Course Prefix and Number: HIS 281 Credits: 3

Course Title: History of Virginia I

Course Description: Examines the cultural, political, and economic history of the Commonwealth from its beginning to the present. Part 1 of 2. HIS 281 and 282 do not have to be taken in sequence. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: Students can use this course to satisfy a social/behavioral science elective. Students in the Liberal Arts AA or Social Sciences AS could also use the course to satisfy a history requirement.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to
a. Identify and describe the role of race, class, gender, and religion in shaping the cultural, economic, political, military, religious, social, intellectual, and institutional developments in Virginia history;
b. Identify and describe the chronological context of such developments;
c. Identify and describe the values of other peoples and explain how they differ from the student’s own values in an objective manner;
d. Explain how the history in their textbook is assembled from the selected arguments and interpretations of its authors, and express the limitations inherent in its account;
e. Identify and select, from the materials offered in this course, the relevant information needed to support their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
f. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
g. Construct and present historical arguments based on the available evidence in good written academic form;
h. Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; and
i. Compare and contrast historical concepts to the present day.

Major Topics to Be Included:
a. Pre-colonial Virginia
b. The settlement of Jamestown
c. Origins and development of representative government
d. Bacon’s Rebellion
e. Origins and growth of slavery
f. The Golden Age of Colonial Virginia
g. Virginia during the Revolutionary War
h. Virginia under the Articles of Confederation and first state constitution
i. Virginia’s role in the development of the U.S. Constitution

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: December 9, 2015