

# HISTORY 100: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 1763-1789

UW-Stevens Point at Wausau

Spring 2024

Professor Brett Barker, Ph.D.

T and Th 9:30-10:45

Course ID: 42439

Rm 241

## Contact Information:

E-mail: [bbarker@uwsp.edu](mailto:bbarker@uwsp.edu) Office: 307

## Course Objectives:

This course examines the era of the American Revolution. Its aim is to help students gain a greater understanding of an understanding of the causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution and the wider history of the colonies and the United States 1763-1789. By the end of the semester students should have gained the following specific knowledge and skills:

Knowledge: a demonstrated understanding of the following:

- the nature of the British Empire in 1763
- the imperial reform program and colonists' responses
- the growth of resistance and the path toward rebellion
- self-government during and after the Revolution
- the social and military aspects of the American Revolution
- the political ideology and culture of the Revolution
- the political and economic uncertainty of the 1780s
- the Constitution's development, ratification, and implementation
- opposition to the Constitution and its historical significance

## Texts:

Alan Taylor, *Alan Taylor, American Revolutions: A Continental History, 1750-1804*

ISBN: 978-0393354768 (paperback)

ISBN: 978-0393082814 (hardcover)

Gordon Wood, *The American Revolution: A History*

ISBN: 978-0812970418 (paperback)

ISBN: 978-0679640578 (hardcover)

Note: This is an auditor section that is only open to auditors over the age of 60 who can take the course without charge under Wisconsin law. As an auditor, I am not permitted to grade any of your work and this course does not carry college credits of any kind. As such, your only responsibility is to do the assigned readings, attend class when you are able, and engage in a civil conversation about the American past with me and your classmates.

## **Course Calendar:**

### **Unit 1: What Is This Course and How Do Historians Define “The Era of the American Revolution”?**

Week 1: Jan. 23- 25

Wood, Introduction

Taylor, Preface

### **Unit 2: Origins (before 1763)**

Weeks 2-3: Jan. 30-Feb. 8

Wood, Ch. 1

Taylor, Chapter 1-2

### **Unit 3: Resistance (1763-1774)**

Weeks 4-5: Feb. 13-22

Wood, Ch. 2

Taylor, Ch. 3

### **Unit 4: Revolt (1775-1776)**

Week 6: Feb. 27-Feb. 29

Wood, Ch. 3

Taylor, Ch. 4

### **Unit 5: Revolution (1776-1783)**

Weeks 7-9: Mar. 5-28

Wood, Ch. 4 (pp. 74-88)

Taylor, Chs. 5-8

**SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS Mar. 19-21**

### **Unit 6: Republicanism**

Weeks 10-11: Apr. 2-11

Wood, Chs. 4 (pp. 65-74), and Ch. 5 (all)

### **Unit 7: The “Critical Period” and Beyond (1783-1789)-1800?]**

Weeks 12-13: Apr. 16-25

Wood, Ch. 7

Taylor, Ch. 10, [11?]

### **Unit 8: Impacts and Legacies**

Week 14: Apr. 30-May 2

Wood, Ch. 6

Taylor, Ch. 12

### **Unit 9: History and Memory**

Week 15: May 7-9 **Potluck: May 9**

Readings to be Announced