



Course Syllabus: Survey of U.S. History to 1865 College of Liberal Arts HIST

Contact Information

Instructor: Daniel Davenport
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Office hours: None, By Appointment
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Instructor Response Policy

Email is the best way to reach me. I will try to respond within 24 hours of me reading your email. However, I am not attached to my email. I do check it once per day.

Textbook & Supplemental Materials

Davidson, James West, et al. U.S.: A NARRATIVE HISTORY. Vol. II. 9th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2015. McGraw-Hill

Supplemental Readings and Material in the Weekly Modules

Course Description

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

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies

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

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2021-22](#)

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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).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](#). You will not use AI to complete any course assignments to include Grammarly.

Grading/Assessment

Assessment:

Exams: There will be three course exams.

Discussion Boards: You will have 3 Discussion Boards where we discuss historical figures and interpret primary and secondary sources.

Homework: This course consists of 2 writing assignments.

The first assignment will be a Preci/Two Pager/Executive Summary.

The second assignment will be a 3 pg minimum Battlefield Assignment designed to exam a battlefield, military post, person, or ship through a historical lens.

There will be one Extra Credit assignment that will increase your final grade by five points/half of a letter grade. The assignment will consist of a paper analyzing a movie (approved by the instructor) based on a historical character, theme, or event that is covered in this course.

Exams 60% of grade.
Homework 25% of grade.
Discussion Boards 15% of grade
Extra Credit up to 5% added to final grade
A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89%
C = 70 – 79%
D = 60 – 69%
F = 0 – 59%

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted unless student arranges an extension before the due date, or extenuating circumstances keep the student from asking for an extension.

Important Dates

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" Nov 24th at 4pm.

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Final Exam: due 10/6 2359hrs

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 review all the material and complete all assignments in this class. It is online and doesn't have a physical attendance component, but student participation is key to success in this class.

Online Computer Requirements

You will need access to a physical computer that is connected to the internet with a webcam. For help, log into [D2L](#).

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 Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 3974140. 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

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.

Course Schedule:

Below is the complete course schedule along with readings for each class period and due dates for the assignment. Please note that the schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances, but I will notify you of the changes and update the dates in the syllabus.

Course Schedule

Week or Module	Lecture & Reading	Assignment Due
Week 1	Prehistory No Ch Readings Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 1
Week 2	Conquest Ch 2 Any Supplemental Material	No assignment due
Week 3	Colonization Ch 3 &4 Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 2

Week 4	Unit I Exam Review	Unit I Exam
Week 5	Seven Years War and Road to Revolution Ch 6 Any Supplemental Material	
Week 6	Revolution Ch 7 Any Supplemental Material	No assignment due
Week 7	Constitution Ch 8 Any Supplemental Material	2 Pager
Week 8	New Nation Ch 9	No assignment due
Week 9	Unit II Exam Review	Unit II Exam
Week 10	Jackson Ch 10-11 Any Supplemental Material	No assignment due
Week 11	Mexican American War Ch 14 Any Supplemental Material	Discussion 3
Week 12	Toward the Civil War Ch 13 & 15 Any Supplemental Material	No assignment due
Week 13	Working Week (No Lecture) Any Supplemental Material	Battlefield Assignment
Week 14	The Civil War Ch 16	No assignment due
Week 15	Reconstruction Ch 17	No assignment due

Week 16	Unit III Review	Unit III Exam 10/6!
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