

The Early Republic

There will be two lectures a week and a section meeting on most weeks of the term. All readings are on reserve in the Library; those marked with an * are also available in the bookstore. Two short papers, an hour test, and the final exam are required. Those who wish may substitute for the second short paper a research paper (c. 15-20 pp.) for which they will receive additional appropriate credit. The topic of the research paper must be worked out in consultation with Prof. Wood or a teaching assistant. The research paper will be due on May 5 at the History Department, 142 Angell St., by 4:00 p.m.

The teaching assistants are Erik Anderson and Stephen Downey.

The following books are detailed discussions of public events in the period and might be consulted and used as reference works throughout the term. They are on reserve in the Library.

Stanley Elkins and Eric McKittrick, The Age of

Federalism: The Early American Republic, 1788-1800

John C. Miller, The Federalist Era, 1789-1801.

James Roger Sharp, American Politics in the Early Republic.

Marshall Smelser, The Democratic Republic, 1801-1815.

George Dangerfield, The Awakening of American Nationalism, 1815-1828.

Jeffrey L. Pasley et al., eds., Beyond the Founders: New

Approaches to the Political History of the Early Republic.

1. Week of Jan. 30--The American Enlightenment

*Merrill Peterson, ed., The Portable Thomas Jefferson, pp. 216-17, 390-92, 418-21, 423-28, 453-54, 515-16, 540-44.

Alan Gowans, Images of American Living, pp. 243-65.

Gordon S. Wood, ed., The Rising Glory of America, 1760-1820, pp. 1-71, 121-74, 217-262, 279-338.

2. Week of Feb. 6--Political Parties

*Richard Hofstadter, The Idea of a Party System, chs. 1-5.

*Peterson, ed., Portable Jefferson, pp. 261-80, 455-64, 466-77.

Wood, ed., Rising Glory, pp. 203-14

Joanne Freeman, "Duelling as Politics: Reinterpreting the Burr-Hamilton Duel," William and Mary Quarterly, 53 (1996), 289-318.

3. Week of Feb. 13--The Jeffersonian Revolution

*Drew McCoy, The Elusive Republic: Political Economy in Jeffersonian America.

James S. Young, The Washington Community, ch. 1.

*Peterson, ed., Portable Jefferson, pp. 290-95, 300-02, 316-27, 383-86, 497-99, 547-50.

4. Feb. 23--FIRST SHORT PAPER DUE (5-6 pp.; no section meeting).
5. Week of Feb. 27--The Empire of Liberty
 - *James Fenimore Cooper, The Pioneers.
 - *Peterson, ed., Portable Jefferson, pp. 73-111, 308-15, 485-88, 494-97, 517-19, 583-85.
6. Week of March 6--African-Americans and Slavery
 - *Winthrop Jordan, White Over Black, chs. 12-16.
 - *Wood, ed., Rising Glory, pp. 350-69.
 - *Peterson, ed., Portable Jefferson, pp. 185-99, 214-15, 386-88, 454-55, 517, 544-47, 567-69.
7. Week of March 13--Republican Women
 - *Laura Thatcher Ulrich, Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard. Wood, ed., Rising Glory, pp. 90-117, 175-202, 321-338.
8. March 23--HOUR TEST (No section meeting).
9. Week of March 27--Spring Break
10. Week of April 3--The Origins of American Capitalism
 - *The Key of Liberty, ed. Michael Merrill and Sean Wilentz, pp. 3-86, 117-170.
 - Gordon S. Wood, "The Enemy is Us: Democratic Capitalism in the Early Republic," in Paul A. Gilje, ed., Wages of Independence, pp. 137-53. (Also as handout)
11. Week of Apr. 10--Evangelical America
 - * Nathan O. Hatch, The Democratization of American Christianity. Wood, ed., Rising Glory, pp. 42-53, 80-89.
12. Apr. 20--SECOND SHORT PAPER DUE (5-6 pp.; no section meeting)
13. Week of April 24----American Democracy
 - *Hofstadter, Party System, ch. 6.
 - *Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, ed. J.P. Mayer, pp. 50-60, 196-201, 245-61, 503-17, 525-28, 530-38, 550-58, 614-16, 627-32, 702-05.
 - Lynn Marshall, "The Strange Still Birth of the Whig Party," American Historical Review, LXXXII (1967-68), pp. 445-68.
 - Wood, ed., Rising Glory, pp. 269-75, 341-49, 370-400.
14. May 5--OPTIONAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE (15-20 pp.)
15. May 12: 9 a.m.--FINAL EXAM

