental Instruction: This class will include Supplemental Instruction discussion sections (SI). These optional sessions will help reinforce and clarify course content.

Academic accommodations: The University of Texas at Austin upon request provides appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Schedule
Aug 29  AS 1-2; Bartolomé de las Casas, The Devastation of the Indies (MHL)
Sep 5   AS 3; Olaudah Equiano, “The Middle Passage”
Sep 10-12 AS 4; "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" by Jonathan Edwards
Sep 17-19 AS 5; Benjamin Franklin, Testimony Against the Stamp Act
Sep 24-26 AS 6; James Madison, Federalist No. 10; Test 1 Sep 26
Oct 1-3  AS 7; George Washington, Farewell Address; Paper 1 Oct 3
Oct 8-10 AS 8; Thomas Jefferson to Meriwether Lewis
Oct 15-17 AS 9; Monroe Doctrine
Oct 22-24 AS 10; Davy Crockett, Advice to Politicians
Oct 29-31 AS 11; The Confessions of Nat Turner, Thomas R. Gray; Test 2 Oct 31
Nov 5-7  AS 12; Lucretia Mott, Declaration of Sentiments...; Paper 2 Nov 7
Nov 12-14 AS 13; William Barret Travis, Letter from the Alamo
Nov 19  AS 14; George Fitzhugh, Slavery Justified
Nov 26-28 AS 15; Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address
Dec 3-5  Paper 3 Dec 3; Test 3 Dec 5. Congratulations: You’re done!