

Fall 2022 DE Early U.S. History @ Cosby High School

**Instructor**

**Email**

**Office Location & Hours**

**A. Hillery Griffin**

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3:15-3:45, CHS RM 111,  
Daily

## General Information

### Required Text: Alan Brinkley, Unfinished Nation

### Instructional and Evaluation Methods:

- Exams and quizzes – 50%
  - See testing procedures
- Essays and Assignments – 20%
  - All essays must be submitted via DropBox on eLearn. They will be rated by TurnItIn which checks for plagiarism. A TurnItIn rating greater than 50% will not be graded and the student will either accept a zero grade or resubmit the assignment.
  - Each student may choose to resubmit up to 3 essays to improve his/her grade.
- Participation and Discussion Board – 15%
  - Students will have a weekly discussion board, especially if the school/college is not meeting in-person.
  - Participation will involve in-class activities and cannot be made up if absent.
- National History Day – 15%
  - Students will complete an in-depth research project related to the theme “Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideas.”

## Testing Procedures:

- In person tests will be a few multiple choice and several identification items where you will write a paragraph about a person, event, or topic. Potential IDs will be listed at the end of each class. You will have the option to correct items to improve your grade if you take the test on the assigned day. If you miss a test, you have until the next scheduled test to make it up, but will not be allowed to do test corrections.
- If the college/school is not meeting in-person, tests will be multiple choice on eLearn. They will be timed. There will be no correction options.

## Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

## Assignments/Projects:

**ESSAY 1 (Due Aug 29)** Compare the efforts of the Spanish, French, and British to explore and colonize the New World. What motivated each group? Where did they explore and settle? How did they interact with the native population? What types of settlements did they establish? (24 Points)

**ESSAY 2 (Due Sept 12) Choose one** - Discuss the factors that led to the American Revolution. What did the English do to anger the colonists? How did the colonists respond? How did the colonists' reactions lead to greater tension? **OR** Describe the three major phases of the Revolutionary War. Who were the leaders involved in each phase on each side? What were the major events of each phase? How did Americans win the war? (24 points)

**ESSAY 3 (Due Sept 19)** Explain the problems that led to the drafting of a new Constitution. What occurred during the writing of the Constitution? Who was involved? What were the issues that emerged during the ratification process? (24 points)

**ESSAY 4 (Due Oct 10)** Describe the causes, course, and consequences of the War of 1812. What events led to the war? What were some of the major battles of the war (don't just list the battles, why were they important)? How did the war end? What problems were revealed by the war? What actions did the government take to resolve those problems during and after the war? (24 points)

**ESSAY 5 (Due Oct 17)** Discuss the history of the Bank of the US. Why was the First Bank chartered? What were some of the concerns about the First Bank? Why was the Second Bank chartered? What were the arguments of those who opposed the Second Bank? What actions did Andrew Jackson take against the Second Bank? What actions did Nicholas Biddle take in his attempts to protect the bank? What happened to the economy because of Jackson's actions? (28 points)

**ESSAY 6 (Due Nov 7)** How did the expansion of territory contribute to the sectional divisions in the United States? Give specific examples and explain how each problem was handled. (24 points)

**ESSAY 7 (Due Nov 28) Choose one** - The movie "Lincoln" focuses on the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment and the "deals" that have to be made in an effort to pass the bill. Watch the movie, and using examples from the movie, describe the efforts by the different parties to get the bill passed. Then, choose a modern political battle ground (example, Health Care or the current budget battle.) Compare the efforts to get bills passed from the two different time periods. **OR** Choose a current world event/issue. How has the study of this period of American history helped to be able to better understand what is going on in the world today? **OR** Choose

an event we have studied this semester that is similar to a current event. Compare the two events. (24 points)

I will be looking for you to write details in the essay, not generalities. Remember to cite any outside sources (news articles or reports, etc.) that you consult. **All Essays must be submitted via eLearn and have a Turn-It-In score lower than 50%.**

## Tentative Course Schedule

\*Subject to change per course news item\*

Week Of	Topic/Activity
Aug 15	Introduction, European Backgrounds Exploration and Settlement
Aug 22	Jamestown Plymouth
	The Early Colonies
Aug 29	Toward the Revolution <b>Essay 1 Due</b>
Sept 5	<b>EXAM 1</b> The Revolution

Sept 12	<p>Building a New Nation</p> <p>The Constitution</p> <p>Federalists vs. Republicans</p> <p><b>Essay 2 Due</b></p>
Sept 19	<p>The Age of Jefferson</p> <p><b>Essay 3 Due</b></p> <p><b>Exam 2</b></p>
Sept 26	<p>The War of 1812</p> <p>The Era of Good Feelings</p> <p>Growing Nationalism</p>
Oct 10	<p>Jacksonian Democracy</p> <p><b>Essay 4 Due</b></p>
Oct 17	<p>Culture and Economy</p> <p>North and South</p> <p><b>Essay 5 Due</b></p>
Oct 24	<p><b>History Day Project Due</b></p> <p><b>EXAM 3</b></p> <p>Reform</p>
Oct 31	<p>The Impending Crisis</p>

Nov 7	The Civil War <b>Essay 6 Due</b>
Nov 14	Reconstruction <b>Essay 7 Due</b>
Nov 21	Review
Dec 6	<b>Final Exam 4</b>