



Course Syllabus: Survey American History to 1865
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
HIST 1133 Section X12
Fall 2024

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Whitney Snow

Office: OD 223

Office hours: Mondays (9:00-11:00 A.M.); Wednesdays (9:00-11:00 A.M.);
Fridays (9:00-10:00 A.M.); and by appointment

Office phone: (940) 397-8917

E-mail: whitney.snow@msutexas.edu

Course Description

The instructor has designed this course first and foremost with the intention of providing her students with a basic understanding of the themes and events that dominated the American past from pre-colonization through the Civil War. For obvious reasons, she has not designed the course to be comprehensive, but rather foundational. It is a course from which further exploration of this nation's history may be launched. In addition to providing students with a broad knowledge of U.S. History, the course will help students critically analyze historical events. The course design also includes interpretive techniques to help students better understand what it is that historians do.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History*, 7th ed., vol. 1

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, plagiarism, and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). 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.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading

In this course, students will take fourteen weekly quizzes, write one movie assignment, and complete two exams.

Table 1: Grade Breakdown

Assignments	Points
Quizzes (14)	25%
Movie Assignment	20%
Midterm	25%
Final Exam	30%
Total Points	100%

Table 2: Letter Grade Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Quizzes

There will be a 10-question quiz each week. Questions are derived your textbook *Give Me Liberty*. Students will take each quiz via D2L. The window to take each quiz opens every Thursday at 6:30 A.M. and closes each Friday at 11:30 P.M. Here are the instructions:

1. Log onto D2L.
2. Click on the 9-block square at the top of the page and find our class. Click on it.
3. Once you are on our classroom dashboard, click on "Assessments" near the top of the page.
4. Under the drop-down list, click on "Tests." You should see all the quizzes.
5. To take a certain quiz, click on the arrow next to it. Students will have 10 minutes to complete each quiz once they begin testing. Each question is worth 10 points.

Movie Assignment

You will write a 5-6-page essay on the movie *Free State of Jones* (2016). Further instructions are posted on D2L. To upload your movie assignment, log onto our classroom D2L dashboard, look under "Assessments" and then click "Assignments." You should see a dropbox entitled "Free State of Jones." You may submit your essay any time until 11:30 P.M. on the due date.

Exams

This course includes two exams, a midterm and a final, both of which will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Students will take these exams via D2L. The instructions are as follows:

1. Log onto D2L
2. Click on the 9-block square at the top of the page and find our class. Click on it.
3. Once you are on our classroom dashboard, click on "Assessments" near the top of the page.

4. Under the drop-down list, click on "Tests." You will see "Midterm" and "Final."
5. On the scheduled date, click on the arrow next to "Midterm" or "Final" to begin. You will have 90 minutes. Study guides are available under "Content."

Extra Credit

Virtual extra credit options, usually Zoom talks by academics, can be found under "Content" on our D2L classroom dashboard. Click on "Extra Credit" to see the options. You may attend one or all. Attending one of these extra credit opportunities will be considered a "Bonus Quiz." As such, your lowest quiz will be replaced with a 100. Note, Zoom informs the instructor what time you log into the meeting and what time you leave. To earn the extra credit, you must stay for the duration of the talk.

Late Work

Ten points will be deducted for every day a quiz, exam, or movie assignment is late.

Make Up Work/Tests

If you fail to take an exam or quiz by the given deadline, you must provide a legitimate excuse as to why. Legitimate excuses are family deaths and illnesses (documented by a doctor's excuse). Forgetting is not a legitimate excuse.

Important Dates

Deadline to file for graduation: September 23

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" November 25

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

For us to have a successful semester, your full participation is required.

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!!** 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

- Online etiquette is a must.
- Be civil in your discussion interactions. Debate is healthy but, keep it respectful.
- Avoid all caps.
- Be mindful of deadlines.

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 Clark Student Center, Room 168, (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](#).

Grade Appeal Process

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

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 August 26- August 30	Reading: Foner, Chapter 1 Assignment: Quiz 1	Quiz 1 due by August 30
Week 2 September 3-6 (Labor Day is September 2)	Reading: Foner, Chapter 2 Assignment: Quiz 2	Quiz 2 due by September 6
Week 3 September 9-13	Reading: Foner, Chapter 3 Assignment: Quiz 3	Quiz 3 due by September 13
Week 4 September 16- 20	Reading: Foner, Chapter 4 Assignment: Quiz 4	Quiz 4 due by September 20
Week 5 September 23- 27	Reading: Foner, Chapter 5 Assignment: Quiz 5	Quiz 5 due by September 27
Week 6 September 30- October 4	Reading: Foner, Chapter 6 Assignments: Quiz 6	Quiz due by October 4
Week 7 October 7-11	Reading: Foner, Chapter 7 Assignments: Midterm and Quiz 7	Midterm due October 9 Quiz 7 due by October 11
Week 8 October 14-18	Reading: Foner, Chapter 8 Assignment: Quiz 8	Quiz 8 due by October 18
Week 9 October 21-25	Reading: Foner, Chapter 9 Assignment: Quiz 9	Quiz 9 due by October 25
Week 10 October 28- November 1	Reading: Foner, Chapter 10 Assignment: Quiz 10	Quiz 10 due by November 1
Week 11 November 4-8	Reading: Foner, Chapter 11 Assignment: Quiz 11	Quiz 11 due by November 8
Week 12 November 11- 15	Reading: Foner, Chapter 12 Assignment: Quiz 12	Quiz 12 due by November 15

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 13 November 18-22	Reading: Foner, Chapter 13 Assignment: Quiz 13	Quiz 13 due by November 22
Week 14 November 25-26 (Thanksgiving Break is November 27-29)	Reading: Foner, Chapter 14 Assignment: Movie Assignment on <i>Free State of Jones</i>	Movie Assignment due by November 26
Week 15 December 2-6	Reading: Foner, Chapter 15 Assignment: Quiz 14	Quiz 14 due by December 6
Finals Week	Assignment: Final Exam	Due December 9