



Survey American History to 1865
Department of History
College of Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
HIST 1133-102/151
MWF: 1:00pm-1:50pm
PY 103
Spring 2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Zachary B. Fulton

Office: OD 214

Office hours: Monday (10:00am-12:00pm) & Friday (10:00am-12:00pm & 2:00pm-3:00pm)

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Course Description

This is an introductory survey of United States history from the indigenous inhabitants of North America leading up to the American Civil War. The class is meant to give the students a basic knowledge and framework of American History, illustrating how the Constitution and America's changing role in the world led to its superpower status and overall prosperity. This course focuses on the political, legal, and economic issues that contributed to competing concepts of American identity and offers explanations for how and why the state developed in the manner it did. Major themes include changes in society, the development of American prominence on the world political and economic stages, and the crises that shaped the state and its people. Furthermore, it challenges some of the preconceived and learned notions about American History and the American people that are often presented as "truths" in school courses, popular (and flawed) books, and in the media. These challenges are meant to stimulate lively and rational debate, in which students with various opinions can exchange points of view respectfully without childish shunning and cancelling or ad hominem attacks. There is NO room for personal and intellectual growth unless your opinions and values are challenged. The discussions, lectures, and readings are meant to develop critical thinking skills in relation to historical themes and particular events. A primary element of the course is the growth of critical thinking among students, concerning the examination of historical themes and paradigms (examples, patterns, models, and standards).

Student Participation

Students will be held personally responsible for their own education. I am a harsh taskmaster and do not accept excuses that tend to be pervasive in today's society. You are adults, and with age comes responsibility for your own actions or lack thereof. Active student participation in learning (which includes careful reading of ALL assignments, classroom engagement, attentive note taking, and participation in discussions), the maintenance of a weekly study schedule, the completion of ALL assignments in a timely manner, adequate preparation for exams, and, when necessary, individual post-exam consultation with the instructor, is essential to meeting the learning outcomes of the course.

However, if you turn in all assignments, pass your exams, and participate in discussions, you are not guaranteed a "good grade". A is a designation for superior work, and B for good work. If your work ethic, written work, and test taking efforts are merely satisfactory, you will EARN a C. The bare minimum earns a D.

Required Book

We will be using a single textbook selected as a corrective to the current state of college textbooks. It does not have modules or that many visuals. However, it has an easy to read, cohesive narrative of American History, presenting it in a more balanced way than most others I've used in the past. McClay offers what he thinks is most important aspects of American history to the reader. The book is offered fairly cheaply at the university bookstore, however, can be easily found on Amazon.

*Land of Hope: An invitation to the Great American Story. By Wilfred M. McClay. Encounter Books. First American Edition.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1594039372?psc=1&ref=ppx_yo2ov_dt_b_product_details

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

I use MSU's D2L program to post documents or give assignments. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication between student and professor. In the first week, I will post the syllabus and the terms for the course. 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. I will put a few required readings on D2L (see schedule below) during the semester.

Online Computer Requirements

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.* Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!

Institutional and COVID Policies

In general, the class policies concerning COVID are those implemented by MSU Texas and are subject to change as university policy changes. Please check university policies throughout the semester. Below are listed some of the things you should be aware of.

- 1) This is a face-to-face course. I will NOT be livestreaming the course unless a student tests positive or must go into quarantine due to exposure by an infected individual. It is the student's responsibility to inform me, in writing (email is fine), of the situation. I will implement livestreaming within two class sessions to accommodate the sick or quarantined students.
- 2) Due to the policies on social distancing and attendance, seating charts and seat assignments will be used in this course. Each student must sit in a desk or chair with an affixed sticker allowing seating. That desk or chair cannot be moved for any reason and attendance will be taken by seating chart. Once you select a desk, you must sit in that desk and that desk alone throughout the semester.
- 3) Due to the possibility of a campus shut-down, the students are responsible for owning or having access to the necessary equipment and software to continue this course via distance learning. Below are the MINIMUM requirements as determined by the university.

HARDWARE:

PC Desktops and laptops (Use Windows' Operating System and PC Info to find your hardware information if you are unsure)

- a) Intel Core (i3, i5, i7) processors; 4th generation or newer
- b) 4 GB of RAM, 8 GB of RAM is highly recommended
- c) 256 GB SSD Storage
- d) Dual Band spectrum (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz) with 802.11ac or 802.11n

Mac desktops and laptops (Use Apple's About this Mac feature to find your hardware information)

- a) Intel Core (i3, i5, i7) processors; 4th generation or newer
- b) 4 GB of RAM, 8 GB of RAM is highly recommended
- c) 256 GB SSD Storage
- d) Dual Band spectrum (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz) with 802.11ac or 802.11n

PLEASE NOTE!!!: Chromebooks are not recommended, as they will not work with D2L. You have been warned now, so do NOT expect me to make accommodations if distance learning is implemented during the semester.

SOFTWARE:

Minimum Software requirements

Operating Systems:

- a) Windows 10 (1709)
- b) macOS 10.13 (High Sierra)

Web browsers:

- a) Internet Explorer 11 (Windows)
- b) Microsoft Edge
- c) Safari
- d) Firefox
- e) Chrome

Conferencing Software:

- a) Microsoft Teams
- b) Zoom Web Conferencing
- c) Skype for Business
- d) Web X

Other supported hardware and software options are located at

<https://msutexas.edu/it/assets/files/basic-software-and-hardware-list.pdf>

- 4) If absence due to COVID infection or exposure occurs, it must be documented by the university. If you cannot make office hours, call during posted times only for immediate concerns. Otherwise, email or call to make a face-to-face or electronic meeting.
- 5) All documents relating to the course will be available on D2L. Check regularly.

Attendance and your grade: This course is structured so that it is to the student's advantage to attend class regularly. From past experience, students who choose not to attend on a regular basis are not successful. I allow three, and only three unexcused absences. After that, each unexcused absence will result in a penalty to your participation grade. If you have a total of nine unexcused absences, you will not be able to pass the course.

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 individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

-Any use of AI to write a paper is unacceptable and will result in a zero with appropriate actions being followed.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance MSU offers tutoring assistance, both on campus and through distance education. Refer to Tutoring Options for more help.

Support Services

In coordination with the Disability Support Service, reasonable accommodations will be provided for qualified students with disabilities (LD, Orthopedic, Hearing, Visual, Speech, Psychological, ADD/ADHD, Health Related & Other). Please meet with the instructor during the first week of class to make arrangements.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Midwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of sex, religion, creed, national origin, race, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law. If you believe you have been discriminated against unlawfully, please bring this matter to the attention of your professor or to the Human Resource Office.

Grading

Assignments	Percentage of grade
Exams (2) 25% each	50%
Papers (3) 10% each	30%
Movie Review (1)10%	10%
Active participation and attendance (Includes pop-quizzes and in-class assignments)	10%

Final Grade	Percentage
A	90% plus
B	80 – 89.9%
C	70 – 79.9%
D	60 – 69.9%
F	Less than 60%

Exams:

There will be two exams during the semester. The first will be a midterm and the second a final exam on a designated day prior to finals' week. I will provide study guides for both exams ahead of time.

Papers:

You will be required to do three short papers during the semester. I will provide several topics for paper one, two, and three. You will pick a topic and write a two-to-three-page paper on the said topic. Do not write more than three pages or less than two pages. Within

the paper, you will critically explain and discuss the topic/question(s) at hand. Now you might be asking yourself, "why do I have to do this? I don't intend to be a professional historian [or] I won't ever take another course in this department." Every academic field requires such critical exercises; furthermore, you may take a position after college in which the boss wants you to critique something in writing. These papers will give you practice doing a formal critique. We will spend class time talking about and practicing analytical writing.

Movie Review:

Towards the end of the semester, you will have a movie review due. You will be required to watch a movie and review it in a comprehensive paper that is two to three pages long. No more, no less.

Attendance and Participation:

Active participation means not only attending the course, but contributing to discussion, asking questions, and being engaged. Just showing up IS NOT ADEQUATE. **If you can't commit, there's no reason to take the course.**

Extra Credit

No Extra credit assignments will be provided. **DO NOT ASK.**

Midterm Progress Report

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the professor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's Web World account. All students will receive this midterm progress report. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcript, nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the instructor.

Important Dates

Last day for term schedule changes: August 28-31

Deadline to file for December graduation: September 25

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" October 30

Instructor Class Policies

Conduct: All students are expected to act as responsible adults. Any disruptions or distractions will be dealt with in an appropriate manner. Below you will find general guidelines covering certain actions and/or behaviors that are to be avoided. As a general rule any behavior that disrupts the administration of this class will not be tolerated. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from the time spent in class, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request that the offending student leave the classroom. Furthermore, the professor reserves the right to deduct points from the student's semester total or remove the student from the course.

Arriving late is considered a distraction. If arriving more than five (5) minutes late – **DO NOT** enter the classroom.

Electronic Devices, Texting, and Phones: The use of tape recorders, iPods, mp3s, or any other recording device in class is **prohibited**. It is imperative that you turn off phones, all other communication devices, and electronic equipment before entering the classroom. The use of a telephone or texting device for any reason is prohibited. *On the first offense the student will be penalized 20 points on her or his participation score for the*

week. The second offense will result in the student being asked to leave the classroom. The professor reserves the right to expel and administratively withdraw a student from the class upon the third offense.

Laptops, Tablets, & etc.: You must obtain permission from the professor to use laptops, tablets, and phones (or any other device capable of accessing the internet) in the classroom. Recent scholarship suggests that laptops and tablets are **major distractions** to fellow students and in general do not enhance learning and/or the classroom experience. Furthermore, there will be no surfing, texting, emailing, etc. in the classroom, unless I specifically ask the students to do so.

E-mail: Note that e-mail correspondence is the most effective and convenient way in which to communicate with me outside the classroom. The professor/student relationship is professional by nature and, accordingly, your e-mail correspondence should be constructed professionally.

Attendance and your grade: This course is structured so that it is to the student's advantage to attend class regularly. From past experience, students who choose not to attend on a regular basis are not successful. I allow three, and only three unexcused absences. After that, each unexcused absence will result in a penalty to your participation grade. If you have a total of nine unexcused absences, you will not be able to pass the course.

Withdrawals (Course Drop): The professor is NOT responsible for student withdrawals. The student is responsible for meeting all academic deadlines including withdrawal deadlines.

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.

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. If, however, 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.

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the professor. Also, please carefully note the due dates for the papers. This is not a synchronous class, but we must maintain a schedule of due dates for the papers. The papers take you through a 'leveling process' and you need to complete them by a certain day to assure successful completion of the course.

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule

Week or Module	Readings and other Assignments
Week 1 Aug 28 (M) Aug 30 (W) Sep 1 (F)	Introduction to American History and Class Policies Reading: McClay, Introduction and Epilogue Aug 28- Introduction to American History and Class Policies Aug 30- Discussion/lecture Sep 1- Discussion/lecture
Week 2 Sep 4 (M) Sep 6 (W) Sep 8 (F)	Indigenous America Reading: McClay, Introduction & Chapter 1 Sep 4- No class (Labor Day) Sep 6- Discussion/lecture Sep 8- Discussion/lecture
Week 3 Sep 11 (M) Sep 13 (W) Sep 15 (F)	Colliding Cultures Reading: McClay, Chapter 2 Sep 11- Discussion/lecture Sep 13- Discussion/lecture Sep 15- Discussion/lecture
Week 4 Sep 18 (M) Sep 20 (W) Sep 22 (F)	British North America Reading: McClay, Chapter 3 Sep 18- Discussion/lecture Sep 20- Discussion/lecture Sep 22- <i>Paper One Due at Midnight</i>

Week or Module	Readings and other Assignments
Week 5 Sep 25 (M) Sep 27 (W) Sep 29 (F)	Colonial Society Reading: McClay, Chapter 4 Sep 25- Discussion/lecture (<i>Deadline for December graduates to file for Graduation</i>) Sep 27- Discussion/lecture Sep 29- Discussion/lecture
Week 6 Oct 2 (M) Oct 4 (W) Oct 6 (F)	The American Revolution Reading: McClay, Chapter 5 Oct 2- Discussion/lecture (<i>Final Deadline for May graduates to file for graduation</i>) Oct 4- Discussion/lecture Oct 6- Exam 1 (See Review)
Week 7 Oct 9 (M) Oct 11 (W) Oct 13 (F)	A New Conglomeration of States Reading: McClay, Chapter 6 Oct 9- Discussion/lecture Oct 11- Discussion/lecture Oct 13- Discussion/lecture
Week 8 Oct 16 (M) Oct 18 (W) Oct 20 (F)	The Early Republic Reading: McClay, Chapter 7 Oct 16- Discussion/lecture Oct 18- Discussion/lecture Oct 20- Discussion/lecture
Week 9	The Market Revolution Reading: McClay, Chapter 8

Week or Module	Readings and other Assignments
Oct 23 (M) Oct 25 (W) Oct 27 (F)	<p>Oct 23- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Oct 25- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Oct 27- <i>Paper two due at Midnight</i></p>
<p>Week 10 Oct 30 (M) Nov 1 (W) Nov 3 (F)</p>	<p>Democracy in America</p> <p>Reading: McClay, Chapter 9</p> <p>Oct 30- Discussion/lecture (<i>Last day to withdraw with a "W," 4:00pm- Drops after this date will receive an "F."</i>)</p> <p>Nov 1- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 3- Discussion/lecture</p>
<p>Week 11 Nov 6 (M) Nov 8 (W) Nov 10 (F)</p>	<p>Religion and Reform</p> <p>Reading: McClay, Chapter 10</p> <p>Nov 6- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 8- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 10- Discussion/lecture</p>
<p>Week 12 Nov 13 (M) Nov 15 (W) Nov 17 (F)</p>	<p>The Cotton Revolution</p> <p>Reading: McClay, Chapter 11</p> <p>Nov 13- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 15- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 17- Discussion/lecture</p>
<p>Week 13 Nov 20 (M) Nov 22 (W) Nov 24 (F)</p>	<p>Manifest Destiny</p> <p>Reading: McClay, Chapter 12</p> <p>Nov 20- Discussion/lecture</p> <p>Nov 22- No class</p> <p>Nov 24- No class</p>

Week or Module	Readings and other Assignments
Week 14 Nov 27 (M) Nov 29 (W) Dec 1 (F)	The Sectional Crisis Reading: McClay, Chapter 13 Nov 27- Discussion/lecture Nov 29- Discussion/lecture Dec 1- <i>Paper three due at midnight</i>
Week 15 Dec 4 (M) Dec 6 (W) Dec 8 (F)	The American Civil War Reading: McClay, Chapter 14 Dec 4- Discussion/lecture Dec 6- Discussion/lecture Dec 8- <i>Movie Review due at Midnight</i>
Week 16 Dec 11 (M) Dec 13 (W) Dec 15 (F)	FINALS * Dec 11 TBA Dec 13- TBA Dec 15- TBA

Final Exam during Finals' Week at the scheduled time and day.