

**LEC 100 FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR**  
LEC M002 1CR 2:45 PM – 3:10 PM TR ROOM 2109

ROBERT W. BURG, ASSOCIATE LECTURER  
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OFFICE HOURS: TR 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM; 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

*COURSE READINGS*

—CAROL BERKIN & BETTY S. ANDERSON, *THE HISTORY HANDBOOK* (BOSTON: HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY, 2003)

—ASSORTED POWERWEB ARTICLES (AVAILABLE AT WWW.MHHE.COM/UNFINISHEDNATION4), AND VARIOUS HANDOUTS PROVIDED DURING THE COURSE OF THE SEMESTER

*COURSE DESCRIPTION*

LEC 100 will focus on study skill relative to the discipline to which it is attached. Topics might include learning styles, listening, taking exams, reading the text, time management, computer training, critical thinking and problem solving, and alleviating stress.

*COURSE MECHANICS*

*GRADES:* Course grades will be based on approximately fourteen weekly assignments. More specific information on these assignments will be forthcoming. Individual assignments will be graded on an A, B, C, D, F scale, without plus or minus modifiers. Course grades will then be based on an average of the student's ten best assignment grades.

*ATTENDANCE:* Although attendance will not be taken on a regular basis, in order for the student to partake fully in the class, he/she will have to attend throughout the semester. **Students will not be graded on attendance. However, participation in class could be a determining factor in a "swing grade."** In an admittedly unlikely scenario where a student's course grade is borderline between two grades, for example a B– and a C+, the student would get the higher grade if he/she attended class and participated in discussion regularly. If, however, the student did not attend class on a regular basis, or attended class **and** did not participate, the lower grade would be assigned.

*TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE*

—Week 01 (September 02)	<b>INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE</b>
—Week 02 (September 07 / 09)	<b>READING COMPREHENSION AND ANALYSIS</b> (PW04: A“NEWFOUNDE LAND”; BERKIN, PP. 12-15)
—Week 03 (September 14 / 16)	<b>HISTORICAL CONTEXT AND DEBATE</b> (PW02: 1491; BERKIN, PP. 41-42)

- Week 04 (September 21 / 23)  
9) **TAKING NOTES IN AND OUT OF CLASS**  
(PW03: SLAVERY IN THE LOWER SOUTH; BERKIN, PP. 6-9)
- Week 05 (September 28 / 30) **STUDYING FOR A HISTORY EXAM**  
(PW09: ROOTS OF REVOLUTION; BERKIN, PP. 18-24)
- Week 06 (October 05 / 07) **PARADIGMS AND HISTORIOGRAPHY**  
(PW08: BLESSED AND BEDEVILED; BERKIN, PP. 51-54)
- Week 07 (October 12 / 14) **WRITING AS A CRAFT, NOT AN ART**  
(PW16: FOUNDERS' CHIC; BERKIN, PP. 114-118)
- Week 08 (October 19 / 21) **HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY**  
(PW22: LEWIS AND CLARK; BERKIN, PP. 26-33)
- Week 09 (October 26 / 28) **PRIMARY VS. SECONDARY SOURCES**  
(CLAY'S TARIFF EXCERPT (8); BERKIN, PP. 36-41, 42-44)
- Week 10 (November 02 / 04) **STATISTICAL DATA AND ANALYSIS**
- Week 11 (November 09 / 11) **AVOIDING PLAGIARISM, MAKING CITATIONS**  
(PW27: THE LIVES OF SLAVE WOMEN; BERKIN, PP. 98-102, 104-111)
- Week 12 (November 16 / 18) **CLASSROOM DISCUSSION**  
(PW21: AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC; BERKIN, PP. 93-95)
- Week 13 (November 23 / 30) **UTILIZING THE LIBRARY FOR RESEARCH**  
(PW24: NEW HORIZONS FOR THE AMERICAN WEST; BERKIN, PP. 61-62, 66-76)
- Week 14 (December 02 / 07) **THE AMERICAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY**  
(PW29: "THE DOOM OF SLAVERY")
- Week 15 (December 09 / 14 ) **ASSESSING HISTORICAL WEBSITES**  
(PW40: 1871 WAR ON TERROR; BERKIN, PP. 63-66)