The Pacific Northwest
A Syllabus

By

Edmund S. Meany
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I. PERIOD OF DISCOVERY

1. Spanish Voyages

a. Introductory.
   i. Columbus and Balboa.
   ii. Magellan's voyage around the globe.
   iii. Cortez in Mexico.

b. Cabrillo and Ferrelo.
   i. First to reach the Northwest, 1543.

c. Vizcaino, Aquilar, and Flores.
   i. Reached 45 degrees, north latitude, 1603.

d. Juan Perez, 1774.
   i. Gave "San Lorenzo" as first name of Nootka.
   ii. Indians clamor for iron and copper.
   iii. Gave "Santa Rosalia" as first name of Mount Olympus.

e. Heceta and Quadra, 1775.
   i. First landing north of Point Grenville.
   ii. Quadra named "Isla de Dolores".
   iii. Heceta at mouth of Columbia River.

f. Ignacio Arteaga, 1779.
   i. Exploration near Mount Saint Elias.
g. The Nootka Controversy.
   i. Seizure of British ships by Martinez, 1789.
   ii. Preparation for war.
   iii. Treaty signed at Madrid, 28 Oct. 1790
   iv. Elisa, Fidalgo, and Quimper, 1790.
   v. Quadra and Vancouver meet at Nootka, 1792.
   vi. Flags lowered, 1795.

2. British Voyages
   a. Francis Drake, 1579.
      i. Took possession and named "Nova Albion".
         ii. Knighted on his return.
   b. Thomas Cavendish, 1587.
      i. Referred to in Juan de Fuca myth.
   c. James Cook, 1778.
      i. Importance of his third Pacific voyage.
         ii. Discoveries and explorations on Northwest coast.
         iii. Beginning of fur trade.
   d. James Hanna, 1785-1786.
      i. Pioneer fur trader.
   e. John Meares, 1786.
   f. James Strange, 1786.
      i. Named Queen Charlotte Sound.
   g. Nathaniel Portlock and George Dixon, 1786-1787.
      i. Elaborate expedition.
      ii. "King George's Sound".
      iii. Separate journals published.
h. Charles William Barkley, 1787.
   i. Barkley Sound named for him.
   ii. Observed Straits.
   iii. Mrs. Barkley first white woman in Northwest.

i. Duncan and Colnett, 1787-1788.

   i. Trick of double colors.
   ii. Building a schooner.
   iii. Chinese artisans.
   iv. "Rediscover" Strait of Juan de Fuca.
   v. Named Mount Olympus.
   vi. Discovered "Shoalwater" or Willapa Bay.
   vii. Disappointed at mouth of the Columbia River.

k. Vessels seized by Spaniards, 1789.
   i. Captains representing Meares.
   ii. Prisoners and ships released.
   iii. Meares complained to the British Govt.
   iv. The Nootka Sound controversy.

l. George Vancouver, 1792.
   i. Discovery of Puget Sound.
   ii. Explorations.
   iii. Negotiations at Nootka.
   iv. Publications of his journals.

3. Russian and French Voyages

   a. Russia's approach to the Pacific.
      i. Lure of the ermine and fossil ivory.
      ii. Pacific reached in 1700.
      iii. Ambition of Peter the Great.

   b. Bering Strait
      i. Discovered in 1728.

   c. The Okotsh Sea.
      i. Discovered in 1739.
d. Bering's Great Expedition, 1741.
i. Vitus Bering.
ii. Alexei Chirikof.
iii. Vessels separate.
iv. Alaska and Mount Saint Elias discovered.
v. Death of Bering.
vi. Doctor George Wilhelm Steller's discoveries.
vii. Bering Island and Bering Sea.

e. Lieutenant Synd, 1766-1767.
i. Exploration of "Fox Islands".

i. Methods of fur trade reported.

g. Count Maurice de Benyowsky, 1771.
i. Accidental exploration of Bering Strait.

h. Master Gerassim Pribilof.
i. Discovery of seal rookeries, 1786.

i. Fur Trade Monopoly.

j. Alexander Andreievich Baranof.
i. Founding of Sitka, 1790.
ii. Like a Czar in America for three decades.

k. French Voyages.
i. Francois G. de la Perouse, 1786.
ii. Etienne Marchand, 1791.
iii. No attempt at occupation.


a. The Boston Company.
i. Purposes of its organization.
ii. Captains Kendrick and Gray.
iii. Ships Columbia and Lady Washington.
iv. The famous medal.
v. The captains exchange vessels.
vi. Gray's voyage around the globe.
b. Captain Gray's Second Voyage, 1791-1792.
i. Sloop built at Clayoquot during winter.
ii. Meeting with Vancouver.
iii. Discovery of Grays Harbor and Columbia River.
iv. Importance of Gray's work to America.
v. Experiences of Captain Kendrick.

i. In brig "Hope" from Boston.

d. James McGee, 1792.
i. In ship "Margaret" from Boston.

e. R. D. Coolidge, 1792.
i. In ship "Grace" from New York by way of China.

f. Ship "Boston", 1803.
i. Captain John Salter's tragic death.
ii. Jewitt and Thompson survive.
iii. Escape from Indian slavery.

II. PERIOD OF EXPLORATION.

5. First Across the Continent

a. The Shining Mountains.
i. The Verendyre approach, 1743.
ii. Johathan Carver and the name of Oregon.

b. Alexander Mackenzie
i. The Mackenzie River, 1789.
ii. Up Peace River toward the Pacific, 1793.
iii. Mutiny overcome.
iv. Meeting with Indians.
v. Portage to the Bella Coola.
vi. Pacific Coast reached.
vii. Famous painting on a rock.
viii. Return journey.


a. Evolution of the plan.
   i. Jefferson's letter to George Rogers Clark, 1783.
   ii. John Ledyard.
   iii. Michaux and Lewis, 1792.
   iv. Jefferson's private secretary, 1801.

b. Organization.
   i. Jefferson's letter of credit.
   ii. William Clark chosen one of the leaders
   iii. Secret message to Congress.
   iv. Impulse from Louisiana Purchase Treaty, 1803.

c. Under Way.
   i. Winter of 1803-1804 on the Mississippi.
   ii. Second winter at Mandan Indian village.
   iii. Sacajawea.
   iv. Meeting Indians in the Rockies.
   v. The brother of Sacajawea.

d. Reaching the Pacific.
   i. Friendly Nez Perces.
   ii. Canoeing to the Pacific.
   iii. Winter of 1805-1806 at Fort Clatsop.
   iv. Return Trip.

e. Geographical results.

f. Political and international results.

a. Hall Jackson Kelley.
   i. Interest in Oregon aroused in 1815.
   ii. Pamphlets and other agitations.
   iii. Trip to Oregon, 1834.
   iv. Map and memoir.
   v. Eccentric but real help.

b. Captain B. L. E. Bonneville.
   i. Letter of instructions, 1831.
   ii. Trapping, hunting and exploring.
   iii. Visit to Fort Walla Walla.
   iv. Difficulty in resuming his army career.
   v. Later in command at Fort Vancouver.
   vi. Recent analysis by I. K. Russell.

c. Nathaniel J. Wyeth.
   i. Inspired by work of Hall J. Kelley.
   ii. The "Natwyethium" invented and discarded.
   iii. Arrived at Fort Vancouver, Oct. 29, 1832.
   iv. John Ball's school, Jan. 1, 1833.
   v. Columbia River Fishing and Trading Co.
   vi. Fort Hall and Fort William, 1834.
   vii. Sold out to the Hudson's Bay Company.
   viii. His letter about wrecked Japanese.
   ix. Prophetic nature of his work.

d. William A. Slacum.
   i. Investigated Hudson's Bay Company's work, 1837.
   ii. Cattle company formed.
   iii. Memoir before Congress.
   iv. Recommended retention of Puget Sound.
8. The United States Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842.

a. Commander Charles Wilkes.
   i. Selected because of his astronomical ability.

b. Plan suggested by President Andrew Jackson.
   i. To match work done by French and British

b. Squadron of American naval vessels.

c. Supplies forwarded to different ports.

e. Work in the Southern Pacific.

   i. Anchored in Port Discovery.
   ii. Steamer "Beaver" did not respond to call
   iii. Sailed to Nisqually.
   iv. Lieutenant Johnson's trip over Cascades.
   v. Exploring work by officers and crews.
   vi. Visit by Wilkes to Columbia River.
   vii. Wreck of the "Peacock".
   viii. Party sent overland to California.
   ix. Importance of geographic work.
   x. Prompt use of information obtained.
   xi. Whole record never published.

III. PERIOD OF OCCUPATION.


a. First attempt by Winship brothers.

b. John Jacob Astor.
   i. Success in fur trade.
   ii. Sought cooperation with Canadians.

c. Pacific Fur Company.
   i. Canadian partners.
   ii. Voyage and loss of the "Tonquin".
   iii. Expedition by land.
d. Astoria established.
   i. Trade begun.
   ii. British rivals.
   iii. Interior posts begun.

e. War of 1812.
   i. Arrival of H.M.S. "Raccoon".
   ii. Astoria sold by Canadian partners.
   iii. Name changed to "Fort George".

10. Early British Fur Traders.

   i. Work of David Thompson, geographer.
   ii. Rivals of Astorians.
   iii. Interior posts established.
   iv. Purchase of Astoria.

   i. Importance of Article I.
   ii. American negotiators.

c. Treaty of Joint Occupancy.
   ii. For period of ten years.

d. Brief change of flags.
   i. American rights recognized.
   ii. British possession resumed.

e. Merger with Hudson's Bay Company.
   i. Relative influence of leaders.

11. Hudson's Bay Company.

   a. Organization and development.
      i. Many rivals.
      ii. Relative supremacy attained.
b. Doctor John McLoughlin.
   i. Prior to coming to Oregon in 1825.
   ii. Establishment of Fort Vancouver.
   iii. Expansion of the Company's work.
   iv. Cooperation with Douglas the botanist
   v. Assistance to John Ball's school.
   vi. Kindness to missionaries and settlers.
   vii. "Uncrowned King of the Columbia".

c. Probable influence of the Monroe Doctrine.

d. Ultimatum by Henry Clay.

e. Renewal of the Joint Occupancy Treaty.
   i. Term made indefinite.

f. Importance of Fort Nisqually.
   i. First settlement of white men on Puget Sound.
   ii. Puget Sound Agricultural Company.

IV. INDIANS.

12. Arts and Legends.

a. Different races and tribes.

b. Rates of progress shown by arts, implements, etc.
   i. Basketry.
   ii. Bows, arrows, and stone implements.
   iii. Canoes and houses.
   iv. Totem poles.
   v. Pictographs.

c. Legends.
   i. "Origin of Fire".
   ii. "Explanation of Mound Prairie".
   iii. "Misp of the Queets".
   iv. "Origin of the Constellations".
13. Wars and Treaties

a. Ten treaties by Governor Stevens.
   i. Method of negotiation.
   ii. Substance of the documents.
   iii. Delay in ratification.

b. Wars followed the treaties.
   i. Unfair to blame the treaties.
   ii. Resistance to encroachment natural.

c. The war near Yakima.

d. The war around Puget Sound.
   i. In the White River Valley.
   ii. The Battle of Seattle.

e. The war near Spokane.

f. Block-house forts.

g. End of the wars.

h. Ratification of the treaties.

V. PIONEER DEVELOPMENTS


a. Indian request for religious teachers.

b. Response by the Methodists.
   i. Jason Lee and his associates, 1834.
      ii. Location in Willamette Valley.

c. The Whitman Mission, 1836.
   i. Sent by the A.B.C.F.M.
   ii. Location in Walla Walla Valley.
   iii. Spalding goes to Lapwai.

d. The Catholic missionaries, 1839.
   i. Fathers Blanchet and Demers.
   ii. Location north of the Columbia River.
e. Reinforcements.
f. The Whitman massacre.

15. Early Settlements.

a. Fur trading posts.

b. Settlers south and north of the Columbia.

c. Settlers on shores of Puget Sound.
   i. Simmons party at Tumwater, 1846.
   ii. Fort Steilacoom, 1849.
   iii. Van Asselt party, 1851.
   iv. Denny party at Alki, 1851.
   v. Port Townsend, Dungeness and Whidby Island,
   vi. McCarver at Tacoma, 1868.


e. Settlers East of the Cascades.

f. Economic influences.
   i. The gold rush to California.
   ii. Demand for timber.
   iii. Need of cattle.

g. Development.


a. Death of Ewing Young, 1841.
   i. Need to probate his estate.

b. Settled by a temporary government.

c. "Wolf Meetings" of 1843.
   i. A government emerged.
   ii. Influence of the 1843 immigration.
   iii. Committee changed to Legislature, 1845.
d. George Abernathy chosen governor.

e. The oath of office.
   i. Effort to respect joint occupancy.

f. Experience with a mint and postoffice.
   i. Beaver money coined.
   ii. Postal rates changed.

g. Attitude of the Hudson's Bay Company
   i. Doctor McLoughlin seeks American citizenship.

h. Case of the "Peacock's" long boat.

i. The great year of 1846.
   i. Treaty with Great Britain.
   ii. War begun with Mexico.
   iii. Oregon Act by Congress.

j. Geographical changes.

k. Political adjustments.

l. Economic progress.
READINGS

GENERAL:
Oregon Historical Quarterly: Many articles and documents.
Shafer, Joseph: History of the Pacific Northwest.
Washington Historical Quarterly: Many articles and documents.

Note: The above and the lists that follow are given as helpful suggestions and not as inclusive bibliographies.

SPECIAL. I. Period of Discovery:
Barrington, Daines: Miscellanies. The record of Quadra's great voyage in 1775.
Boit, John: Journal. Constitutes a "New Log of the Columbia."
Bulfinch, Thomas: Oregon and Eldorado.
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Dixon, George: *A Voyage Round the World.*

Drake, Sir Francis: *The World Encompassed.*

Manning, William Ray: *The Nootka Controversy.* In the Annual Reports of the American Historical Association for the year 1904.

Meares, John: *Voyages made in the Years 1788 and 1789 from China to the N.W. Coast of America.*

Portlock, Nathaniel: *A Voyage Round the World.*


**SPECIAL. II. Period of Exploration.**


Dye, Eva Emery: *The Conquest.*

Irving, Washington: *Adventures of Captain Bonneville.*

Kelley, Hall Jackson: Pamphlets (now rare) and Memoir in House of Representatives, Document 101 in U.S. Public Documents, Serial Number 351.

Lewis and Clark: *Journals.* The records of this expedition appear in several available editions.

Mackenzie, Alexander: *Voyages from Montreal on the River St. Lawrence Through the Continent of North America to the Frozen and Pacific Oceans in the Years 1789 and 1793.*


SPECIAL. III Period of Occupation:

Bryce, George: The Remarkable History of the Hudson's Bay Company. Treats also of other British fur companies.

Davidson, Gordon Charles: The North West Company. Published by the University of California Press.

Dye, Eva Emery: McLoughlin and Old Oregon, and McDonald of Oregon.


Holman, Frederick V.: Dr. John McLoughlin the Father of Oregon.


SPECIAL IV. Indians.


Judson, Katherine B.: Myths and Legends of the Pacific Northwest.


McBeth, Kate C.: The Nez Perces Indians Since Lewis and Clark.


Spier, Professor and Mrs. Leslie: Several monographs on the Pacific Northwest Indians, published by the University of Washington Press.

Stevens, Hazard: Life of Isaac Ingalls Stevens. Two Volumes, Consult Chapters on Indian Treaties and Indian Wars.
SPECIAL V. Pioneer Developments:

Atwood, Albert: Conquerors. Has special reference to the Methodist missionaries.

Blanchet, Francis Norbet: Historical Sketches of the Catholic Church in Oregon, 1838-1878.


Denny, Emily Inez: Blazing the Way.

Eells, Myron: Marcus Whitman, Pathfinder and Patriot.

Judson, Phoebe Goodell: A Pioneer Search for an Ideal Home.


Oregon, Histories of. Consult Chapters dealing with missionaries, early settlers and the Provisional Government.

Splawn, Andrew Jackson: Ka-mi-akin; the Last Hero of the Yakimas.

Warren, Eliza Spalding: Memoirs of the West, the Spaldings.

Washington, Histories of. Consult chapters dealing with topics under discussion.

West, Leoti: The Wide Northwest. Largely the observations of a teacher over a period of half a century.