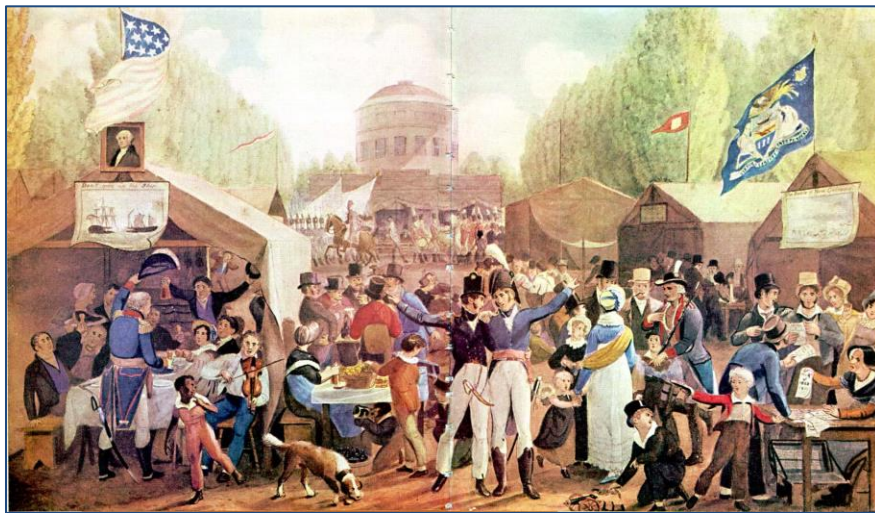




History 359: The United States to 1877
Instructor: Dr. J. L. Spangler
Fall Term, 2014
Tu/Th 11:00-12:15; SS 109



John Lewis Krimmel, *Fourth of July Celebration in Centre Square, Philadelphia* (1819)

This course is the first of a two semester introductory sequence that explores the history of the United States chronologically. The class begins with the first peopling of North America. It then examines European colonial projects in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the encounters and conflicts that these projects produced, and the formation of the United States as an independent nation. The class examines the question of economic modernization in the early U.S., the concomitant expansion of slavery, and the continental aspirations of the new nation. It concludes with the internal tensions that culminated in the American Civil War.

This is a lecture course, but there will be times set aside often to discuss assigned readings. Students will be reading Volume 1 of Paul S. Boyer et al., *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People, 8th edition* (we are officially using the Cengage Advantage version, which is the most affordable option among new books, but any version or fairly recent edition is acceptable). Also assigned is a selection of primary sources and *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written By Himself* (accessible on-line, at no cost). Assessment will include a midterm (30%) and final examination (35%), as well as an essay (35%).