

# *America and the Atlantic World*

Teaching American History Fall 2007 (3 cr.)

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This seminar will focus on the interactions of Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans in the Atlantic World from the fifteenth through the eighteenth centuries. It will examine the ideologies of empire, the development of slavery, the influence of the Enlightenment thought and the ways in which republicanism influenced the Atlantic littoral, culminating in the revolutions of the eighteenth century.

## Objectives:

- ▶ To consider how Atlantic History has been conceived of and written throughout history.
- ▶ To identify and analyze major themes in Atlantic History
- ▶ To master the content of the course and increase subject knowledge of European, African and North American history
- ▶ To develop proficiency in locating and evaluating historical sources and historical scholarship through electronic databases, serials, and digital archives.
- ▶ To organize data in creative research projects and to incorporate this knowledge into effective lessons for classroom use
- ▶ To work effectively in a collaborative environment that fosters a community of learning
- ▶ To have fun!

**Format:** The course will be centered on discussions with short presentations.

## Grading:

Participation: 15%

Review (6-8 pages): 20% (Due Nov. 23 Digital Dropbox)

Project:

Historiographic Essay: 20% (8-10 pages) (Due Dec. 31 Dig Dropbox)

Annotated Bibliography: 15% 4 primary and 8 secondary sources (approx. 2 paragraphs per source) (Due Dec. 31 Dig. Dropbox)

Lesson Plans: 15% (Due Jan. 7 Dig. Dropbox)

Presentation/Teaching the class: 15% (Jan. 12, 14, 26 Snow Day Jan. 21)

## Materials:

Pagden, *Lords of all the World: Ideologies of Empire in Spain, Britain and France*

Daniels and Kennedy, eds., *Negotiated Empires: Centers and Peripheries in the Americas*

Kupperman, "North America and the Beginnings of European Colonization"

Greer, ed., *The Jesuit Relations: Natives and Missionaries in Seventeenth-Century North America*

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, ed. Richetti

Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England*

Rediker, *Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea*

Lepore, *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery, and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan*

Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World*

Carretta, *Equiano: The African*

Laurent Dubois and John D. Garrigus, eds., *Slave Revolution in the Caribbean*

Eve Kornfeld, *Creating an American Culture*



## Policies:

**Late Assignments:** Assignments are due on the dates in the syllabus. Every day an assignment is late will result in a reduction of a letter grade per day.

**Ethics Policy:** I adhere to the FSC Academic Dishonesty Policy. Any student caught plagiarizing writing assignments, including but not limited to a failure to cite sources, and cutting and pasting from the internet without attribution, will receive a failing grade for the course.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** Fitchburg State College encourages the full participation of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of campus living and learning. To support access and inclusion, FSC offers reasonable accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. If you require accommodations, please make an appointment with me and provide me with a copy of your Accommodation Agreement as soon as possible so we can discuss your specific needs. All information you share with me will be held in confidence unless you give me permission to do otherwise. If you do not have an Accommodation Agreement, please contact Disability Services as soon as possible. Disability Services is located in the Academic Support Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Hammond Building. You may also email at [www.fsc.edu/disability](http://www.fsc.edu/disability) or call 978-665-4020.

## October 22: Introduction: What is Atlantic History?

## October 29: Ideologies of Empire (5-8)

- Pagden, *Lords of All the World*, Introduction, Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-62  
Thornton, *Africa and Africans and the Making of the Atlantic World*, Intro, Chapter 1, pp. 1-42  
Thornton, "Cannibals, Witches and Slave Traders," *William and Mary Quarterly* 2003 Blackboard  
Alfred Crosby, "Reassessing 1492," *American Quarterly*, 41:4 (December 1989): 661-69  
James Axtell, "A North American Perspective for Colonial History," *The History Teacher*, XII (1979): 549-62.  
Nicolas Canny, "The British Atlantic World," *The Historical Journal*, 33:2 (1990): 479-97. (Review)  
Morgan, "Some Could Suckle over Their Shoulder: Male Travelers, Female Bodies, and the Gendering of Racial Ideology," E-Reserve

## November 5 Conquest (5-8)

- Pagden, *Lords of All the World*, Introduction, Chapter 3, 63-102  
Thornton, *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World*, pp. 43-125  
Neil Salisbury, "The Indians' Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans," *The William and Mary Quarterly*, LIII:3 (July 1996): 435-458.  
James Axtell, "Europeans, Indians, and the Age of Discovery in American History I Textbooks," *American Historical Review*, XCII (1987): 621-32.  
Johnson and Socolow, "Colonial Centers, Colonial Peripheries and the Economic Agency of the Spanish State," in Daniels and Kennedy, ed. *Negotiated Empires*  
TePaske, "Integral to Empire: The Vital Peripheries of Colonial Spanish America," in Daniels and Kennedy, ed. *Negotiated Empires*

## November 17 Narratives of the Maritime World (5-8)

- Marcus Rediker, *Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: Merchant Seaman, Pirates and the Anglo-American Maritime World, 1700-1750*  
Thornton, *African and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World*, 129-205  
Daniel DeFoe, *Robinson Crusoe*  
Equiano [http://history.hanover.edu/texts/equiano/equiano\\_contents.html](http://history.hanover.edu/texts/equiano/equiano_contents.html)

November 23 Review Essay in Rediker and DeFoe due, Blackboard Digital Dropbox, 8 pages

## December 3 Narratives of the Slave Trade: Equiano in Context (5 – 9)



- Pagden *Lords of All the World*, 103-155  
Thornton, *African and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World*, 304-334  
Carretta, *Equiano, The African*, all  
Blackburn, "Racial Slavery and the Rise of the Plantation," and "Colonial Slavery and the Eighteenth-Century Boom," in *The Making of New World Slavery*, pp. 307-400 E-Res  
Berlin, "From Creole to African," from Countryman, ed. *How Did American Slavery Begin*, Blackboard

## December 10 The Worlds of the North Atlantic (5 – 9)

- Greer, *The Jesuit Relations: Natives and Missionaries in Seventeenth-Century America*  
William Cronon, *Changes in the Land*  
New England/New France: Essays from the Dublin Seminar, 1991 Blackboard  
N. Davis, *Women on the Margins*, "Marie De L'Incarnation," 63-137 Blackboard

**December 15 The Worlds of the Middle Atlantic (Saturday 5-9)**

Jill Lepore, *New York Burning*

Klooster, "Other Netherlands Beyond the Sea," in Daniels and Kennedy, *Negotiated Empires*, 171-92

Peter Wood, *Black Majority*, Blackboard

Submitted Online Digital Dropbox: December 31 Bibliographic Essay and Annotated Bibliography Due

**January 7 Revolutions (Saturday 5-8:30)**

Kornfield, *Creating an American Culture, 1775-1800*

Dubois and Garrigus, *Slave Revolution in the Caribbean 1789-1804*

Greene, "Transatlantic Colonization and the Redefinition of Empire," and Onuf, "Empires of Liberty," in Daniels and Kennedy, eds. *Negotiated Empires*

Read at least two articles from Caribbean Slavery and British Capitalism, in *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Spring 1987, Blackboard

Lesson Plans due

**January 12** Presentations (5:8:30)

**January 14** Presentations (5-8)

**January 26** Presentations (Saturday) 5:00 – 9:00