

Spring 1987

American Civilization to 1865 Syllabus

Steven Alan Samson

Liberty University, ssamson@liberty.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/gov_fac_ped

Recommended Citation

Samson, Steven Alan, "American Civilization to 1865 Syllabus" (1987). *Pedagogical Resources*. 23.
https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/gov_fac_ped/23

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Helms School of Government at Scholars Crossing. It has been accepted for inclusion in Pedagogical Resources by an authorized administrator of Scholars Crossing. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu.

AMERICAN CIVILIZATION TO 1865

History 101

Autumn 1986

Dr. Samson, CM207

Description

This course surveys the intellectual, political, economic, social, aesthetic, legal, ecclesiastical, and international political patterns of American civilization from the expansion of Europe through the American Civil War. The course objectives are as follows:

1. To provide the student with frameworks for understanding and evaluating the people, circumstances, institutions, and ideas that have helped shape American history and culture.
2. To examine areas of historical continuity and change in relation to contemporary issues.
3. To develop skills in historical research and analysis.
4. To encourage students to affirm and apply Christian precepts by developing a consciously Biblical understanding of history as the revelation of God's eternal purpose.

Requirements

1. Each student is responsible for all assigned readings in the textbooks as well as the supplementary materials. Study Questions for the textbooks are on reserve. Students should keep handouts, lecture notes, and related material in a looseleaf notebook.
2. Students will be tested on their knowledge of material covered in the reading assignments and classroom lectures through four regularly scheduled exams. The final grade is determined by averaging the four exam grades--or three exam grades and the optional genealogy--while factoring in extra credit points, absences, and tardies.
3. Each student has the option of substituting a 3-4 page genealogical essay or a 4-5 page book report for one exam. It will be graded on pass-fail basis. It must be well written, topically organized, neatly typed, and double spaced. It is due before Thanksgiving Break. The genealogical essay should include a "family tree" chart.
4. Regular attendance and participation in class discussions are expected. Attendance will be taken promptly at 8:00 AM. Students will be docked ten points for each absence and five points for tardiness. Each student begins with twenty extra points.
5. Extra credit may be earned either by attending lectures by guest speakers--as announced in class--or by listening to special taped lectures held on reserve in the AV Room at the Library. Each lecture is worth five points. A maximum of ten points extra credit may be earned.
6. Grading: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, below 60 = F.

Reading

Recommended Purchases:

Bailey, Thomas A. and David M. Kennedy, The American Pageant, 7th ed. [B]

Draper, James T. and Forrest E. Watson, If the Foundations Be Destroyed [D]

Taylor, Kenneth N. Is Christianity Credible? [T]

Reserve Desk:

Study Questions (Bailey, Draper)

Supplementary Readings [S]: 1) Sommers: Ethics Without Virtue;

2) Magna Carta; 3) Fundamental Orders of Connecticut; 4)

Franklin on Whitefield; 5) Titus: America's Declaration of

Independence; 6) Federalist 10 and 51; 7) Washington: Farewell

Address; 8) Not Yours to Give; 9) Holmes: The Deacon's

Masterpiece and The Chambered Nautilus

Book Reports (Reserve Desk)

Blumenfeld, Samuel L. Is Public Education Necessary?

Foster, Marshall and Mary-Elaine Swanson. The American Covenant

Rushdoony, Rousas John. The Nature of the American System

. This Independent Republic

Schedule

9/5	T; S. 1; D. Preface	9/8	B. 1	9/10	D. 1
9/12	B. 2	9/15	D. 2	9/17	D. 3
9/19	S. 2-3	9/22	D. 4	9/24	B. 3
9/26	B. 4; S. 4	9/30	B. 5	10/1	D. 5; Exam
10/3	B. 6	10/6	S. 5; Declaration	10/8	B. 7
10/10	S. 6; Constitution	10/13	B. 8	10/15	B. 9; S. 7
10/17	B. 10	10/20	B. 11	10/22	B. 12; Exam
10/24	D. 6	10/27	B. 13	10/29	B. 14
10/31	B. 15	11/3	B. 16	11/5	B. 17
11/7	B. 18	11/10	B. 19	11/12	B. 20; Exam
11/14	B. 21	11/17	S. 8- 12 ⁹	11/19	B. 22
11/21	B. 23	11/24	B. 24	11/26	D. 7
11/28	Thanksgiving	12/1	D. 8	12/3	D. 9
12/5	D. 10	12/8	Wrap-Up; Exam (12-11)		