

HIS 140
American History to 1865
Spring 2012

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This course is designed to acquaint the student with some of the basic themes and events in American history prior to 1865. Beginning with the Indian tribes who predated the European colonists and ending with the Civil War, this course will cover the social, political, and economic events and issues that influenced the birth, growth, and strife of the United States to 1865. By the end of the course, the student should have a better understanding of the multitude of groups and issues involved in the formation and shaping of the United States of America, and how those same groups and issues that drew the nation together nearly brought about its destruction.

As a part of the General Studies Program at MWSU, this course is designed to educate students in a traditional liberal arts manner so that they will demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and characteristics of an educated person. Students will be provided an opportunity to acquire and reinforce knowledge and skills to:

1. think critically and reason analytically.
2. write and speak clearly and effectively.
3. understand common phenomena in social environments as well as the methods by which they are studied.
4. gain a greater awareness of the present through an understanding of other cultures and times.
5. understand and appreciate moral values and ethical choices.
6. understand and appreciate technological concepts and their influence on society.

Required Text: *A People and a Nation: A History of the United States*, brief edition, vol. 1 (9th edition) Mary Beth Norton, et al, editors.

Course Requirements:

Participation	10%	A= 90-100%
Three exams	60% (20% each)	B= 80-89%
Book review	15%	C= 70-79%
Novel report	10%	D= 60-69%
Reaction paper	5%	F= below 60%

The student's grade will be based upon his or her performance on two exams during the course of the semester and a final, each consisting of multiple choice and essay questions; a book review of an historical work chosen by the student and approved by the instructor; an historical novel relevant to the years before 1860; a reaction paper over one of the two videos seen in class; and class participation. [N.B.: Both the fiction and nonfiction books must deal with *United States history before 1865!*] 5% of the participation credit will be from pop quizzes over the assigned readings; the other 5% will come from attendance and contributions to the class. To be able to contribute meaningfully in class, it is necessary for the students to have read the assigned material before the beginning of the class. If a student does not show to class on-time and on a regular basis, the opportunities for worthwhile participation decrease substantially, therefore, role will be taken. Three tardies will count as one absence. There will be scheduled makeup exams as per the departmental policy. The final must be taken at the scheduled time; there are no makeups for it. Additional information about the novel report and reaction paper will become available later in the semester.

Note: For those students intending to teach History and the Social Sciences at the secondary level, please be aware that the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) requires the promotion of ten thematic standards that are designed to assist students who are preparing for such a teaching career. These ten thematic standard are:

1. culture and cultural diversity.
2. time, continuity, and change.
3. people, places, and environments.
4. individual development and identity.
5. individuals, groups, and institutions.
6. power, authority, and governance.
7. production, distribution, and consumption.
8. science, technology, and society.
9. global connections.
10. civil ideals and practices.

Each of these thematic standards will be integrated into this course. In particular, standards 1,2,3,5,6,7,9, and 10 will be emphasized. Note the sections in the syllabus to which each of these standards are linked. Students in secondary education are responsible for keeping all quizzes, papers, and examinations as artifacts for their electronic portfolios.

Weekly Course Outline:

	<u>Chapter</u>
Jan. 17—Introduction; Those People who Came Before Theme links: 1,2,3,5,6,10	Ch. 1
Jan. 24—Colonization and Colonial Society Theme links: 1,2,3,5,6,9,10	Ch. 2,3
Jan. 31—Colonial America and Europe’s Quest for Empire Theme links: 1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10	Ch. 4,5
Feb. 7—The American Revolution (book must be approved for review) Theme links: 2,3,4,5,6,9,10	Ch. 6
Feb. 14—EXAM; Confederation and Constitution Theme links: 2,4,5,6,10	Ch. 7
Feb. 21—The New Republic and the Rise of Political Parties Theme links: 1,2,3,4,5,6,10	Ch. 8
Feb. 28—America’s New Role in the World: The War of 1812 (book review due) Theme links: 2,3,5,6,9,10	Ch. 9
Mar. 6—Geographic and Economic Expansion in the Early Nineteenth Century Theme links: 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,10	Ch. 11
Mar. 13—SPRING BREAK	
Mar. 20—Unwelcome Changes for the Indians; Nineteenth Century Society Theme links: 1,2,3,4,5,6,10	pp. 196-99, 235-41
Mar. 27—EXAM; Reform Efforts Theme links: 1,2,3,4,5,10	Ch. 12
Apr. 3—The Institution of Slavery Theme links: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,10	Ch. 10
Apr. 10—Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War (novel report due) Theme links: 1,2,3,5,6,9,10	Ch. 13
Apr. 17—The Crisis of the 1850s/The Civil War Theme links: 2,5,6,10	Ch. 14
Apr. 24—The Civil War (book review rewrites due) Theme links: 2,3,4,5,6,8,10	Ch. 15

FINAL EXAM: MAY 8, 6:30-8:20 PM (N.B. This is the very LAST final on the last day of finals.)

Rules of the Class:

1. No extra credit will be given. Rewrites will be allowed on the book review only.
2. **Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing on an exam or paper will receive a grade of zero on that exam or assignment. Further action may be taken as be the university policy (see below). This includes blatant copying from publications or on-line sources. If ever in doubt, ask for help! DO YOUR OWN WORK!!!**
3. Class will begin and end on time. To insure this occurs, please be in the classroom before the scheduled starting time. Late arrivals disturb the students' and the instructor's trains of thought and limit the effectiveness of discussion. If you must leave early for an unavoidable appointment, etc, please sit close to the front and let the instructor know in advance.
4. Common rules of courtesy apply. Please raise your hand if you have a point to make, listening respectfully to each other's contributions. Chew gum quietly. Don't invade the space of the students sitting near you. **NO CELL PHONES!!** A ringing cell phone will result in a zero for the day's participation. In addition, if you're textmessaging, you're not focused on or participating in the class and won't be given credit for such. No ipods/mp3s, etc. Talking during class is especially disrespectful and will result in a zero for the day's participation, and you may be asked to leave the room. Laptops may only be used to take notes.
5. Late papers will lose points and are only an option with a documentable excuse. Don't procrastinate! If you know you will be absent when an assignment is due, please turn it in to the office in advance. If you miss the class right before an exam, don't forget to download the study guide from the O Drive.
6. A class is only as good as the group allows it to be. By keeping up on the reading and allowing each student the opportunity to contribute his or her insights to the class, the class will be both a learning experience and an enjoyable one. Weekly outlines will be available on the O Drive by the Friday before class. Be sure to print the outline each week, as it will NOT be available in class.

Attendance: In order to improve student learning, attendance will be taken each class. As attendance is worth 5% of your grade, repeated absences, tardies, or early departures will result in a lower grade. You will be given an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the university, provided you bring written notification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event. Absences due to hospitalization will also be excused with proper documentation.

Note: There are NO makeups for missed quizzes or reaction papers. These are strictly in-class assignments.

Missouri Western has instituted a policy concerning academic integrity.

Academic Honesty Policy: Academic honesty is required in all academic endeavors. Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating, seeking credit for another's work, falsifying documents or academic records, or any other fraudulent activity. Violations of academic honesty may result in a failing grade on the assignment, failure in the course, or expulsion from the University. When a student's grade has been affected, violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost or designated representative on the Academic Honesty Violation Report forms.

Please see the 2011-2012 Student Handbook and Calendar for specific activities identified as violations of this policy and the student due process procedure. This handbook is also available on line at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>

Students with Disabilities: If you have been diagnosed with a disability or if you suspect that you may have a disability that has never been diagnosed and would like to find out what services are available, please visit the

Office of Disability Services (ODS) in Eder Hall, room 203N or visit the ODS website at www.missouriwestern.edu/ds/ as soon as possible. This syllabus, as well as all other printed or electronic materials, can be made in alternative/accessible formats if requested with sufficient prior notice. Missouri Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Calendar for Spring 2012

Classes Begin	Jan. 17	Tuesday
President's Day Holiday (no classes/campus closed)	Feb. 20	Monday
Spring Break (no classes)	Mar. 11-18	
Mid-term Grades Due	Mar. 21	Wednesday
Last Day to Withdraw	Mar. 30	Friday
Registration Begins for Summer/Fall	Apr. 2	Monday
Last Day of Classes	Apr. 30	Monday
Study Day	May 1	Tuesday
Final Exams	May 2-8	
Final Grades Due	May 10	Thursday
Commencement	May 12	Saturday