#### HISTORY 341

# THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Teacher: Dr. Neil S. Penn

Spring Semester. 1997.

Office: Seney 306.

Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:00 pm; TT 1:30-2:30 pm;

AND by appointment.

Course Texts: The Birth of the Republic, 1763-89, by Edmund S. Morgan and Major Problems in the Era of the American Revolution, 1760-1791, edited by Richard D. Brown.

Students will have writing responsibilities related to the above texts as indicated on the attached page and will be required to participate in class discussions. Grades will be based upon these writing and class participation performances as well as a final examination.

The American Revolution and the formation of the Constitution stand at the very foundation of an understanding of the history of the United States. As with all significant events these are subject to a variety of interpretations. This course will provide students with an opportunity to read and evaluate primary documents of the period as well as to respond to a variety of essays concerning those documents and events written by a collection of outstanding historians.

# HISTORY 341 The Era of the American Revolution

ASSIGNMENT: Written Reports on Readings.

BOOK: Brown, Richard D., ed.,

Major Problems in the Era of the American Revolution, 1760-1791.

## READINGS REPORT ASSIGNMENT DATA:

- Explain the major points in each of your assigned Essays from the selected Chapter.
- 2. Indicate how the author supports each major point.
- 3. Indicate which of the Documents in the selected Chapter support or refute your assigned Essays and note how they do so.
- 4. No more than three pages for each assigned Essay.
- 5. Keep all discussion about each Essay separate--do not overlap on the same page.
- 6. Also do a critical compare and contrast of the Essays with each other. Based ONLY upon your assigned Essays and the Documents in that Chapter, determine which of those Essays you consider to be the most significant and indicate the basis for your conclusion. Limit of two pages for this comparision.
- 7. Report is DUE in my office by 2:00pm of Due Date listed.
- 8. All work is to be done separately and independently—this is not a cooperative effort.
- 9. PAPER MECHANICS:
  - a. Report is to be typed on 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper.
  - b. A separate cover page containing the following information is to be included:
  - (1). Upper Right Hand Corner: name and number of course; date due; your name; your signature.
  - (2). Middle of Page: name of book of readings; editor of book of readings; number and title of chapter assigned; author and title of each Essay assigned.

## COMMENTARY ASSIGNMENT DATA:

- For each Essay you are NOT assigned to prepare a report about as noted on the attached pages, the following procedures are to be followed.
- Find one feature or aspect or concept in each Essay which you consider significant and write down a quote relevent to that feature. [list page number of that quote].
- 3. Explain why you consider that feature of the Essay and that quote to be significant.
- 4. Find in one of the Documents in that Chapter a quote which supports or refutes your selected quote. [list page number of that quote]
- 5. These comments must be typed.
- 6. MECHANICS: Limit of one page to an Essay AND only one Essay to a page AND must be typed.
- 7. Include on each page your name, your signature, name of the author, and title of the Essay.
- 8. These commentaries are DUE in my office by the same deadline as the Essay Readings Report as explained above.