

University of Missouri-Columbia

History 8004

Fall 2008

T Th 3:30-5:50PM

Ellis 4B12

Prof. Jeff Pasley

Office: 214A Read Hall

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Graduate Readings in U. S. Political History



Textbooks

Dubois, Laurent

Holton, Woody

Howe, Daniel Walker

Hutchinson, John, and Anthony Smith,
eds.

Kramer, Paul

Loughran, Trish

McConville, Brendan

Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution

Unruly Americans and the Origins of the Constitution

What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815-1848

Nationalism (Oxford Readers)

*The Blood of Government: Race, Empire, the United States, and the
Philippines*

*The Republic in Print: Print Culture in the Age of U.S. Nation Building, 1770-
1870*

The King's Three Faces: The Rise and Fall of Royal America, 1688-1776

May, Robert E.	<i>The Southern Dream of a Caribbean Empire</i>
Novak, William J.	<i>The People's Welfare : Law and Regulation in Nineteenth-Century America</i>
Pierson, Michael	<i>Free Hearts and Free Homes: Gender and American Antislavery Politics</i>
Taylor, Alan	<i>William Cooper's Town: Power and Persuasion on the Frontier of the Early American Republic</i>
Warner, Michael	<i>The Letters of the Republic: Publication and the Public Sphere in Eighteenth-Century America</i>
Zagarri, Rosemarie	<i>Revolutionary Backlash: Women and Politics in the Early American Republic</i>

These and several other books we are using have been placed on reserve at the Ellis Library circulation desk. The articles listed below are either available through the “Electronic Journals” link on the MU library web site or I will supply electronic copies. Please let me know if you have any difficulties finding any of the readings. While I am not formally assigning it to the class, students new to the Early Republic or MU may find the following volume helpful as background: Jeffrey L. Pasley, Andrew W. Robertson, and David Waldstreicher, eds., *Beyond the Founders: New Approaches to the Political History of the Early American Republic* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004).

Course Overview

The main purpose of this course is to survey and analyze the astonishing diversity and sophistication that has come to characterize the study of American political history at the turn of the 21st century. Though no longer the discipline's defining field — history has been much more than "past politics" for the decades — political history is alive and well, though sometimes in surprising guises and under different auspices than those of political history or even the historical profession. Moving chronologically through American history from the colonial period to the early 20th century, we will sample a number of innovative, currently popular, and emerging approaches to political history, hammering out through discussions what the state of the field is and what we as a class believe it should be.

Requirements

Our primary method will be reading and discussion. Each student should come to class prepared to discuss that week's reading in detail, armed with questions of their own to raise with the rest of the class. As long this seems to work, we will eschew the weekly papers that are typical in this sort of class. If student preparation and participation become a problem, I reserve the right to start assigning weekly papers and count them in the participation grade.

The major writing assignment will a 15-20 historiographic essay on a political topic connected to each student's research interests. I will work with each student to formulate an appropriate topic. Much more than an annotated bibliography, an historiographic essay should be a critical history of the historical writing on a particular topic. Just as with any other historical essay you might write, your historiographic essay should have a clearly defined topic, a narrative, and an

argument. Rather than stringing several book reviews or book reports together, you will need to digest and reprocess the historical works you have read into an essay of your own, organized according to the themes you want to highlight and the argument you want to make. We will be reading several good historiographic essays you can use as models, and there is also a good discussion of this type of writing, with additional examples, at <http://www.cgu.edu/pages/840.asp>.

Final Grades

Historiographic Essay	30%
Discussion Participation	70%

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY will not be tolerated in this course. Any student who cheats on a test or submits written work that is not his or her own (“plagiarism”) will fail the course and be reported to the appropriate university authorities. All students are, and should consider themselves, bound by the university regulations on Academic Discipline and Student Conduct that can be found in the “M-Book” at <http://web.missouri.edu/~mbookwww/>. Students should also be aware that plagiarism and cheating can take more subtle forms than simply copying another student’s paper or a published work verbatim. Paraphrasing, rewriting, or borrowing ideas without giving credit are also considered academic dishonesty. It goes without saying that papers downloaded, purchased, or commissioned over the Internet or through any other means are strictly forbidden. Students should be aware that plagiarism is usually very easy to catch. Most college students just do not write as well or in as sophisticated a manner as the professional published authors whose works are typically plagiarized. The grades for any suspicious work will be withheld until a full investigation can be conducted, even if it takes until after the semester is over.

Notice for Students with Disabilities or Serious Medical Problems

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. See me after class, or at my office, 214A Read Hall, during office hours, listed above, or send me an email at PasleyJ@missouri.edu. To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker), students must also register with Disability Services, AO38 Brady Commons, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements.

Website

I am not setting up a website specifically for this course, but the syllabus will be online at my homepage, <http://jeff.pasleybrothers.com>, where you can also find easy access to many important research resources and much general edification. Here is a link to [all the history-related electronic resources](#) the MU libraries offer. You may also find some useful perspectives on the material covered by this course at my blog on history and politics, "Publick Occurrences 2.0," at <http://www.common-place.dreamhost.com/pasley/> or <http://jeffpasley.com> .

SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Aug. 26	Introductions	
Sept 2	Monarchy in America	McConville, <i>The King's Three Faces</i>
Sept 9	Popular Constitutionalism	Holton, <i>Unruly Americans</i> Christian G. Fritz, "Fallacies of American Constitutionalism," <i>Rutgers Law Journal</i> 35 (2004): 1327-1369; OR Christian G. Fritz, "Recovering the Lost Worlds of America's Written Constitutions.," <i>Albany Law Review</i> 68 (2005): 261-293
Sept 16	Print Culture and the Early Republic	Warner, <i>Letters of the Republic</i> Michael Warner, "The Mass Public and the Mass Subject," in Craig Calhoun, ed., <i>Habermas and the Public Sphere</i> (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1992), 377-401 (reserve) RECOMMENDED: Pasley, <i>Tyranny of Printers</i> , chaps. 1, 2, 8
Sept 23	Political History in Its Wider Setting: Society and Culture	Alan Taylor, <i>William Cooper's Town: Power and Persuasion on the Frontier of the Early American Republic</i> , chaps. 1-13 Doron Ben-Atar and Barbara B. Oberg, eds., <i>Federalists Reconsidered</i> , chap. 11 (reserve)
Sept 30	The Haitian Revolution as American History	Dubois, <i>Avengers of the New World</i> Ben-Atar and Oberg, eds., <i>Federalists Reconsidered</i> , chap. 7 (reserve) RECOMMENDED: David P. Geggus, ed., <i>The Impact of the Haitian Revolution in the Atlantic World</i> ,

		chaps. 1-3, 7, 8-10, 12-14 (reserve)
Oct 7	Gender and Politics in the Early Republic	Zagarri, <i>Revolutionary Backlash</i> Susan Branson, <i>These Fiery Frenchified Dames: Women and Political Culture in Early National Philadelphia</i> , chaps. 2 & 3 (reserve) Paula Baker, "The Domestication of American Politics: Women and American Political Society, 1780-1920," <i>American Historical Review</i> 89 (1984): 620-647 RECOMMENDED: Allgor, <i>Parlor Politics</i>
Oct 14	NO CLASS	RECOMMENDED: Charles Sellers, <i>The Market Revolution</i> ; OR Harry Watson, <i>Liberty and Power</i> ; OR Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., <i>The Age of Jackson</i>
week of Oct 21	Whig History	Howe, <i>What Hath God Wrought?</i>
Oct 28	The United States and the Nationalism Debate	Hutchinson and Smith, eds., <i>Nationalism</i> (chapters suggested later)
Nov 4	Print Culture and the Early Republic: The Backlash	Loughran, <i>Republic in Print</i> RECOMMENDED (reserve): John L. Brooke, <i>To Be 'Read by the Whole People': Press, Party, and Public Sphere in the United States, 1789-1840</i> (Worcester: American Antiquarian Society, 2002); Jeffrey L. Pasley, "1800 as a Revolution in Political Culture: Newspapers, Celebrations, Democratization, and Voting in the Early Republic," in James Horn, Jan Ellen Lewis, and Peter S. Onuf, eds., <i>The Revolution of 1800: Democracy, Race, and the New Republic</i> , 121-52
Nov 11	Slavery and American Political Culture	Pierson, <i>Free Hearts & Free Minds</i> RECOMMENDED: Matthew Mason, <i>Slavery and Politics in the Early American Republic</i> (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006) Linda K. Kerber, <i>Federalists in Dissent: Imagery and Ideology in Jeffersonian America</i> (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1970), chap. 2 (reserve)
Nov 18	The American State and American Political History	William J. Novak, <i>The People's Welfare : Law and Regulation in Nineteenth-Century America</i> (Chapel Hill: University of

		<p>North Carolina Press, 1996)</p> <p>Richard R. John, "Governmental Institutions As Agents of Change: Rethinking American Political Development in the Early Republic, 1787-1835," <i>Studies in American Political Development</i> 11 (1997): 347-380</p> <p>Jeffrey L. Pasley, "Midget on Horseback: American Indian History and the Historiography of the American State" (email)</p>
Dec 2	Americans as Imperialists	<p>May, <i>Southern Dream of Caribbean Empire</i></p> <p>Amy S. Greenberg, "A Gray-Eyed Man: Character, Appearance, and Filibustering.," <i>Journal of the Early Republic</i> 20 (2000): 673-699</p> <p>Amy S. Greenberg, "Pirates, Patriots, and Public Meetings: Antebellum Expansionism and Urban Culture," <i>Journal of Urban History</i> 31 (2005): 634-650</p>
Dec 9	The American State as Empire	Kramer, <i>Blood of Government</i>
Dec. 16	HISTORIOGRAPHIC ESSAYS DUE – in Prof. Pasley’s Read Hall mailbox by 5pm	