



*Estate of Marie Josephine Riviere, deceased wife of Theodore Trone, and community....No. 328.*

## STATE OF LOUISIANA.—Fifth District Court—Parish of Lafourche.

In the name and by the authority of the Fifth Judicial District Court, sitting in and for the Parish of Lafourche, there will be offered for sale at public auction, by Mathurin Bourg, Sheriff and Auctioneer, duly qualified and sworn in and for the said parish, on the premises situated in this parish, on the right bank of bayou Lafourche, near the Catholic Church at about one mile below the town of Thibodaux, on SATURDAY, the 25th day of FEBRUARY, 1854, at 10 o'clock a. m., the following described property, to wit:

AIMEE, a negro girl aged about 40 years.

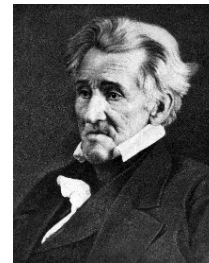
ONE LOT OF GROUND, one arpent front by one and a quarter in depth, less a fraction of it sold to Mrs. Bazile Richard, in the Northwest corner, bounded North by lot of Widow J. J. Riviere and E. Lesignan, East and South by lands belonging to P. B. Key, and West by lot belonging to Pierre Lopez and Widow Bazile Richard.

CHAIRS, Looking Glass, Table, Bureau, Bed and Bedding, Bathing Tub, one Gun, one Mare, etc.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The moveable property payable all sums under ten dollars in March, 1854, and all sums of ten dollars or over payable by halves, one half in March 1854, and the other half in March 1855; the land and slaves payable by thirds, one third in each and all the months of March of the years 1855, 1856, and 1857. The purchasers furnish good and approved security in solido, and the land and slave to remain specially mortgaged and hypothecated until final payment, and all installments not punctually paid at maturity bearing eight per centum per annum interest thereafter.

[3-tds]

M. BOURG, Sheriff.



# Becoming American

## What is an American? – Class 2



# Class schedule

Class	Theme
3/22	Introduction The <u><a href="#">Adverts 250 Project</a></u> with Assumption students and Professor Carl Keyes
4/5	<b>Becoming America</b>
4/12	Immigration and Reconstruction with Professor Brendan O'Malley
4/19	The American century
4/26	Worcester is America

# About yours truly

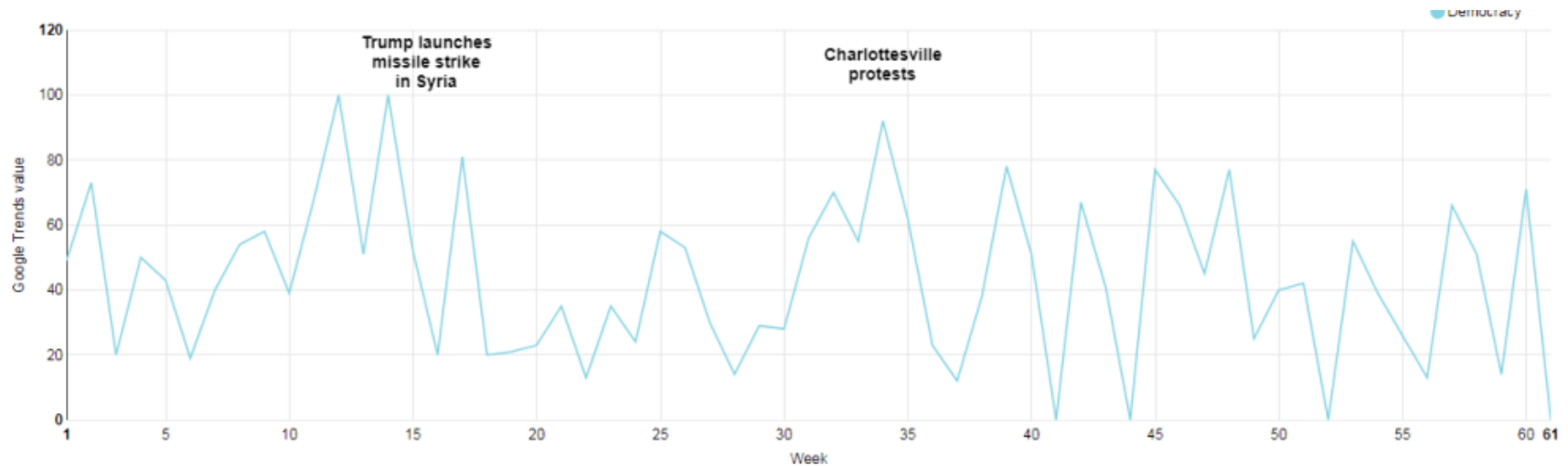
- Karl Hakkarainen
- [kh@queenlake.com](mailto:kh@queenlake.com)
- 508 829 5825
- Readings and presentations at <http://queenlake.com/wise/wise-spring-2018/what-is-an-american/>

# Readings

Class	Topics	Primary Readings
1	Introduction	Professor Carl Keyes and his Assumption students will discuss the <a href="#">Adverts 250 Project</a> .
2	Becoming America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters from an American Farmer, Letter 3 - What is an American? <a href="#">Complete text in various forms</a> or <a href="#">Letter 3 only</a> by J. Hector St. John Crevecoeur</li> <li>Democracy in America, Volume 1, <a href="#">Chapter IV: The Principle Of The Sovereignty Of The People In America</a>, Alexis de Tocqueville</li> <li><a href="#">Second Inaugural Address</a>, Abraham Lincoln</li> </ul>
3	Where did my America go?	Immigration in America with Professor Brendan O'Malley
4	The American Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederick Jackson Turner. Chapter 3, "<a href="#">The Significance of The Frontier in American History</a>"</li> <li><a href="#">The Souls of Black Folks</a>, W.E.B. DuBois (Chapter 2, "Of the Dawn of Freedom")</li> </ul>
5	Worcester is America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">It's Complicated -- the social lives of networked teens</a>, danah boyd</li> </ul>
We'll add some additional readings for classes 3, 4, and 5.		

# About the class

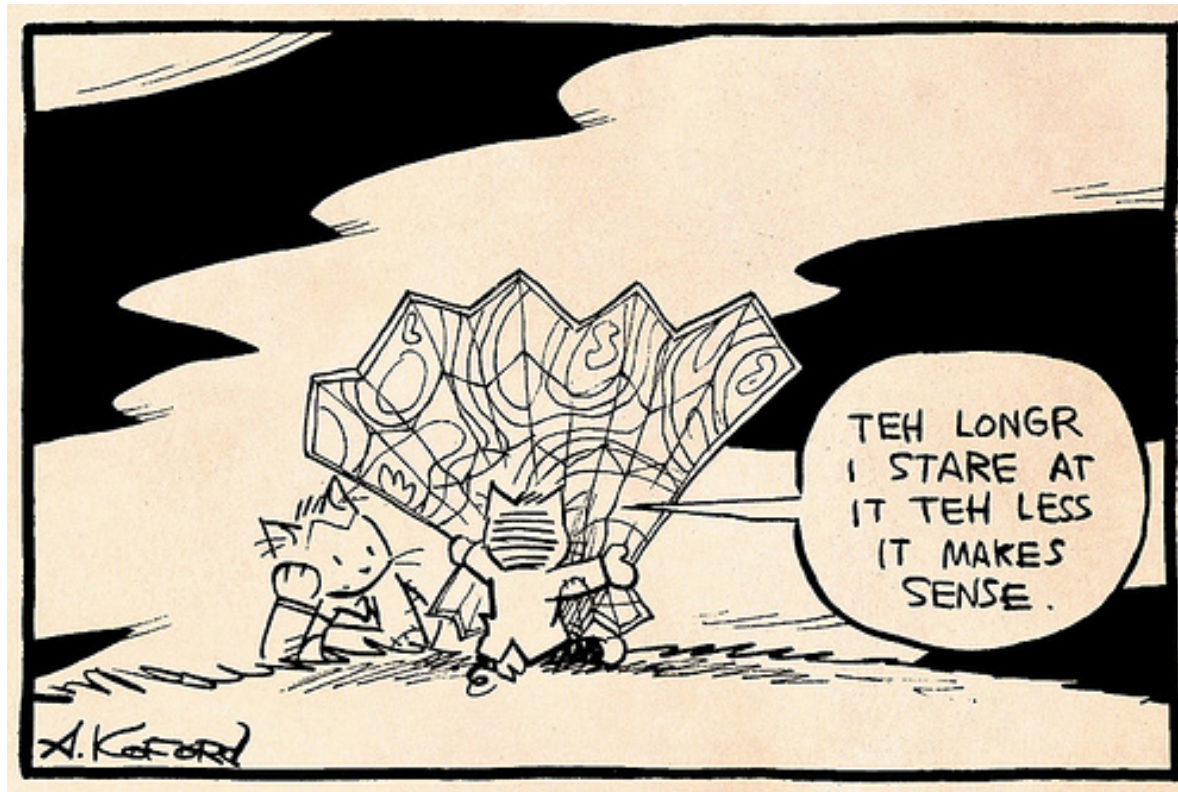
- Our thinking will engage multiple levels, often simultaneously
  - Personal – “What does it mean for me to be an American?”
  - Group – “What does it mean for me and others to be hyphenated-Americans?”
  - Political – “What does it mean to be a citizen?”
  - Historical – “What did Americans in the past think about being American?”
- No gotcha history (or as little as possible)



# Views of American democracy based on internet search data – Brookings Institute



# Why it's perfectly fine to ask about citizenship status on the census



# Questions?



# A nation at war with itself

- The early Republic established the national framework
  - Constitution and Bill of Rights
  - Fear of and need for central government
  - Expansionist view
  - Manifest Destiny and American exceptionalism
- Two civil wars
- Middle-age crisis
  - Utopian communities
  - Industrialization
  - Keeping the frontier alive
- What did the Founders mean?

# Citizenship and the Constitution

- “Neither the Articles of Confederation nor the Constitution gave definition to national citizenship.” – “Citizenship and Nation-Building in American History and Beyond,” Wang Xi
  - Free African Americans were tacitly enfranchised in a number of states, including North Carolina, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Vermont, but they remained voteless in Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia.
  - Women could vote in New Jersey.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments establishes citizenship nationwide.

# *Jus Sanguinis, Jus Soli, and Jus temporis*

- Most countries practice *jus sanguinis*, also known as citizenship by descent, or citizenship by “right of blood.”
  - Under this system, a child acquires the parent’s citizenship upon birth.
  - Countries practicing *jus sanguinis* will not automatically grant citizenship to a child born within their borders if that child is born to parents who are foreigners. The child maintains the parent’s foreign citizenship.
- The United States and a small number of countries practice *jus soli*, or citizenship by “right of soil.”
  - Under this system, a child automatically acquires the citizenship of the country in which the birth takes place.
- A third category, *jus temporis*, establishes citizenship based on time in residence for immigrants.

# States declared their inhabitants to be citizens

- In [McIlvaine v. Coxe's Lessee, 8 U.S. 209 \(1808\)](#), the Supreme Court affirmed that New Jersey's right to compel its inhabitants to become citizens.
- The defendant, Coxe, lost his right to elect not to be a citizen because he continued to reside in New Jersey after the Declaration of Independence and Treaty of Paris were signed.

# What to do with the Loyalists?

- The "Loyalist problem" in the early republic - Emily Iggulden,
- Hamilton, under the pen name Phocion, urged that New Yorkers adopt a conciliatory and forgiving attitude toward the Loyalists. To punish the Loyalists, he argued, would be against the spirit of the Revolution and the articles of the Treaty of Paris.



If we set out with justice, moderation, liberality, and a scrupulous regard to the constitution, the government will acquire a spirit and tone, productive of permanent blessings to the community. If on the contrary, the public councils are guided by humour, passion and prejudice; if from resentment to individuals, or a dread of partial inconveniences, the constitution is slighted or explained away, upon every frivolous pretext, the future spirit of government will be feeble, distracted and arbitrary. The rights of the subject will be the sport of every party vicissitude. There will be no settled rule of conduct, but every thing will fluctuate with the alternate prevalency of contending factions.

Alexander Hamilton, Second Letter from Phocion

# Naturalization

- Initially, states set their own rules regarding naturalization of immigrants.
  - Georgia had singled out Scottish immigrants for exclusion, but later adopted rules that required an oath, affirmation of character, and a twelve-month waiting period.
- The Constitution stipulates a nine-year waiting period for the Senate and a seven-year waiting period for the House.
- The Constitution empowers Congress to establish “a uniform rule of Naturalization”

# Naturalization act of 1795

- "An act to establish an uniform rule of Naturalization; and to repeal the act heretofore passed on that subject" (January 29, 1795).
  - Oath of allegiance to the United States
  - Five years residence
  - Good moral character
  - Renounce foreign allegiances and titles



## Letters From an American Farmer : Letter III - What Is An American

SCHEDULE of the whole number of *PERSONS*  
within the several Districts of the UNITED STATES,  
taken according to "An Act providing for the  
Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United  
States;" passed March the 1<sup>st</sup>, 1790.

DISTRICTS.	Free white Males of twenty years and up- wards, including heads of families.	Free white Males under fifteen years.	Free white Fe- males, including heads of families.	All other free persons.	Slaves.	Total.
* Vermont	22435	22328	40505	255	16	85539
New Hampshire	36086	34851	70160	630	158	141885
{ Maine	24384	24748	46870	538	NONE	96540
{ Massachusetts	95453	87289	190582	5463	NONE	378787
Rhode Island	16019	15799	32652	3407	948	68825
Connecticut	60523	54403	117448	2808	2764	237946
New York	83700	78122	152320	4654	21324	340120
New Jersey	45251	41416	83287	2762	11423	184139
Pennsylvania	110788	106948	206363	6537	3737	434373
Delaware	11783	12143	22384	3899	8887	59094
Maryland	55915	51339	101395	8043	103036	319728
{ Virginia	110336	116135	215046	12866	292627	747610
{ Kentucky	15154	17057	28922	114	12430	73677
North Carolina	69988	77506	140710	4975	100572	393751
South Carolina	—	—	—	—	—	—
Georgia	13103	14044	25739	398	29264	82548
S. Western territory	6271	10277	15365	361	3417	35691
N. Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	—

Truly stated from the original Returns deposited in the Office  
of the Secretary of State.

TH. JEFFERSON.

October 24, 1791.

\* This return was not signed by the Marshal, but was enclosed and referred to in  
a letter written and signed by him.

# America in 1790





# National gazette, February 06, 1793

MR. FRENEAU,

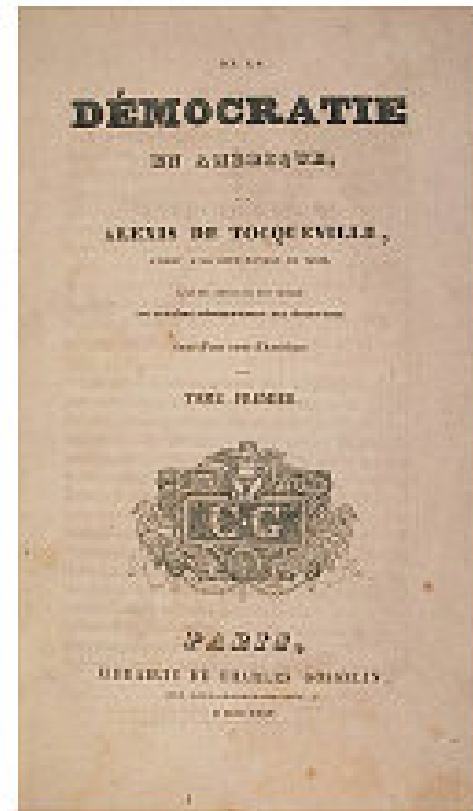
AS the CIT has, of his own private authority, and without the knowledge or concurrence of his fellow-citizens in any part of the United States, conferred the honor of citizenship on the *Pompeys*, the *Alexanders*, &c. who knows but he may be disposed to carry the joke still farther, and dub all those newly created citizens *Honorable* and *Most Honorable*? Indeed such is the present rage for titles, that titles, dear titles must, it seems, exist somewhere or other in this country. And what think you, Mr. Freneau, if we were to borrow a useful hint from the old Spartans, a grave, starched, orderly set of worthies for all the world, like the select-men of Boston, except that the latter do not *so openly* and *avowedly* encourage cheating and sharpening as the select-men of Sparta did? The Spartans, to inspire their children with an abhorrence of drunkenness from a view of its effects, intoxicated their slaves with wine: on the same plan, let us intoxicate our slaves with titles, and suffer them to strut about, as proud of this cast of frippery, as of their masters' old cloaths.

Will this do the business, think you? Will this satisfy the *Cit*? I hope it will, and that we shall then have no further complaints of the scarcity of titles. Every simple negro may be stiled *honorable*; and the title of *most honorable*, may be given to the mulattoes, who bear so much nearer a resemblance to the worthy gentlemen that have labored so hard to introduce titular distinctions among us. An *excellent* coachman or butler has a just claim to the title of *excellency*; and that of *highness* may with equal propriety be given to the *highest* personage in the whole gang—the overseer! The sable dames being also entitled to their due share of honor, instead of “*Lady H—, Lady K—, Lady D—, &c.*” who shone in print, in the memorable year eighty-nine, a printer henceforward, in describing a Fandango ball, may grace his page with the names of *Lady Phillis*, *Lady Chloe*, &c: and instead of informing his readers that *Brother Jonathan*, *Zorobabel*, or *Praise God*, Captain of a New-England cruizer, has *kidnapped* a score of negroes in the West-Indies—whenever a similar case again occurs, (as probably it often will) he may tell them, that a score of *honorables*, *most honorables*, *excellencies*, and *highnesses* have been kidnapped by *Citizen Jonathan* or *Citizen Praise God*.  
A BROTHER CIT.



# By the 1830s, we're on our own

- Last of the signers of the Declaration, Charles Carroll, dies in 1831.
- How do you have a free market with limited government and yet protect yourselves against the rich and powerful?



## Democracy in America

French sociologist and political theorist Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-1859) traveled to the United States in 1831 to study its prisons. His reports, collected in "Democracy in America" (1835), included broad reviews of American politics and culture.

The American revolution broke out, and the doctrine of the sovereignty of the people, which had been nurtured in the townships and municipalities, took possession of the State: every class was enlisted in its cause; battles were fought, and victories obtained for it, until it became the law of laws.

Alexis de Tocqueville  
*Democracy in America*

...there is something surprising in this strange unrest of so many happy men, restless in the midst of abundance.

*de Tocqueville*



Slavery is prejudicial to the commercial prosperity of the South in several different ways; by diminishing the spirit of enterprise amongst the whites, and by preventing them from meeting with as numerous a class of sailors as they require.

Alexis de Tocqueville  
*Democracy in America*

In the South the master is not afraid to raise his slave to his own standing, because he knows that he can in a moment reduce him to the dust at pleasure. In the North the white no longer distinctly perceives the barrier which separates him from the degraded race, and he shuns the negro with the more pertinacity, since he fears lest they should some day be confounded together.

Alexis De Tocqueville  
*Democracy in America, Volume 1*

# 1830s – Reimagining America

Andrew Jackson



Henry David Thoreau



The States which had so long been retarded in their improvement by the Indian tribes residing in the midst of them are at length relieved from the evil ...

*Andrew Jackson, Farewell Address*

[A]rtful and designing men will always be found who are ready to foment these fatal divisions and to inflame the natural jealousies of different sections of the country.

*Andrew Jackson*



The mischief springs from the power which the moneyed interest derives from a paper currency which they are able to control, from the multitude of corporations with exclusive privileges ...; unless you become more watchful in your States and check this spirit of monopoly ... you will in the end find ... the control over your dearest interests has passed into the hands of these corporations.

*Andrew Jackson*



Oneida, New York



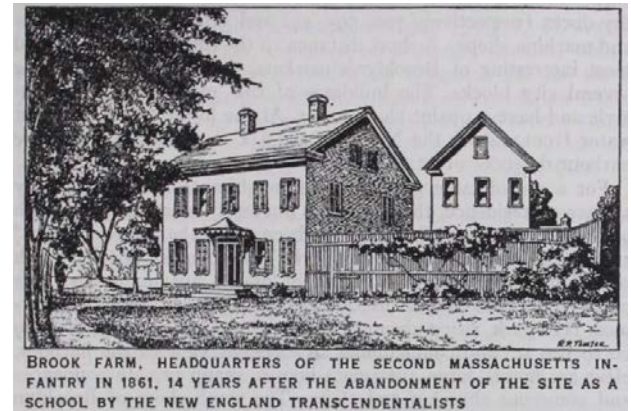
Ross House, Northampton



Fruitlands, Harvard MA



Shaker communities



## Utopian communities in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century

All voting is a sort of gaming, like checkers or backgammon, with a slight moral tinge to it, a playing with right and wrong, with moral questions; and betting naturally accompanies it.

*Henry David Thoreau*  
*Civil Disobedience* (1849)

The American has dwindled into an Odd Fellow-one who may be known by the development of his organ of gregariousness, and a manifest lack of intellect and cheerful self-reliance; ... who, in short, ventures to live only by the aid of the Mutual Insurance company, which has promised to bury him decently.

*HDT, ibid*



## Seneca Falls Convention - 1848

Many who have at last made the discovery that the negroes have some rights as well as other members of the human family, have yet to be convinced that women are entitled to any. – Frederick Douglass

*Census of slaves and free colored.*

Census of—	Free colored.	Increase, per cent.	Slaves.	Increase, per cent.	Free colored and slaves.	Increase, per cent.
1790.....	59,466	-----	697,897	-----	757,363	-----
1800.....	108,395	82.28	893,041	27.97	1,001,436	32.23
1810.....	186,446	72.00	1,191,364	33.40	1,377,810	37.58
1820.....	233,524	25.23	1,538,038	28.79	1,771,562	28.58
1830.....	319,599	36.87	2,009,043	30.61	2,328,642	31.44
1840.....	386,303	20.87	2,487,455	23.81	2,873,758	23.41
1850.....	434,449	12.46	3,204,313	28.82	3,638,762	26.62
1860.....	487,970	12.32	3,953,760	23.39	4,441,730	22.07

## 1860 Census



*Probable future population of the United States.*

Year.	Free colored and slaves.	Aggregate of whites and colored.	Percentage of colored.
1870 .....	5, 421, 900	42, 328, 432	12. 81
1880 .....	6, 618, 350	56, 450, 241	11. 72
1890 .....	7, 942, 020	77, 266, 989	10. 28
1900 .....	9, 530, 424	100, 355, 802	9. 50

## 1860 Census Projections

Slavery to continue ...

African-American population in 1900 – 11.6%



**My brain hurts!**



**Questions?**