

EARLY AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC HISTORY

HIST 4327

The University of Texas at Tyler

Text: To be determined by instructor

Evaluation and Grading:

Evaluation Weighting		Grade Determination
Quizzes or paper	33%	A = 100% - 90%
Mid term Exam	33%	B = 89% - 80%
Final Exam	34%	C = 79% - 70%
		D = 69% - 65%
		F = 64% - 00%

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General Information

Early American Diplomatic history is primarily a lecture/discussion course covering the period from immediately prior to the American Revolution to the early twentieth century. A calendar of topics is provided in this syllabus.

The student learning outcomes for Early American Diplomatic history are:

1. The student will describe the various overtures of the revolutionary Americans in their quest for support and recognition and their degrees of success.
2. The student will describe the major problems of a diplomatic nature facing the new nation and trace the course of action pursued by the United States.
3. The student will discuss the major precedents set by Washington and Adams regarding foreign policy and dealings with the major powers of Europe in the late Eighteenth century.
4. The student will trace the evolution of American foreign policy during the Jeffersonian period.

5. The student will trace American foreign policy from the surge of nationalism after the War of 1812 to the reluctance to annex Texas in 1837.
6. The student will describe the annexation events of the 1840s and early 1850s: The Annexation of Texas and the War with Mexico, Settlement of the Oregon question, and the Gadsden purchase in 1853.
7. The student will describe the issues and events of international relations during the American Civil War for both the governments of the Confederacy and United States.
8. The student will delineate the acquisitions of the major territorial possessions of the United States in the Caribbean and Pacific in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries.
9. The student will describe the issues associated with managing an empire and influencing various spheres of influence.

Course Calendar

Week 1 Course Overview

Week 2 American Revolution

Colonial background and European rivalries; Quest for assistance and recognition; Success in the revolutionary cause and the Treaty of Paris

Week 3 Confederation Period

Major Problems facing the new nation; attempted dealings with France, England, and Spain

Week 4 Federalist Period

Precedents established by Washington under the Constitution; the ideological split and initial relations with European powers and the French revolutionary government

Week 5 Federalist Period (Cont)

Jay Treaty with Great Britain; Pinckney Treaty with Spain; Adams and the Quasi-War with France

Week 6 Jeffersonian Era

Beginning of the Jeffersonian era and the Louisiana Purchase; issues of neutral rights, impressments, and economic coercion

Week 7 Jeffersonian Era (Cont)

War of 1812 and the Treaty of Ghent; Congress of Vienna and friendly conventions with Great Britain; Florida and the Adams-Onís Treaty; Latin American revolutions and the Monroe Doctrine

Week 8 Manifest Destiny

Texas independence; border problems with Canada and the Oregon annexation; Texas annexation and the War with Mexico; Far Eastern and Latin American interests

Week 9 Mid Term Exam

Week 10 Civil War and the aftermath

Return Exam; Diplomacy during the Civil War and enforcing the Monroe Doctrine and the Alabama claims

Week 11 Acquisition of an Empire

Revival of Manifest Destiny and international rivalries; Economic success and foreign policy; naval policy and the Pacific advance; Alaska and Canada; Asian and African interests

Week 12 Acquisition of an Empire (Cont)

Pan-Americanism; Venezuelan boundary crisis; the Cuban insurrection, American interests and the Spanish-American War

Week 13 Acquisition of an Empire (Cont)

The Imperial Debate; the Philippine insurrection; American interests in the Far East and the Open Door

Week 14 Expanding and Managing an Empire

Withdrawal from Cuba; gaining the Panama Canal; TR's Big Stick Policy

Week 15 Expanding and Managing an Empire (Cont)

Taft and Wilson deal with the Caribbean, Canada, and Mexico, Dollar Diplomacy and Anglo-American alignment

Week 16 Final Exam