Readings in American History I: North America from the Era European Expansion to the Formation of the United States, 16th-18th Centuries

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This bibliography covers the possible Readings in American History 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**


David Underdown, "The Taming of the Scold: The Enforcement of Patriarchal Authority in


**Surveys:** Keith Wrightson, *English Society, 1580-1680* (New Brunswick, N.J., 1982)

5. Africa and the African Slave Trade


**Classic Works:** Philip D. Curtin, *The Atlantic Slave Trade: A Census* (Madison: University of


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


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


8. Slavery and Race in the New World


Philip Morgan, *Slave Counterpoint: Black Culture in the Eighteenth-Century Chesapeake and*


9. Environment


Katherine A. Grandjean, “New World Tempests: Environment, Scarcity, and the Coming of the Pequot War,” William and Mary Quarterly 68 (2011): 75-100


Susan Scott Parrish, American Curiosity: Cultures of Natural History in the Colonial British Atlantic World (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006).


10. Religion and Culture


11. 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)


12. Native American Life


**Surveys:** Colin Calloway, *New Worlds for All : Indians, Europeans, and the Remaking of Early America* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996); Neal Salisbury, “Native Peoples and the European Settlers in Eastern North America, 1600-1783,” in Bruce Trigger and

13. Coming of the American Revolution


John Murrin, "1776: The Countercyclical Revolution," in Michael Morrison and Melinda Zook,


### 14. Creation of the American Republic


Saul Cornell, "Aristocracy Assailed: The Ideology of Backcountry Anti-Federalism," *JAH*, 76


**15. New Nation: Politics and Society in the 1790s**

James Fichter, So Great a Proffit: How the East Indies Transformed Early American Capitalism (Harvard, 2010).


Christopher Iannini, "'The Itinerant Man': Crèvecoeur's Caribbean, Raynal's Revolution, and the Fate of Atlantic Cosmopolitanism," WMQ, LXI (2004), 201-234.


