

# Syllabus

## History 1233-206: Who is the American Dream for? Survey of United States History, 1877 to Present

### Spring Semester

Dr. "R" or Rattanasengchanh

Meeting Times: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30pm – 1:50pm

Meeting Room: PY 103

Office: OD 234

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2-4 and Wednesdays 3pm or by appointment

*[All assignments, topics, and exams schedules are subject to change]*

### Overview:

This course will provide an overview of American history from 1865 to the present with a focus on politics, society, military, and culture. The course emphasizes not so much dates and events but broad issues and themes that run throughout the American past. The end of the American Civil War was supposed to bring about major social, racial, and political changes but did not. A major theme of this class will look at how the legacies of the war can be seen today. America still grapples with issues of race, struggles between federal and state power, gender and sexuality, immigration, and class disputes. This course will look at ideas, events, and perspectives that are rarely discussed in high school courses and popular history. The idea of the American "dream" has been reserved for a select few, so we will look at how many have still yet to achieve it.

### Goals:

1. Understand how history has shaped the society, culture, and world you currently live in specifically, you will learn about people, events, and perspectives that you most likely did not hear and read about in high school – this class is not taught like a high school athletic coach would.
2. Learn to analyze primary documents to know their meaning and context
3. Learn to write: summarize ideas from primary documents and learning materials in your own words to answer critical-thinking questions

### Required Texts

- YOU WILL DO LESS READING THAN IF I ASSIGNED YOU A TEXTBOOK.
- Most of the readings will be primary sources such as newspapers, personal stories, and government documents **from people living during the time period** covered in this class. All readings will be made available online in D2L.

- **NO** *The American Yawp, Vol. 1: To 1877* – WE ARE NOT USING THIS TEXT

## Assignments

1. \*\*\* Readings will be posted online in D2L
2. Exam 1 and Exam 2 25% and 25%
  - No multiple choice; only written response questions
  - You can only use the syllabus readings found in D2L and the notes you took from what I taught in lecture
3. Participation and Attendance: 10%
  - I will take attendance
  - I will keep track of participation
4. 1 Writing Assignment: 20% 1-2 pages. Find the template/instruction document in **D2L** for more instructions. Download the template/instruction document to your computer.
5. 1 Primary Source Analysis: 20%. Find the template/instructions document in D2L. Download the document to your computer

## Other Policies

- No late papers.
- All assignments are to be submitted in Dropbox AS A MICROSOFT WORD DOCUMENT when they are due. Other formats not accepted (No PDF format accepted).
- Work outside of school, extracurricular activities, and having a number of assignments due in the same week or on the same day are not acceptable reasons for handing work in late.
- DEATH OF IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS (proof needed – sorry), WITH DOCUMENTATION, WILL BE APPROVED. ILLNESS MUST HAVE DOCTOR'S NOTE in order to make-up assignments but this is still up to the discretion of the professor.

### **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 lectures. Every student will not be allowed any unexcused absences. For an absence to be excused for serious illness, immediate family or religious obligations, or other reasons, students must present compelling and appropriate documentation. Excused absences in the immediate family are excused; proper documentation must be presented. Students are responsible for presenting this documentation either in advance of the absence or as soon after the absence as possible.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

The following constitutes plagiarism: “the use, deliberate or not, of any outside source without proper acknowledgment. While the work of others often constitutes a necessary resource for academic research, such work must be properly used and credited to the original author. This principle applies to professional scholars as well as to students. All work that students submit or present as part of course assignments or requirements must be their own original work. When students use the specific thoughts, ideas, writings, or expressions of others, they must accompany each instance of use with some form of attribution to the source. Direct quotes from any source (including the Internet) must be placed in quotation marks...and be accompanied by an appropriate citation.” Plagiarism will result in the offender receiving zero in the course.

FIRST TIME WILL BE A WARNING WITH A 0/ZERO on the assignment.  
SECOND TIME WILL BE A 0/ZERO on the assignment, FAIL CLASS, AND REPORT TO STUDENT LIFE. **LAST SEMESTER SEVERAL ONLINE STUDENTS WERE CAUGHT FOR PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING ON THE EXAM – zero tolerance.**

In summation, every assignment is uploaded in D2L Dropbox that utilizes Turnitin and an AI mechanism. I ALSO USE AN AI DETECTOR OUTSIDE OF THESE two. If I find an issue, you will receive plenty of screenshots and evidence. You will fail the assignment if there is an issue with plagiarism, cheating, and/or using information that is NOT from D2L and from the lecture (unless otherwise instructed).

### **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).

### **Accommodation**

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 <http://www.mwsu.edu/student-life/disability>.

### **Smoking/Tobacco Policy**

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS 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.

## **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2017-18](#)

## **Grading Scale:**

92-100%=A

90-91%=A-

87-89%=B+

82-86%=B

79-81%=B-

77-78%=C+

72-76%=C

69-71%=C-

67-68%=D+

62-66%=D

59-61%=D-

0-58%=F

| Date                                       | Topic   | Readings  | Assignment |
|--|---|---|------------|
| January 21, Tuesday & January 23, Thursday | Intro, End of the Civil War and Reconstruction<br><br>America's Industrial Revolution, the making of the Working Class, and the Beginning of Anti-Immigration | 1) Cornerstone Speech;<br>2) Confederate Constitution<br>3) Abraham Lincoln Inaugural Speech 1865 4)1866<br>Memphis Riots<br>5) Abram Colby Testimony |            |
| January 28, Tuesday & January              | The American Empire and the Demise of   | 1) Ghost Dance video<br>2) Account from Battle of Little Big Horn<br>3) Roosevelt Corollary<br>4) Accounts from American war in Philippines           |            |

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| 30,<br>Thursday                                       | the Native Americans<br><br>Early American Women's History And Homosexuality | 5) Manifest Destiny<br>6) Josiah Strong Excerpt<br>7) Letter from Abigail Adams to Judge<br>8) The Female Advocate<br><br>9) The Rights and the Condition of Women<br><br>10) U.S.-LGBT Timeline<br>11) The Historians' Case Against Gay Discrimination (Excerpt)<br>Watch Movie on youtube.com = "The Birth of a Nation,"<br><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGQaAddwjxg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGQaAddwjxg</a><br>13) How the Other Half Lives<br>14) The Jungle<br>15) Sweatshop Quotes |  |
| February 4,<br>Tuesday &<br>February 6,<br>Thursday   | The Other America (Murica)<br><br>WWI and Growth of "Big Brother"            | 1) Priest and Two Others Tarded<br>2) Snowden and Espionage Act<br>3) Illusions of the White Race<br>4) Ho Chi Minh's Admiration for the U.S.<br>5) Flapper Girl Article<br>6) "I need a Little Sugar in My Bowl" song<br>7) Conservative Manifesto<br>8) Anti-Suffrage Pamphlet  |  |
| February 11,<br>Tuesday &<br>February 13,<br>Thursday | Interwar and Prosperity?<br><br>Great Depression                             | 1) First-hand accounts from the Great Depression<br>2) "Boston Girl Swings 10-Ton Crane"<br>3) Japanese Internment Documents<br>4) African-American WWII Soldiers<br>5) America and the Holocaust Articles  |  |
| February 18,<br>Tuesday &<br>February 20,<br>Thursday | WWII<br><br>America and the Holocaust  | 1) Truman Doctrine<br>2) Stalin Speech<br>3) PTSD before it was called that. <i>Washington Post</i> article, <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-greatest-generations-forgotten-trauma/2015/09/11/8978d3b0-46b0-11e5-8ab4-c73967a143d3_story.html?utm_term=.08d2929ddb4">https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-greatest-generations-forgotten-trauma/2015/09/11/8978d3b0-46b0-11e5-8ab4-c73967a143d3_story.html?utm_term=.08d2929ddb4</a>  |  |
| February 25,<br>Tuesday &                             | Origins of the Cold War  | 1) McCarthy Speech<br>2) Seeger Testimony<br>3) Cooper Testimony  |  |

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| February 27, Thursday                  | America Adjusts to Life after WWII   | 4) “When America's hottest jazz stars were sent to cool cold-war tensions”   |  |
| March 4, Tuesday & March 6, Thursday   | Anti-Communism at Home<br><br>1950s: Prosperity, Conservatism, and Hipsters                        | 1) Watch Social-Sex Attitudes in Adolescence ( <a href="https://archive.org/details/SocialSe1953">https://archive.org/details/SocialSe1953</a> )<br>2) Sexual Behavior in the Human Male   | Primary Source Analysis due February 29, Thursday before 11:59pm |
| <b>March 8-16 Spring Break</b>         |  | <b>March 8-16 Spring Break</b>   | <b>March 8-16 Spring Break</b>                                   |
| March 18, Tuesday                      | Origins of Vietnam War   | 1) Watergate Tapes: Listen to “Smoking Gun” recording ( <a href="https://watergate.info/1972/06/23/the-smoking-gun-tape.html">https://watergate.info/1972/06/23/the-smoking-gun-tape.html</a> )<br>2) My Lai Massacre Account<br>3) The Last Days of Saigon<br><br>4) Ho Chi Minh’s Independence Speech<br>5) JFK Speech on VN, 1956<br>6) LBJ Speech on VN, 1965<br><br>7) John Kerry and War Crimes in Vietnam ( <a href="http://www.vvaw.org/commentary/?id=399">http://www.vvaw.org/commentary/?id=399</a> ) |  |
| March 20-21                            |  | <b>Online Exam 1 on March 20 Thursday at 6:00am to March 21, Friday before 11:59pm CST</b>   | <b>Online Exam 1</b>   |
| March 25, Tuesday & March 27, Thursday | Vietnam in America<br><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Half of Vietnam War and Conservative Backlash to Hippies | 1) Nixon’s Silent Majority Speech<br>2) Martin Luther King Jr. and the Vietnam War Speech<br>3) Iranian Hostage Crisis Account<br>4) Boogie Nights Article   |  |

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| April 1, Tuesday & April 3, Thursday   | Civil Rights, Women's Rights, Gay Rights, and Latino Rights<br><br>1970s, Disco, Pres. Carter | 1) Robert Beckhusen Article<br>2) 1983_The Most Dangerous Year of the Cold War  | Writing Assignment due March 26, Tuesday before 11:59pm |
| April 8, Tuesday & April 10, Thursday  | <b>No Classes</b>   | 1) "America's HIV outbreak started in this city, 10 years before anyone noticed"<br>2) Listen to NPR episode titled, "The Golden Age of MTV"<br>( <a href="https://www.npr.org/2011/11/06/141991877/the-golden-age-of-mtv-and-yes-there-was-one">https://www.npr.org/2011/11/06/141991877/the-golden-age-of-mtv-and-yes-there-was-one</a> )<br>3) Ronald Reagan's Berlin Speech<br>4) Bush's New World Order Speech | <b>No Classes</b>                                       |
| April 15, Tuesday                      | Cold War gets Hot   | 1) Rodney King Accounts Article<br>2) Monica Lewinsky Article<br>3) Timothy McVeigh and Oklahoma City Bombing   |   |
| April 16 – 20                          | <b>Holiday Break</b>  | <b>Holiday Break</b>  | <b>Holiday Break</b>                                    |
| April 22, Tuesday & April 24, Thursday | Reagan, Madonna, and AIDS<br><br>End of the Cold War  | 1) Why did we go to war in Iraq?<br>2) "Disposable Soldiers" Article<br>3) Review of <i>The Looming Tower</i><br>4) Osama bin Laden Story<br>5) After 9/11, Americans United to Protect the Country. Today, We're Divided by Threats that Don't Exist   |   |
| April 29, Tuesday & May 1, Thursday    | 1990s and Alternative Music   | 1) Legacy of No Child Left Behind<br>1) Millennials Wounded from 2008 Financial Crisis<br>2) Arnold Kling Article<br>3) The Effects of the Economic Crisis on American Households<br><br>1) Barack Obama's 2004 Speech<br>2) Conservative Backlash against Obama<br>3) Reaction to Obama being Elected  |   |

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| May 6,<br>Tuesday   | Clinton<br>9/11 –<br>Terrorism | <p>1) Excerpts from <i>Fire and Fury</i></p> <p>2) Trump’s Inaugural Speech</p> <p>3) Voices from Democratic Counties Where Trump Won Big</p> <p>4) Parler’s Founder Explains Why He Build Trump’s New Favorite Social Media App</p> <p>5) Manipulated Video of Biden Mixing Up States was Shared 1.1m Times before Being Removed</p> <p>1) <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/dec/19/central-america-migrants-us-foreign-policy">https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/dec/19/central-america-migrants-us-foreign-policy</a></p> <p>2) <a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/12/21/has-united-states-foreign-policy-central-america-fueled-migrant-crisis-donald-trump/2338489002/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/12/21/has-united-states-foreign-policy-central-america-fueled-migrant-crisis-donald-trump/2338489002/</a></p> <p>3) <a href="https://medium.com/s/story/timeline-us-intervention-central-america-a9bea9ebc148">https://medium.com/s/story/timeline-us-intervention-central-america-a9bea9ebc148</a></p> |  |
| May 8,<br>Thursday<br>at 6am to<br>May 9,<br>Friday<br>before<br>11:59pm<br>CST |                                | <b>Online Exam #2 from</b> May 8, Thursday at 6am to May 9, Friday before 11:59pm CST   |  |

**Appendix:**

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 A       |

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 003 C       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 003 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 E       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture/Discussion                      | Competency 004 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 004 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 E       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 F       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 004 G       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 H       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 005 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 B       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 E       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 006 C       |

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 F       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 A       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 007 B       |
| Lecture/Discussion                      | Competency 007 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 E       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 F       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 G       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 008 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 B       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 E       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 008 F       |

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 003 C       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 003 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 003 E       |

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
|   |                        |
| Lecture/Discussion                      | Competency 004 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 004 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 E       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 F       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 004 G       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 004 H       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 005 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 B       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 005 E       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 006 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 006 F       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 A       |

| Assignment/Module/<br>Course Activities | Standard or Competency |
|---|------------------------|
| Lecture                                 | Competency 007 B       |
| Lecture/Discussion                      | Competency 007 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 E       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 F       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 007 G       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 008 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 B       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 C       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 008 E       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 008 F       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 009 C       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 012 D       |
|   |                        |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 014 A       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 014 B       |
| Lecture                                 | Competency 014 D       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 014 E       |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 014 F       |
|   |                        |
| Paper/Discussion                        | Competency 015 A       |

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Lecture            | Competency 015 B |
| Lecture            | Competency 015 C |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 015 D |
| Lecture            | Competency 015 G |
| Lecture            | Competency 015 H |
|                    |                  |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 016 C |
| Lecture            | Competency 016 G |
|                    |                  |
| Lecture            | Competency 019 A |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 019 B |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 019 C |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 019 E |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 019 F |
|                    |                  |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 022 A |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 022 C |
| Lecture            | Competency 022 D |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 022 E |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 022 G |
|                    |                  |
| Paper/Discussion   | Competency 024 D |
| Lecture            | Competency 024 E |
| Lecture/Discussion | Competency 024 F |

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Paper/Discussion | Competency 024 H |
|                  |                  |
| Lecture/Paper    | Competency 025 A |
| Lecture/Paper    | Competency 025 C |
| Lecture/Paper    | Competency 025 D |