Problems and Directed Readings – I
North America from the Era European Expansion to the Formation of the United States, 16th-18th Centuries

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Bibliography to Accompany PDR-I prepared by Paul G. E. Clemens, Jan Lewis, Andrew Shankman, and Camilla Townsend.

This bibliography covers the possible readings for PDR-I: North America from an Atlantic Perspective from the 16th to the 18th century. The bibliography and the course are designed to prepare students for the qualifying exams, help them develop the background they will need to teach a US survey (or world history course), and raise historiographical and research questions that they might find useful in their own work (even if they work in different time periods). The emphasis is on cultural contact in Early America and the diversity of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century peoples in eastern North America and the Caribbean; secondarily, it is meant to introduce students to scholarship on the causes and consequences of the American Revolution. Some significant topics in early American history receive less coverage than one might wish and are left to you to pursue on your own (see the bibliography). Students preparing for the comprehensive examination in American history should have read at least two books from each section and one or more articles. Some of this reading will usually be done in the PDR course, but students are, of course, free to pursue the reading on their own.

1. Colonial Encounters


### 2. Spanish Settlement and the Spanish Borderlands


Ramon A. Gutierrez, *When Jesus Came, the Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sexuality, and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846* (Stanford, Cal., 1991).


Miguel Angel Ladero Quesada, “Spain, circa 1492: Social Values and Structures.” in *Implicit Understandings* (see above), 96-133.


3. French Settlement: Canada, the Mississippi Valley, and Louisiana


Jennifer Spear, “Colonial Intimacies: Legislating Sex in French Louisiana,” *William and Mary Quarterly*, LX (January 2003), 75-98. (Issue deals with “Sexuality in Early America.”)

Note: See also Richard White, *Middle Ground*, listed below.


4. Early Modern England


5. Africa and the African Slave Trade


**Sources:** Robert Allison, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* (Boston, MA: Bedford./St. Martin’s, 1995).


6. Early British America: Chesapeake, Carolinas, and the Caribbean


**7. Early British America: The Middle Colonies, New England, and British Canada**


Philip J. Greven, Jr., *Four Generations: Population, Land, Family in Colonial Andover,*


8. **Slavery and Race in the New World**

Christopher Brown, Moral Capital: Foundations of British Abolitionism (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press & the Omohundro Institute, 2006)


Philip D. Morgan, "British Encounters with Africans and African-Americans, circa 1699-1780,"


9. **Religion and Culture**


10. **Anglo-American Society in the Eighteenth Century**


Seven Hackel, *Children of Coyote, Missionaries of Saint Francis: Indian-Spanish relations in Colonial California, 1769-1850* (2005)


Daniel Vickers, "Competency and Competition: Economic Culture in Early America," *William


11. Native American Life

John Demos, The Unredeemed Captive: A Family Story from Early America (New York, 1994).

James H. Merrell, The Indians' New World: Catawbas and Their Neighbors From European Contact Through the Era of Removal (Chapel Hill, 1989).

Jane Merritt, At the Crossroads: Indians and Empires on a Mid-Atlantic Frontier, 1700-1763 (Chapel Hill, Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2007).


### 12. Coming of the American Revolution


13. Creation of the American Republic


14. New Nation: Politics and Society in the 1790s

Peter S. Onuf, *Jefferson's Empire: The Language of American Nationhood* (Charlottesville:
University of Virginia Press, 2001).


The first Europeans to arrive in North America – at least the first for whom there is solid evidence – were Norse. In 1001 they are thought to have explored the northeast coast of what is now Canada. Ruins of Norse houses dating from that time have been discovered at L'Anse-aux-Meadows in northern Newfoundland. The first explorers were searching for a sea passage to Asia. This Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. The 4th of July has since been celebrated as America’s Independence Day. The United States doubled in size with the purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803 and Florida from Spain in 1819. From 1816 to 1821, six new states were created. The US annexed (added) the territory of Texas in 1845. An overview of 20th century European history and culture. Topics include: the impact of World War I; the appeal of totalitarian systems: communism, fascism, Nazism; Europe’s “suicide” during World War II; the reconstruction of Europe; the Cold War; economic integration; and Europe’s cultural impact since 1914. A survey of Eastern European history from the end of the Napoleonic Wars to World War I. Major topics include the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian, Russian, and Ottoman Empires; nationalism; industrialization; fin-de-siècle cultural ferment; and the origins and impact of the Great War. In the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, the first white settlers in America inhabited the eastern seaboard. There the whites either made treaties with the Native American groups to buy land or they forcibly took Indian land. By the Revolution’s end and on into the early 19th century, Native Americans were being displaced across the Appalachians and toward what is today the Midwest. In fact, the “western war” in many ways represented a continuation of the American Revolution with many autonomous Indian nations again choosing to ally with the British against Americans who fundamentally threatened their survival. The American invasion