US History (Pre-1877) Reading List:
History MA Comprehensive Oral Examination

Abbreviated instructions (full instructions here): Students not writing a thesis must present themselves for examination in three subfields. Students will take three subfield examinations (written, three hours each) within a one-week period, followed by a one-hour oral examination with the Graduate Advisory Committee. For the subfield of US History (Pre-1877), students will be expected to synthesize the arguments and evidence of at least fifteen of the following books and articles. Students interested in this subfield should contact Professors Magliari or Tinkler for guidance. Call numbers at the end of each entry are for copies at the Meriam Library. Books without call numbers have been ordered by the library, but should be requested via Interlibrary Services.

Part I: To the Revolution (choose eight)


This book appears in every category but can only count as one of the fifteen books for the exam.


Part II: Revolution through Reconstruction (choose one from each category)

1. Confederation, Constitution and the Federalist Era


2. The Early Nineteenth Century


### 3. Women in the Antebellum North


### 4. Slavery and the South


5. Politics and the Coming of the Civil War


6. The Civil War


7. Reconstruction