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Teaching Assistant:
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Hours:
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Course Requirements:

I. Readings

All the readings required for this course will be available on the class’s Blackboard web-site (. I encourage you to print copies of the readings, to bring them to class to assist in our discussions, and to keep them as reference materials for exams.

II. Exams

There will be three exams in this course. Each will cover the preceding five weeks of the semester and will be worth one hundred points. The exams will consist of identifications and essays. Before each exam I will distribute a study guide containing a list of possible questions for the coming exam. At the start of the exam period we will roll a dice to randomly select several of those questions. You will then have to answer one of the selected questions.

III. Make-ups

On the Friday afternoon following each of the first two exams, I will offer a make-up for all students unable to take the exam at the scheduled time. No excuses are required, but you must inform me of your intention to take the make-up before the regular exam begins (i.e. before the die is cast). The make-up will be based on the same study guide as the regular exam, but students forfeit any choice of essays or ids. (That is, I will give you one question, and five ids and you will have to answer them all.) There will be no make-up given for the final exam.

IV. Grades

Final Grades will be determined along the following curve: A = 264 points or more, B = 234-263 points, C = 204-233 points, D = 174-203 points, and F = 202 points or less.

V. Students with Disabilities:

Upon receipt of a letter from the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, accommodations will be made to facilitate students’ participation in class and exams.
VI. Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is theft, not only from the instructor and the university but, more far importantly, from the majority of students who earn their grades honestly. Here are some possible academic crimes in this course and their punishments.

High Crimes:

1.) Bringing a pre-prepared essay or blue book to the exam and attempting to pass it off as one written during the exam period, penalty: F for the course.

2.) Copying or attempting to copy from another student, or using or attempting to use crib notes, notebooks, etc., during the exam period, penalty: F for that exam.

Misdemeanors:

3.) Answering the wrong essay (i.e., not one of those randomly selected at the start of the exam period), penalty: F for the essay part of that exam.

4.) Answering more than five of the i.d. terms listed on the exam, penalty: only the first five answers (counting from the front of the blue book or exam) will be scored, even if they are not the best answers.

VI. Classroom Etiquette:

No attendance will be taken and there will be no penalty for absences (except of course, that of not knowing the material for the exams). Therefore, if you choose to attend class, I expect you to observe the following rules of common courtesy. Please turn your cell-phone off; if you forget and your cell-phone rings in class, turn it off as quickly as possible, do not “answer” it. If you arrive in class after we have begun, enter as quietly as possible and sit as near the door as you can. You may bring a drink with you, but do not eat during lectures or discussions. Do not leave, or make preparations to leave (gather books, etc.) until I have dismissed the class; I promise that I will never keep the class past the bell. If you must leave before class is over, go as quietly as you can.
Course Schedule:

Part One: The Rise of the British-American Empire, 1750-1763

Tues., 15 Jan. - Introductions, Requirements, and Themes.


Thurs., 7 Feb. - Film: “Liberty!: The American Revolution,” Part One, (1997); study guide for the first exam will be made available.

Thurs., 14 Feb. – FIRST EXAM

Part Two: The Imperial Crisis, 1763-1770

Tues., 19 Feb. – Britain’s new Indian subjects: Daniel Richter, “Native Americans, the Plan of 1764, and a British Empire that Never Was,” in Olwell and Tully, eds., Cultures and Identities in Colonial British America, (2006), pp. 269-92; and “The Royal Proclamation of 1763.”

Thurs., 21 Feb. – FILM: “Light in the Forest” (1956)

Tues., 26 Feb. – Passing the Stamp Act; Read: Text of the Stamp Act; Eliga Gould, Persistence of Empire, pp. 106-147.


Thurs., 6 Mar. – Repealing the Stamp Act; Read: Benjamin Franklin, “Testimony to the British Parliament,” (1766).

SPRING BREAK – Week of 11-15 March

Tues., 19 Mar. – Townshend Duties and Non-Importation; Read: John Dickinson, “Letters from a Pennsylvania Framer” (extracts)


Thurs., 28 March - SECOND EXAM

Part III:


Tues., 30 Apr. - Hearing the “Shot heard ‘round the World;” Read: Olwell, “Domestic Enemies’: Slavery and Political Independence in South Carolina;” Dunmore’s Proclamation, Rhys Isaac, Landon Carter’s Uneasy Kingdom: Revolution and Rebellion on a Virginia Plantation, pp. 3-15. (Study Guides for the Final Exam will be Made Available.)

Thurs., 2 May - The Fall of the British-American Empire; Read: King George III, “Proclamation of Rebellion,” Jefferson’s Draft of the Declaration of Independence. (Course Evaluations).

FINAL EXAM - Monday, 13 May, 9-12 (place T.B.A.)