History 804: Doctoral Readings for Minor Field

The Recent Historiography of Early America, 1765-1800

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This purpose of this course is to prepare doctoral students for writing their Minor Field Statement, one of the examinations required before advancing to candidacy. The course will cover seminal works by historians in the field of Early American History. We will meet for two and one-half hours every two weeks to discuss the readings. Students are expected to turn in a one-page summary of each book. In addition, by the end of the course students must present the prospectus and tentative bibliography for their Minor Field Statement. This exercise will require students to focus on particular themes or issues in Early American history and explain their relationship to the existing scholarship.

Meetings will be in my office on alternate Mondays at 3:30. Books with asterisks are required reading. Others are supplements that might be useful in preparing for your Orals. Books are available through interlibrary loan or for purchase through Amazon.com.

Grading:

Discussion—40%
Book Summaries—20%
Minor Field Prospectus—40%
Jan. 27 Colonial Prelude
**Alan Taylor, American Colonies**
**Bernard Bailyn, Origins of American Politics**
Joyce Chaplin, Subject Matter
Jack Greene, Pursuits of Happiness
Jon Butler, Becoming America
Fred Anderson, Crucible of War
Patricia Bonomi, Under the Cope of Heaven
John Shy, Toward Lexington

Feb. 10 The Political Revolution
**Edward Countryman, The American Revolution**
**John Philip Reid, The Constitutional History of the American Revolution** (one-volume abridged version)
**Pauline Maier, From Resistance to Revolution**
Gordon Wood, Creation of the American Republic (part 1)
Bernard Bailyn, The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution
Edmund S. Morgan, The Stamp Act Crisis
Bernard Bailyn, The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson

February 24 The War at Home
**Charles Royster, A Revolutionary People at War**
**Linda Kerber, Women of the Republic**
**Elizabeth Fenn, Pox Americana**
John Shy, A People Numerous and Armed
Eric Foner, Tom Paine and Revolutionary America
Robert Gross, The Minutemen and their World
Mary Beth Norton, Liberty’s Daughters
Woody Holton, Forced Founders

March 10 Constitution and Union
**Herbert Storing, What the Antifederalists Were For**
**Gordon Wood, The Creation of the American Republic** (parts 2-6)
Edmund S. Morgan, Inventing the People
Peter Onuf, Origins of the Federal Republic
Marc Kruman, Between Authority and Liberty
Forrest McDonald, Novus Ordo Seculorum
Saul Cornell, The Other Founders
Jack Rakove, Original Meanings

March 31 Slavery and Nationhood
**Edmund S. Morgan, American Slavery, American Freedom**
**Sylvia Frey, Water from the Rock**
Winthrop Jordan, *White Over Black*
Ira Berlin, *Many Thousands Gone*
David Eltis, *The Rise of African Slavery in the Americas*
David Brion Davis, *The Problem of Slavery in the Age of Revolution*
Gary Nash, *Forging Freedom*
Peter Kolchin, *American Slavery*

April 14 **Parties and Factions**
**Alan Taylor, *Liberty Men and the Great Proprietors***
**David Waldstreicher, *In the Midst of Perpetual Fetes***
Joyce Appleby, *Capitalism and a New Social Order*
Linda Kerber, *Federalists in Dissent*
Simon Newman, *Parades and Politics of the Street*
Joanne Freeman, *Affairs of Honor*
Christopher Grasso, *A Speaking Aristocracy*

April 28 **How Radical was the Revolution?**
**Joyce Appleby, *Inheriting the Revolution***
**Gordon Wood, *The Radicalism of the American Revolution***
**Kornblith and Murrin essay in *Beyond the American Revolution*, Alfred Young, ed.,***
Nathan Hatch, *The Democratization of Christianity*
Christine Heyrman, *Southern Cross*
Nancy Cott, *The Bonds of Womanhood*
Colin Calloway, *The American Revolution in Indian Country*
Daniel Richter, *Facing East from Indian Country*
Gregory Evans Dowd, *A Spirited Resistance*