



Course Syllabus: US History Since 1865

College of Humanities and Social Science

HIST 1233

Fall 2026

Contact Information

Instructor: Daniel Davenport
Office: N/A
Office hours: By Appointment
Office phone: N/A
Cell Phone: N/A
Twitter: Not in a Million Years
E-mail: daniel.davenport@msutexas.edu

Course Description

General survey of American History from 1865 to the present. Required of all baccalaureate students. Designed to give the student a breadth of understanding of historical themes and figures in United States History since 1865 to present.

During this course, students will learn how to:

1. identify key events, peoples, individuals, terms, periods, and chronology of the history of the United States and connect historical events in chronological chain(s) of cause and effect
 - a. You will learn what happened and how different historians interpret those events.
2. develop critical thinking skills by discussing the living nature of history, using historical evidence to critique competing interpretations of the same historical events, explaining the nature of historical controversies
 - a. We will go into detail about why historic controversies exist and how to evaluate their merits against each other
3. synthesize diverse historical information and evidence related to broad themes of U.S. history and present this information in coherent, well articulated, and well-substantiated analytical discussions and other written assignments
 - a. I will ask you to think critically about people, events, and ideas both in class as well as through assignments
4. develop the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to decision making by examining the motivations and actions of key figures in

U.S. history

Textbook & Instructional Materials

1) *The American Yawp*: Updated Edition:

<https://www.americanyawp.com/>

The American Yawp is a free online textbook and reader. It costs nothing. You are welcome.

2) *With the Old Breed*: Sledge, E.B., 2007, ISBN: 9780891419198

This costs like 10-15 bucks. You are welcome.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures Academic Dishonesty

Cheating, collusion, plagiarism, and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), including Grammarly. While other professors may condone or even encourage the use of AI, it is NOT permitted in this class. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

<https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/tutoring-hours.php>

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given) to include the use of AI in this course. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information.

Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

In this course students will have three exams, two homework assignments, and four discussion boards.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percentage of Grade
Exams	60
Close Reading Notes	20
Discussions	20

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Less than 60

Homework

This course consists of 3 Close Reading Notes covering your reading of E.B. Sledge.

Discussion Boards

You will have 4 Discussion Boards. The first will be a class introduction, while the following three will be discussions over the Sledge book.

Exams

There will be three course exams.

Extra Credit

There is not a planned extra credit assignment for this course.

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted. You will have all work available well in advance and unit exams are made available to you a week before they are due.

Make Up Work/Tests

Legitimate excuses are official university/school absences, illnesses, and/or close family deaths. These must be communicated via the student's MSU email before the official absence or as soon as possible upon the happening of said unfortunate life event, not weeks/months after. Accepting make up work/tests is up to the discretion of the instructor.

Important Dates

- Last day of Classes
- : 4 Dec
- Deadline to file for graduation: 21 Sep
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" 23 April
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Attendance in this online course is taken by the instructor by class participation through submitted assignments, discussion boards, and exams; not by accessing the class in D2L alone. This means that if you only submitted the Week 1 Discussion Board but continued accessing the course without submitting work through the end date, your last date of attendance was the last day of the first week. I will not drop you from the class for not attending and the grade that you get will reflect your class participation.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow***

students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.

Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ***Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline! Your Exams are available a week before they are due and your assignments are available weeks in advance!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations; however, they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Instructor Class Policies

1. When you email the instructor, you will place your class number at the beginning of your subject line. This ensures that he can more efficiently find your class to effort your issue.
2. Be civil in your discussion interactions. I ask that whatever point you bring up in discussion you do so with tact and couth. Bring receipts (quality sources) as the young people say, if you have a differing viewpoint. If your viewpoint is a personal or socio/cultural point, lead with that in a respectful manner. Understand that we are not here to argue and polarize, but to view multiple viewpoints through a historical lens to gain greater context.
3. Deadlines matter. Zeros hurt your grade in this class more than a Thai Kick to the nuggets. You have access to your exams for an entire week before they are due. You also have access to your discussion boards and writing assignments weeks in advance. I will not accept late work without prior/immediate good excuse (see Makeup Work/Tests in Syllabus).
4. I will not drop you from the class. You need to continuously monitor your own progress and act accordingly to your best interests. If you are not doing well by the drop date, you need to take action.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond

to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

All Assignments and tests will be due on the Sunday that ends the week at 2359Hrs. The Weeks begin on a Monday like the work or school week.

Week or Module	Lectures/Reading	Assignment Due Date
Week 1	Indian Wars and West Ch 16 Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 1
Week 2	Industrial Revolution and City Ch 15 Any Supplemental Material	None
Week 3	Progressivism Ch 17 & 18 Any Supplemental Material	
Week 4	American Empire Ch Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 2 & Reading Notes
Week 5	Unit I Exam Review	Unit I Exam
Week 6	WWI Ch 19 Any Supplemental Material	None
Week 7	Treaty of Versailles Addendum Ch 20 Any Supplemental Material	
Week 8	Suns Out Guns Out! Spring Break!	None

Week or Module	Lectures/Reading	Assignment Due Date
Week 9	1920's and Great Depression Ch 21 Unit II Exam Review	Unit II Exam
Week 10	WWII Ch 22 Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 3 & Reading Notes
Week 11	Cold War I Ch 23 Any Supplemental Material	
Week 12	Cold War II Ch 24 Any Supplemental Material	None
Week 13	Working Week (No Lecture) Ch 25 Any Supplemental Material	None
Week 14	Hot Wars of the Cold War Ch 26 Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 4 & Reading Notes
Week 15	GWOT Ch 27 Any Supplemental Material	None
Week 16	Unit III Review	Unit III Exam