

Syllabus
History 1233-X21: Who is the American Dream for?
Online Survey of United States History, 1877 to Present
Spring Semester

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Rattanasengchanh
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Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT VIA ZOOM OR IN-PERSON
[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

Texts: The reading assignments will be posted online via D2L.

Online Lectures: Posted in D2L. Must download them to your computer to access the audio.

Assignments:

1. Exams: Exam 1 (25%) and Exam 2 (25%); No PDFs accepted, only Microsoft Word or GoogleDocs. Must upload in correct DropBox in D2L or it will not be accepted. No late papers accepted. No multiple choice, only long-answer type questions.

2. 3 Primary Source Analysis Assignments: (50%) Please look at the instructions document in D2L for more details. No PDFs accepted, only Microsoft Word or GoogleDocs. Must upload in correct DropBox in D2L or it will not be accepted. No late papers accepted.

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.

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.” THE USE OF SYNONOM REPLACEMENTS OF AI IS STILL CONSIDERED PLAGIARISM IN THIS CLASS. Plagiarism will result in the offender receiving zero for the ASSIGNMENT FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE AND REPORT TO MSU STUDENT LIFE AND THE HONORS PROGRAM. THE SECOND OFFENSE WILL BE A 0/ZERO IN THE COURSE.

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>.

College Policies:

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Student Handbook:

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

Email Etiquette: Please begin your emails with an appropriate salutation (e.g., Dear Prof. Rattanasengchanh...) and conclude them with your name. This is especially important if you use an email account that is not your university account.

Emergencies: In the event of a major emergency or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages may be subject to change.

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).

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.

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	Topics	Readings	Assignment
Week 1: January 16	Intro, End of the Civil War	1) Cornerstone Speech; 2) Confederate Constitution	

to January 10	and Reconstruction	3) Abraham Lincoln Inaugural Speech 1865 4)1866 Memphis Riots 5) Abram Colby Testimony	
Week 2: January 22 to January 26	America's Industrial Revolution, the making of the Working Class, and the Beginning of Anti-Immigration; the Other America	1) Sweatshop Quotes 2) Josiah Strong Excerpt 3) David Phillips and the Chinese Question 4) Why the Irish Came to America	
Week 3: January 29 to February 2	The American Empire and the Demise of the Native Americans	1) Ghost Dance video 2) Account from Battle of Little Big Horn 3) Roosevelt Corollary 4) Accounts from American war in Philippines 5) Manifest Destiny	
Week 4: February 5 to February 9	The Other America (Murica); WWI and Growth of "Big Brother"; Spanish Flu and COVID	1) Harvard Expert Compares Spanish Flu, COVID-19 2) Watch Movie on youtube.com = "The Birth of a Nation," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQe5ShxM2DI 3) Priest and Two Others Tarrred 3) How the Other Half Lives 4) The Jungle 5) Tendencies of an American Negro 6) Illusions of the White Race	Primary Source Analysis due February 9 before 11:59pm CST
Week 5: February 12 to February 16	Interwar and Prosperity? Great Depression	1) Flapper Girl Article 2) "I need a Little Sugar in My Bowl" song 3) Conservative Manifesto 4) Anti-Suffrage Pamphlet	
Week 6: February 19 to February 23	WWII and America and the Holocaust	1) "Boston Girl Swings 10-Ton Crane" 2) Japanese Internment 3) African-American WWII Soldiers	

Week 7: February 26 to March 1	Origins of the Cold War in Europe and Asia	1) Truman Doctrine 2) Stalin Speech 3) Ho Chi Minh's Admiration for the U.S.	
Week 8: March 4 to March 8	Anti- Communism at Home	1) Harry S. Truman's Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb 2) Did America have to Drop the Bomb? 3) The War was Won Before Hiroshima 4) McCarthy Speech 5) Seeger Testimony 6) Cooper Testimony	
Week 9	Exam 1	Exam 1 March 8 Friday at 6am to March 9 Saturday before 11:59pm CST	
Week 10: March 18 to March 22	1950s: Prosperity, Conservatism, and Hipsters	1) Watch Social-Sex Attitudes in Adolescence (https://archive.org/details/SocialSe1953) 2) Sexual Behavior in the Human Male	Primary Source Analysis Assignment March 22 before 11:59pm CST
Week 11: March 25 to March 29	Vietnam War and Vietnam War in America (Conservative Backlash to Hippies)	1) Watergate Tapes: Listen to "Smoking Gun" recording (https://watergate.info/1972/06/23/the-smoking-gun-tape.html) 2) My Lai Massacre Account 3) The Last Days of Saigon 4) Ho Chi Minh's Independence Speech 5) JFK Speech on VN, 1956 6) LBJ Speech on VN, 1965 7) John Kerry and War Crimes in Vietnam (http://www.vvaw.org/commentary/?id=399)	
Week 12: April 1 to April 5	1970s, Disco, Pres. Carter; Cold War gets Hot	1) Nixon's Silent Majority Speech 2) Beyond Vietnam_MLK (Martin Luther King Jr.) 3) Iranian Hostage Crisis Account 4) Boogie Nights Article	
Week 13: April 8 to April 12	Reagan, Madonna, and AIDS; End of the Cold War	1) "America's HIV outbreak started in this city, 10 years before anyone noticed" 2) Listen to NPR episode titled, "The Golden Age of MTV" (https://www.npr.org/2011/11/06/1419918)	

		77/the-golden-age-of-mtv-and-yes-there-was-one)	
Week 14: April 15 to April 19	American New World Order, 9/11 and Global War on Terror	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bush’s New World Order Speech 2) Ronald Reagan’s Berlin Speech 3) Why did we go to war in Iraq? 4) “Disposable Soldiers” Article 5) Review of <i>The Looming Tower</i> 6) Osama bin Laden Story 7) After 9/11, Americans United to Protect the Country. Today, We’re Divided by Threats that Don’t Exist 	Primary Source Analysis Assignment April 19 before 11:59pm CST
Week 15: April 22 to April 26	2008 Financial Crisis, Obama, and Trump	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Millennials Wounded from 2008 Financial Crisis 2) Arnold Kling Article 3) The Effects of the Economic Crisis on American Households 4) Barack Obama’s 2004 Speech 5) Conservative Backlash against Obama 6) Reaction to Obama being Elected 7) Excerpts from <i>Fire and Fury</i> 8) Trump’s Inaugural Speech 9) Voices from Democratic Counties Where Trump Won Big 10) Parler’s Founder Explains Why He Build Trump’s New Favorite Social Media App 	
Week 16	Exam 2	<u>Exam 2: Friday May 2 Thursday 6am to May 3, Friday before 11:59pm CST</u>	Exam 2