



Course Syllabus: Survey of American History to 1865

College of Prothro-Yeager Humanities & Social Sciences

HIST 1133 Section X14

Fall 2027: August 24, 2026 to December 11, 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

As the Age of Exploration engulfed Europe, various monarchs scrambled to find new trade routes and monopolize new goods. These explorations gave way to the discovery of the "New World." Beginning with Christopher Columbus and his discovery of the West Indies, we will navigate the interactions of Native Americans with the Spanish, French, and British, while also witnessing the birth of a nation, the United States of America. From there, we will examine the perilous road that the United States forged as the founders were determined to create a strong and independent nation that still survives today. By the end of the course, students should be able to understand the trials and failures that made the United States up until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1865.

Objectives:

- Examine the various events and interactions that shaped America.
- Look at primary sources in class and analyze their views and stances on the ever-changing world.
- Learn to write by answering questions from writing prompts.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

The American Yawp Reader, <http://www.americanyawp.com>

Voices of Freedom, Vol. 1., 7th Edition, Eric Foner

ISBN-13: 978-1324042174

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

TASP is available to students who need tutoring or assistance. You can contact TASP at (940) 397-4544 or visit the [TASP homepage](#).

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Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).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

The use of AI in this class will not be tolerated. If your paper comes back as AI, **it will be counted as a zero.**

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

Course Grade - List all graded assignments with their point value and or percentage of total grade. Letter Grade Scale indicate the overall points or % to letter grade scale for example 1270 to 1137 = A.

Table 1: Percentage allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percentage
Attendance and Participation	10%
Primary Source Analyses	14%
Exam One	20%
Exam Two	20%
Exam Three	20%
Research Project	16%
Total Points	100%

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90-99
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Less than 60

Homework

Since this is an online class, you will be turning in your assignments in D2L DropBoxes.

Attendance and Participation- 10%

- You will be required to log in and complete the modules. I can see when you log in and how long you stay on.
- It will be important for you to also read the book. Exams are open book, open notes. Reading the chapters will help you locate information you need.

Primary Source Analyses- 14%

- You will be reading primary source documents and analyzing what they mean.
- Primary sources allow us to experience events and different perspectives through the lens of firsthand experiences.
- PSAs will need to be at least 1 page long. I will also post a PSA instruction page and an example of one. PSAs will be due at 11:59 p.m. on Sundays.
- PSA Schedule:
 - PSA 1- September 6
 - PSA 2- September 27
 - PSA 3- October 11
 - PSA 4- October 18
 - PSA 5- November 8
 - PSA 6- November 22
 - PSA 7- November 29

Quizzes

There will be no quizzes.

Exams

You will have 3 exams for this class. Each exam is worth 20% of your final grade. I will open the exams on Mondays, and they will be due the following Sunday at 11:59. They will be open book, open notes. There are two parts to the exams. You will have to choose 5 ID terms and provide the who, what, when, where, and what it matters for each term. These will be worth 10 points each for a total of

50. The second part of the exam will be 2 essay questions. They are worth 25 points each. I will post an example of an exam. **NO OUTSIDE RESOURCES. Use of outside resources will result in docked points.**

Exam Schedule:

- October 4th
- November 1th
- December 6th

Projects Required

There is a research project. It is a mixture of a proposal and a bibliography. You can pick any topic **as long as it relates to the time period of the class.** You must come up with a research question and find 5 sources: 2 must be primary sources; 2 must be secondary sources; and the last one can be either or. I will provide an example, a how-to PowerPoint, and more detailed instructions. It will be due November 8th.

Mid-Term Exam

There will be no midterm.

Final Exam

Exam 3 will be your final exam. Please see above schedule and instructions.

Extra Credit

There will be no extra credit for the class.

Late Work

I understand that life happens. If you need an extension on an assignment, please email me 3 days in advance. Do not wait until the last minute.

Make Up Work/Tests

If you need to makeup assignments or tests, please email me.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: August 27, 2026. [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: September 21st. [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" November 23rd [Academic Calendar](#).
- 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

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

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

Indicate here policies which apply to this class such as dress codes, attendance requirements particular to the program and or course, class etiquette expectations etc.

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) exists 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:

Below is a schedule of the chapters we will cover and due dates for assignments.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 8/24 to 8/29	Introduction PowerPoint Chapter 1 PowerPoint Read Chapter 1 https://www.americanyawp.com/textbook/01-american-origins/ Read Chapter 1 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	N/A
Week 2 8/31 to 9/4	Chapter 1 PowerPoint Read Chapter 1 https://www.americanyawp.com/textbook/01-american-origins/ Read Chapter 1 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 1 Due Sunday, 9/6 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 3 9/7 to 9/11	Chapter 2 PowerPoint Read Chapter 2 https://www.americanyawp.com/textbook/02-making-an-atlantic-world/ Read Chapter 2 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	N/A
Week 4 9/14 to 9/18	Chapter 3 PowerPoint Read Chapter 3 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-03-colliding-cultures/ Read Chapter 3 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 2 Due Sunday, 9/27 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 5 9/21 to 9/25	Chapter 4 PowerPoint Read Chapter 4 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-04-british-north-america/ Read Chapter 4 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	N/A
Week 6 9/28 to 10/2	Chapter 5 PowerPoint Read Chapter 5 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-05-colonial-society/ Read Chapter 5 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Exam One Due Sunday, 10/4 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 7 10/5 to 10/9	Chapter 6 PowerPoint Read Chapter 6 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-06-the-american-revolution/ Read Chapter 6 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 3 Due Sunday, 10/11 at 11:59 p.m.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 8 10/12 to 10/16	Chapter 7 PowerPoint Read Chapter 7 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-07-a-new-nation/ Read Chapter 7 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 4 Due Sunday, 10/18 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 9 10/19 to 10/23	Chapter 8 PowerPoint Read Chapter 8 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-08-the-early-republic/ Read Chapter 8 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	N/A
Week 10 10/26 to 10/30	Chapter 9 PowerPoint Read Chapter 9 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-09-getting-forward/ Read Chapter 9 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Exam Two Due Sunday, 11/1 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 11 11/2 to 11/6	Chapter 10 PowerPoint Read Chapter 10 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-10-american-democracy/ Read Chapter 10 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 5 Due Sunday, 11/8 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 12 11/9 to 11/13	Chapter 11 PowerPoint Read Chapter 11 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-11-growth-and-conflict/ Read Chapter 11 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	N/A
Week 13 11/16 to 11/20	Chapter 12 PowerPoint Read Chapter 12 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-12-the-national-crisis/ Read Chapter 12 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Primary Source Analysis 6 Due Sunday, 11/22 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 14 11/23 to 11/27	Thanksgiving Break	Primary Source Analysis 7 Due Sunday, 11/29 at 11:59 p.m.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 15 11/30 to 12/4	Chapter 13 PowerPoint Read Chapter 13 https://www.americanyawp.com/text/2e-13-the-civil-war/ Read Chapter 13 Primary Sources in <i>Voices of Freedom</i>	Exam Three Due Sunday, 12/6 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 16 12/7 to 12/11	Finals Week	Finals Week