

HISTORY 535/615/635—AGE OF ATLANTIC REVOLUTIONS

Fall 2016

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Office hours: Mondays, 11:00-noon,

Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. &
by appointment

Required Books (available at GMU Bookstore or through Amazon.com):

David Armitage, *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History*

James Lewis, *The American Union and the Problem of Neighborhood: The United States and the Collapse of the Spanish Empire, 1783-1829*

Janet Polasky, *Revolutions without Borders: The Call to Liberty in the Atlantic World*

Elijah Gould, *The Persistence of Empire: British Political Culture in the Age of the American Revolution*

Wim Klooster, *Revolutions in the Atlantic World*

Philip Ziesche, *Cosmopolitan Patriots Americans in Paris in the Age of Revolution*

Maya Jasanoff, *Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World*

Vincent Brown, *The Reaper's Garden: Death and Power in the World of Atlantic Slavery*

Sopia Rosenfeld, *Common Sense A Political History*

Kariann Yokota, *Unbecoming British: How Revolutionary America Became a Postcolonial Nation*

Ashli White, *Encountering Revolution: Haiti and the Making of the Early Republic*

Date **Topic/Readings**

Aug. 31

Introduction

Reading: Alison Games, "Atlantic History: Definitions, Challenges, and Opportunities," *American Historical Review* 111 (June 2006), 741-757; Eliga H. Gould, "Entangled Atlantic Histories: A Response from the Anglo-American Periphery," *American Historical Review* 112, no. 5 (Dec. 2007), 1415-1422 (both available online through JSTOR; and Jack P. Greene, "Hemispheric History and Atlantic History" (handout)

Sept. 7

Comparative Revolutions

Reading: Wim Klooster, *Revolutions in the Atlantic World*; R. R. Palmer, "Reflections on the French Revolution," *Political Science Quarterly* 67 (March 1952), 64-80 (JSTOR)

Sept. 14

The Imperial Perspective

Reading: Eliga Gould, *The Persistence of Empire: British Political Culture in the Age of the American Revolution*

- Sept. 21** **Revolutionary Texts and the Circulation of Ideas**
 Reading: David Armitage, *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History*; Gary Kates, "From Liberalism to Radicalism: Tom Paine's *Rights of Man*," *Journal of the History of Ideas* 50 (Oct.-Dec. 1989), 569-587 (JSTOR); Declaration of Independence (1776) and Declaration of Rights of Man (1789) (both available from <http://avalon.law.yale.edu>, under heading, "18th century Documents"); Olympe de Gouges, Declaration of the Rights of Woman (1791) (google "chnm" AND "Gouges" AND "French Revolution")
- Sept. 28** **The Transatlantic Enlightenment and Revolution**
 Reading: Sophia Rosenfeld, *Common Sense: A Political History*; Daniel J. Hulseboch, "The Revolutionary Portfolio: Constitution-Making and the Wider World in the American Revolution," *Suffolk University Law Review*, Vol. 47 (Dec. 2014): 759-822 (available by googling "Hulseboch" AND "Suffolk Law Review")
- Oct. 5** **War, Empire, and the American Revolution**
 Reading: TO BE ANNOUNCED--Special guest: Prof. Larrie D. Ferreiro, author of *Brothers at Arms: American Independence and the Men of France and Spain Who Saved It*
- Oct. 12** **Slavery and Women in the Age of Revolutions**
 Reading: Vincent Brown, *The Reaper's Garden*; Alfred Young, "The Women of Boston: 'Persons of 'Consequence' in the Making of the American Revolution, 1765-6," and Darline Levy and Harriet Applewhite, "Women, Radicalization, and the Fall of the French Monarchy" (handouts); Rosemarie Zagari, "Rights of Man and Woman in Post-Revolutionary America," *William & Mary Quarterly* 55, no. 2 (April 1998), 203-230 (JSTOR)
- Oct. 19** **Exporting Revolution**
 Reading: Philip Ziesche, *Cosmopolitan Patriots*
- Oct. 26** **Reverberations of Haiti**
 Reading: Ashli White, *Encountering Revolution*
- Nov. 2** **Revolutionary Diasporas**
 Reading: Maya Jasanoff, *Liberty's Exiles*
- Nov. 9** **A Revolution in Sentiment**
 Reading: Kariann Yokota, *Unbecoming British*
- Nov. 16** **Latin American Impulses**
 Reading: James E. Lewis, *The American Union and the Problem of Neighborhood*
- Nov. 23** **Thanksgiving Break**

Dec. 7

The Contagion of Revolutionary Radicalism

Reading: Janet Polasky, *Revolutions Without Borders*

FINAL ESSAY (10-12 pages) due on Thursday, **Dec. 15 by noon.**

Grading:

Class discussion:	20%
Two analytical book reviews	35%
Final essay:	45%

Analytical book reviews are to be 5-6 pages long and are due at class time on the day we discuss the book. Choose two books from this list:

Armitage

Lewis

Gould

Ziesche

Jasanoff

Brown

Rosenfeld

Yokota

White

(in other words, you can't write on either Polasky or Klooster)

For the reviews, please summarize the book's major argument (or thesis) and point out its major strength(s) and weakness(es). In addition, be sure to discuss the work's scholarly contribution to the field of Atlantic history, using ideas or concepts from one or more of the articles we read on Aug. 31. Please do NOT read book reviews in scholarly journals to help you in writing your review; do your own analysis.

Academic Honesty/Honor Code: All students are expected to submit their own work and abide by the university's Honor Code. Violators will be subject to disciplinary sanctions. If you have any questions or concerns about what constitutes plagiarism, please see me. For more information, see the the Office of Academic Integrity website at <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/>.

Special Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact Disability Services at 993-2474, <http://ods.gmu.edu>. All academic accommodations must be arranged through Disability Services.