



Course Syllabus: Survey of U.S. History up to 1865
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
HIST 1133 Section x21
Spring Semester 2025

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, J. Locke and Ben Wright.

- It is available online for free. Here is the link to it
- <https://www.americanyawp.com/>
- I will also link the readings to each week.

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

- This collection of primary sources is available for free online.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

TASP is available to students who need tutoring or assistance. You can contact TASP at (940) 397-4684 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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work, not the individual to whom credit is given).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](#)

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

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Attendance and Participation	10%
Quizzes	5%
Primary Source Analyses	15%
Exam One	20%
Exam Two	20%
Exam Three	20%
Research Question Project	10%
Total Percentage	100%

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	60 to 69

Grade	Points
F	59 or below

Homework

Primary Source Analyses- 15%

For this class, you will have to complete 5 primary source analyses. PSAs are important because they help us understand how people viewed certain events and how those events affected others. They also provide first person perspectives. However, I personally feel like PSAs can become a bit repetitive, and I don't want you to hate primary sources. I have come up with an idea. To break up any repetitiveness, you must analyze 3 primary source documents and 2 paintings or sketches. You can do these in any order throughout the semester.

- They should be 1-2 pages
- You can find detailed instructions on the PSAs page.
- PSA Schedule
 - PSA 1- Feb 2
 - Chapters 1-2
 - PSA 2- Feb. 16
 - Chapters 3-5
 - PSA 3- March 23
 - Chapters 6-8
 - PSA 4- April 13
 - Chapters 9-11
 - PSA 5- April 27
 - Chapters 12-14

Quizzes

Quizzes- 5%

You will have 5 quizzes and are due at 11:59 on Fridays. They are timed and will be multiple choice.

Exams

There will be 3 exams. The exams are 20% each and make up 60% of your overall grade.

- a. These exams will be 5 IDs and 2 essay questions.
 - i. There will be a group of ids for either people, places, or events and you will need to pick 5. The ids need to consist of who was involved in an event or details about a person, what occurred with a person or event, when the person or event occurred, and why it matters. Formatting for the ids will need to complete sentences with correct grammar. The ids should not be longer than a paragraph. Each id is worth 10% each for a total of 50%.

- ii. There will be 5 essay questions. You must pick 2. The essay questions are to help explain events and/or people in a type of "bigger picture" aspect of history. You will need to analyze topics and effectively explain what occurred. There may also be multiple questions within one essay question. Essays should consist of an introduction paragraph, which introduces the topic, 3 body paragraphs that answer the question(s) and will require evidence from readings and lectures, and a conclusion that ties everything together. The essay questions are 25% each.
- b. The exams will be open book and open notes, so you are able to use the book and the PowerPoint lectures. **NO OUTSIDE RESOURCES.** **Use of outside resources will result in docked points.**

Projects Required

Research Question Project- 10%

A big part of studying history requires researching events, people, or places. Researching in general is a great skill to acquire, and helps you discern what is factual or could be fake. Your research project will be simple: you must pick something that interests you from the class material and construct a research question (or questions). Additionally, you must provide 2 primary sources and 1 secondary sources that you believe will help with your research project. Don't panic though: you are not going to dive into rabbit hole. Your project only needs to be 1 page at the max.

Please see "Research Question Project" under assignments.

The project is due May 4th by 11:59 p.m.

Final Exam

The final exam will be Exam 3 and is worth 20%. It will follow the same format as Exam one and Exam two: pick 5 ids and discuss the who, what, when, where, and why it is important; and two essay questions. It will be over chapters 11-14. It will be due Wednesday, December 11, by 11:59 p.m.

Extra Credit

There will not be extra credit given.

Late Work

I understand that life will happen; however, you are still taking a college class. If you are behind on an assignment, you must send me an email 24 hours in advance for an extension.

Make-up Work/Tests

If you miss an assignment or exam, please email me for make up work.

Academic Misconduct and AI

The assignments require you to form your own thoughts and opinions about events. You can not copy and paste information from the internet or paraphrase without citations. Therefore, any type of misconduct, such as cheating, plagiarism, etc., will result in an F. Additionally, the use of AI as your source of information is not allowed as well. Citing it as such will result in an F.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: January 25th. Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).

Deadline to file for graduation: February 17th for May graduation. Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).

Spring Break: March 10-14. Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).

Holiday Break: April 16-20. Check the date on the [Academic Calendar](#).

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 30th. Check the date on the [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 daily. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning before 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 a 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 that 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](#).

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 an 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](#).

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 prohibit 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 as 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 the 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:

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 1/20 to 1/24	Powerpoints: Introduction Migration Readings: One Long Story Chapter One Indigenous Americans	Read Chapter 1
Week 2 1/27 to 1/31	Powerpoints: New World Readings: Ch. 2 Colliding Cultures	PSA 1 due Sunday 2/2.
Week 3 2/3 to 2/7	Powerpoints: British North America Readings: Ch. 3 The Shaping of British North America	Quiz
Week 4 2/10 to 2/14	Powerpoint Colonial Society Readings: Ch. 4 Colonial Society	PSA 2 by 2/16.
Week 5 2/17 to 2/21	Powerpoint: Outbreak of the American Revolution Readings: Ch. 5 The American Revolution	Exam 1 Due Sunday 2/23.
Week 6 2/24 to 2/28	Powerpoint: The American Revolution Readings: Ch. 5 The American Revolution	Quiz
Week 7 3/2 to 3/7	Powerpoint: A New Nation Readings: Ch. 6 A New Nation	Read Chapter 6
3/9 to 3/14	SPRING BREAK	
Week 8 3/17 to 3/21	Powerpoint: The Early Republic Readings: Ch. 7 The Early Republic	PSA 3 Sunday 3/23
Week 9 3/24 to 3/28	Powerpoint: The Market Revolution Readings: Ch. 8 The Market Revolution	Quiz.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 10 3/31 to 4/4	Powerpoint: Democracy in America Readings: Ch. 9 Democracy in America	Exam 2 Sunday 4/6.
Week 11 4/7 to 4/11	Powerpoint: Religion and Reform Readings: Ch. 10 Religion and Reform	PSA 4 Due 4/13.
Week 12 4/14 to 4/17	Powerpoint: the Cotton Revolution Readings: Ch. 11 the Cotton Revolution Holiday Break 4/16-4/20.	Quiz.
Week 13 4/21 to 4/25	Powerpoint: Manifest Destiny Readings: Ch. 12 Manifest Destiny	PSA 5 Sunday 4/27.
Week 14 4/28 to 5/2	LAST DAY TO DROP is the 30 th . PowerPoint: The Sectional Crisis Ch 13 The Sectional Crisis	Research Project due 5/4
Week 15 5/5 to 5/9	Powerpoint: The Civil War Ch. 14 The Civil War	Quiz.
Week 16 5/12 to 5/16	Finals Week	Exam 3 Due Wednesday 5/14