COURSE INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>CODE &amp; SECTION</th>
<th>LENGTH OF COURSE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Sequence: The American Tradition I – Spring Seminar</td>
<td>BASC64133 19S1</td>
<td>10 WEEKS Apr 2 – Jun 4, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<th>COURSE SCHEDULE</th>
<th>CLASS LOCATION</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAYS: Tuesdays</td>
<td>Gleacher Center</td>
<td>Austin Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIMES: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>450 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive</td>
<td>PHONE: (985) 789-0458</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicago IL 60611</td>
<td>EMAIL: <a href="mailto:agwalker@uchicago.edu">agwalker@uchicago.edu</a></td>
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GRAHAM SCHOOL INFORMATION

PHONE: 773.702.1722 WEBSITE: https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu

PREREQUISITES

At least 2 years of the Basic Program, and Autumn and Winter quarter of the American Tradition.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students should register before the course begins.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The spring quarter examines the fault line in the founding of the United States, the legacy of racism, exploitation and slavery that would eventuate in the Civil War and continue to haunt the country to the present day—and on the other hand the distinctively American humanism, democratic spirit, and sense of justice that would motivate the struggle for inclusion and unity. In the seminar we will read Bartolomeo de las Casas’ account of colonial atrocities; Frederick Douglass’s pointed autobiography, which catalyzed the abolitionist movement; and Walt Whitman’s epic-lyric attempt to poetically bring together the country he saw splitting apart. In the tutorial we consider Lincoln’s speeches and his deft, brilliant and at times wily efforts to rhetorically steer the states toward a new unity.

REQUIRED TEXTS

## WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>TEXT/READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
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| Week 1  
Date: 4/2/19 | De las Casas | *A Short Account...*, beginning to “Of the Kingdom and Province of Guatimala” (pp. 1 – 44) |
| Week 2  
Date: 4/9/19 | De las Casas | *A Short Account...*, “A Farther Discourse of New Spain...” to end (pp. 44 – 88) |
| Week 3  
Date: 4/16/19 | Douglass | *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, Preface to Ch. VIII (pp. 3 – 49) |
| Week 4  
Date: 4/23/19 | Douglass | *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, Ch. IX to end (pp. 52 - 100) |
| Week 5  
Date: 4/30/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, “Song of Myself” selections |
| Week 6  
Date: 5/7/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, Song of Myself” selections |
| Week 7  
Date: 5/14/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, “I Sing the Body Electric,” “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry” (1856) |
| Week 8  
Date: 5/21/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, “Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking” (1859), “Passage to India” (1856) |
| Week 9  
Date: 5/28/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, “Drum Taps” |
| Week 10  
Date: 6/4/19 | Whitman | *Leaves of Grass*, “Memories of President Lincoln” (“When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d”)

This syllabus is a summary of course objectives and content, not a contract. All information in this syllabus is subject to change, with sufficient advance notice provided by the instructor.

### CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE
As we may be addressing controversial topics in our class discussions, we expect students to be respectful and considerate of others.

### DISABILITY INFORMATION
Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.