

**Early United States  
History 1301  
Honors – Major Problems in U.S. History**

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Office Hours: M, T, R, F 1 – 3pm. Or by appointment. Please email me 24 hours in advance for a virtual or in-person meeting outside of the times stated above.

**Required Texts:**

Cobbs, Elizabeth, et al. *Major Problems in American History. Vol. 1. To 1877.* Fourth Edition.

Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2017.

(I can loan you a copy of this book. See me in my office hours.)

**Important Dates and Deadlines**

1 <sup>st</sup> Discussion	End of Week 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Discussion	End of Week 7
Choose your topic	End of Week 8
3 <sup>rd</sup> Discussion	End of Week 9
4 <sup>th</sup> Discussion	End of Week 11
First Draft of the Historiography	End of Week 13
Formal Presentation of Research	Finals Week

**Grading of Course work:**

For the purposes of the Honors section, the student will complete the course work assigned through their seated section and will meet with the instructor periodically to fulfil the Honors portion.

**Discussions outside of class:**

Students meet 4 times during the semester to discuss their readings in *Major Problems*. Some topics to consider: What is each historian's thesis? Which historians' arguments are most convincing? Be sure to use examples from their essays in order to make your points. What conclusion can you draw from their viewpoints on the topic?

**Historiography:** Students will write a 7 – 10-page historiographical essay on one of the topics covered in *Major Problems* or a topic of the student's choice. Students will choose their topics by the end of week 8. The rough draft of the essay is due at the end of week 13. The final draft of the historiographical essay is due in class by the end of week 15.

**Final Presentation**

Each student will present the findings of their historiographic essay in class during finals week. The presentation should be 5 – 7 minutes. Students are encouraged to use the media platform of their choice (PowerPoint, Prezi, Google Slides, Pecha Kucha, etc).