

Linfield College
HST 266 Women in U.S. History
Winter Term 2008
On-Line Course

Winter Term 1/2/08---2/6/08

Instructor: John C. Ritter

503-779-5221

Email: jritter@wvi.com

Course Description: This course will cover the wide range of involvement women had in shaping, developing and making history in the United States. We will begin with the colonial era and end with up to date modern occurrences. This is an "intensive" course, one that only meets five weeks. We will have a great deal of material to cover in five weeks. Yes that's correct five weeks. I want you to enjoy this class, learn from it and have fun. Every time you read I want you to be able to say, "I didn't know that!" But remember what I said, this is an intensive class, once In which you will have to be extremely well organized, to a degree mirroring perfection. You will need to be well organized, follow the Learning Modules and the reading schedule. There will be no essays, or exams, that's right none. I want you to experience learning history, by reading the material, ingesting it, thinking about it, ruminating on it, and then discussing it in two distinct forums.

This course will be a good time for you to experience what will undoubtedly be the education of the future. As the great Sherlock Holmes said," The future is now , Watson!" You have my pledge that I will make every attempt to make myself available to you and to make this course as worthwhile and enjoyable as I can. But as the saying goes," It takes two too tango", you will have to do your part, do the reading, keep in contact with me, and complete the weekly assignments via the Discussions and Chats.

Prerequisites: None

Text: "Through Women's Eyes", Dubois and Dumenil

Course Objectives: By the end of the course students will:

A-have a basic understanding of the role of women In American history.

B-have an insight into the history and culture of the regions indigenous people and

the role their women have played in the development of our country.

C- learns how American women helped shape and develop our country.

D-learn about and appreciate specific females and the part they played in history.

E-realize how women have shaped and built public policy and intergovernmental procedures at both the local and national level.

Course Outline:

Reading Assignments,

Students will be required to read two chapters of the texts per week that is approximately 100 pages per week.

Course Begins: Jan.2nd, 8am

Course Ends: Feb.6th.5pm

Assessment:

Course grades will be determined by the following:

Active participation -----70%

Teacher Evaluation-----30%

Meeting all requirements on time, communicating with the teacher and helping each other in a collegial manner evidence active participation.

The student will do the final grade evaluation.

The text has ten chapters, the course is five weeks long, and each week we will cover two chapters of the text. This is a very well written book, sometimes a little long in explanation, but never the less well written and readable. I don't want you to read to memorize, ---remember no exams—no essays---. I want you to read for learning sake, for illumination of the role of women in history and to enjoy reading history.

Reading the material is the major component of this class. The text is very well organized; take some time to familiarize yourself with it. The beginning of each chapter includes a timeline, this is a great tool, and puts into perspective what is discussed in the chapter. Also in each chapter are special “insets”, of special people. The first inset is on page ten and talks about Mary Jennison and her captivity among the Seneca, one of the Five Civilized Tribes. The “conclusion”, at the end of each chapter discussed the

major points of the chapter, and summarizes what you need to know. You should definitely read and review this before each discussion or chat.

The section titles "visual sources" is a new idea in history texts, and it not only has some fine photos, but a good explanation that discusses each photo. Look at these sections closely; get a 'feel', for the time and the people you are reading about. At the end of the visual sources, are "Questions for Analysis". We will use these as a basis for our discussions. Oh an important point, a very important point, please keep the discussions and chats pertinent to class material, not how are other classes going, or what are you doing this weekend. ---Use emails for that, or the chat board, before or after our designated "class times". We don't have a lot of time to complete this course—five weeks, and I need the time of the chats and discussions to evaluate YOU, on your understanding of the material, not on personal items, enough said, thanks for understanding.

The last section of the chapter is the "documents" section. This is where 'the rubber meets the road', where primary documents are reprinted for you, so you don't have to go look them up. This is a section where the student with a little more time will want to review, the student with less time, can skip this section. I do not want to "drown" you with too much material to read...so use your discretion, on how you want to handle this section.

Be sure to get your "chat" section of the webct software working. You have to have a correct version of Java working to enable it. Call Brett at the DCE office if you have problems. Do not wait until class begins to try to get into the "chat" section. Do it several days or even a week before the class begins...this is very important!

Class requirements:

- 1-Reading requirement, approx. 20 pages per day.
- 2-Chats-participate 3x per week, Mon-Wed-Sat, all three are preferable, two are acceptable-----making substantive submissions
- 3-Discussion-participate 3x per week----Anytime, with page number references-----
- 4-Grade evaluation- last week of class....

If you cannot meet all the chats/discussions due to work, don't get frantic—

talk to me-----

This will either be a very manageable class for you or chaos—make it manageable.....

Problems==see me, call or email