

History 1133.WX1 – Online Survey of American History to 1865

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Midwestern State University

***** If you think history class is all about memorizing dates or you want a high school history class taught by a sports coach, THIS course is not for you. Here you will learn how and why events and issues happened and why someone did what they did; you must learn to explain, describe, and give details. Telling “what” happened will not be enough. *****

Contact Information

- Office Hours: Email to make an in-person appointment or on Zoom/Skype.
- Office:
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Course Description

Welcome to U.S. History to 1865 online. This survey course provides an introduction to the political, economic, ideological, and social developments in the United States from contact to 1865. The first half of the course looks at the early settlers of North America, the Native Americans, traces the developments that allowed colonists from thirteen disparate colonies to see themselves as one people who should constitute an independent nation. The second half explores how Americans struggled with the meaning and consequences of their Revolution. They debated the contradiction between the ideals of liberty and the existence of slavery and other forms of dependence. Within a hundred years of the Revolution, these issues had so polarized the North and South that the election of a Republican president, Abraham Lincoln, in 1860 prompted the secession of eleven slaveholding states. Only four years of bloody civil war restored the Union and destroyed slavery. You will also learn how historians assess, use, and interpret primary sources (the documents, images, artifacts, and architecture that historians use to know about and interpret the past).

Themes

- Early Americans
- Colonialization
- Revolutionary Era
- Constitution
- Manifest Destiny
- Sectionalism/Slavery

- Indian Removal
- Civil War

Course Objectives

- Identify and discuss major themes and issues in American history from contact to 1877.
- Understand the chronology of American history. You need not memorize dates but in order to understand certain developments, the establishment and destruction of slavery for example, you will need to know the chronological sequence of events.
- Critically evaluate and interpret a variety of primary sources, including documents, archeological data, pictures, folk stories/music, and oral tradition. You should be aware of the issues involved in interpreting primary sources.
- Think historically and make arguments about the causes of change in history. You should be able to formulate arguments about how and why things have changed in the past.
- Use writing conventions appropriate to the discipline of history.
- Speak and write clearly.

Required Texts

- 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.
- Locke and Wright, (FREE ONLINE) eds., *The American Yawp, Vol. 1: To 1877*
This textbook is available for free online at <http://www.americanyawp.com>.
Should you desire a hard copy, you can either print out the chapters (~ 40 pages each) or purchase a print edition on Amazon (currently listed for \$20.72).

Assignments

1. *** **Recorded Lectures ARE posted online**
2. Final Exam: 50%
 - a. Comprehensive, covering all the information learned in this 14-day class.
 - b. 50% lectures and 50% from readings
 - c. No notes, books, readings, lecture, or internet websites while taking the exam. Just your brain.
 - d. You will access the final exam through D2L under “Assessments” and submit it the same way.
 - e. The exam will be open all day on January 1. Once it is open, you will only have 3 ½ hours to take the exam.
3. Reading Assignments: 50% (**EMAIL THIS ASSIGNMENT TO ME**)
 - a. You will choose **one** syllabus reading (**NOT THE ONLINE TEXTBOOK**) and then find **one** news article from the listed of approved news agencies provided below to show how they are both connected or relate to each other. The goal is to

see how history/events and issues of the past still impact us today – history matters.

- b. You must **provide a quote from both the syllabus reading (NOT THE ONLINE TEXTBOOK) and news article** to support how the syllabus reading and news article relate or connect. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU PICK A NEWS ARTICLE THAT ACTUALLY RELATES – DON'T TRY TO MAKE UP SOMETHING THAT IS NOT THERE. FOR EXAMPLE, ONE STUDENT COMPARED ALIENS TO THE 2020 ELECTIONS – NOPE.
- c. Email assignment to me.
- d. **These are the approved news agencies:** NO CNN OR FOX NEWS (sorry if this offends you)
 - Voice of America (Center) <https://www.voanews.com>
 - CBS News (Center) <https://www.cbsnews.com>
 - Washington Examiner (Conservative) <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com>
 - BBC (Liberal) - <https://www.bbc.com>
 - Reuters (Center) - <https://www.reuters.com>
 - NPR (National Public Radio) (Liberal) - <https://www.npr.org>
 - Chicago Tribune (Conservative) - <https://www.chicagotribune.com>
 - <https://factcheck.org> (Center - For fact checking)
 - <https://capitalresearch.org> (Conservative - For fact checking)

Late Policy

- Late papers are assessed a 5% penalty the first day and 2% each day thereafter.
- All assignments are to be handed in by the **beginning** of the class in which they are due.
- Computer and printing problems are not acceptable reasons for late work. If for some reason you cannot print your paper, email it to me before class and then turn in a hard copy before the end of the day.
- 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.

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 AND REPORT TO STUDENT LIFE.
LAST SEMESTER SEVERAL ONLINE STUDENTS WERE CAUGHT FOR PLAGIARISM
AND CHEATING ON THE EXAM – zero tolerance.

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](#)

Class Schedule

| Date | Topic and Readings | Assignment |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| December 14 th Monday | Introduction: Native Americans and Early Settlers and European Colonialism and Clash of Civilizations 1. Why Columbus Day Courts Controversy 2. Native Americans Discover Europeans 3. Wampanoag Grievances against | 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| | <p>the Colonists of New England</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Excerpts of John Eliot’s Brief Narrative 5. You People Live Only Upon Cod 6. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 2: “Colliding Cultures” 7. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 1: “The New World” | |
| December 15 th Tuesday | <p>French and Indian War and British-Colonial Relations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Warn them of their Danger; press them to Unite” 2. Observations on the Disunity of the Amer. Colonies 3. Tis to be Fear’d that Liberty, Once Lost, is Lost Forever 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 3, “British North America | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| December 16 th Wednesday | <p>Revolutionary War</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “We have no choice left to us.” 2. Does “All Men are Created Equal” Apply to Slaves? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Equality - John Adams 4. A Bill Concerning Slaves 5. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 5 “The American Revolution” | |
| December 17 th Thursday | <p>Building a Nation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is an American? 2. Washington’s First Inaugural Address 3. Objections to the Constitution 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 6 “A New Nation” | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| December 18 th Friday | <p>Jacksonian Politics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excerpts of First Inaugural Address of Jackson 2. Jackson Denounces S. Carolina’s Nullification 3. Excerpts of Second Inaugural Address of Jackson 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 7 “The Early Republic” | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| December 21 Monday | <p>Louisiana Purchase and Indian Removal</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “We Have Given You a Great Deal of Fine Land” 2. Lewis Cass: Removal of the Indians 3. Complexities of US-Indian Rels. 4. Jackson’s Rationale for Removal | |
| December 22 Tuesday | <p>Early U.S. Foreign Relations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relations with Britain, 1785 2. George Washington and Europe 3. Excerpts of Monroe Doctrine | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| December 23 Wednesday | <p>Slavery</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Where Men Should be Bought & Sold” 2. Natural and Inalienable Right to Freedom (Slave Petition) 3. The Dred Scott Decision 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 10 “The Cotton Revolution” | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| December 24 Thursday | <p>Sectionalism: Signs of Two Distinctive Americas</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Glimpse of the South before the Civil War 2. S. Carolina's Ordinance of Nullification 3. The Sack of Lawrence, Kansas 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 13 "The Sectional Crisis" | 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| December 25 Friday | Merry Christmas | Merry Christmas |
| December 28 Monday | <p>Women's History and Abolitionism and Reform</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from Abigail Adams to Judge 2. The Female Advocate 3. Good Manners for Young Ladies 4. Excerpts of Frederick Douglass Speech on July 5 5. John Brown's Final Address to the Court 6. A Pro-Slavery New Yorker | 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| <p>December 29 Tuesday</p> | <p>Manifest Destiny and Texas History</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manifest Destiny Doc. 2. Missionary Activity 3. “The North Americans Hate Us” 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 12 “Manifest Destiny” | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| <p>December 30 Wednesday</p> | <p>Civil War</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excerpts of the Confederate Constitution 2. Excerpts of Confederate “Cornerstone Speech” 3. Biblical Argument Supporting Slavery 4. <i>American Yawp</i>, Chap. 14 “The Civil War” | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |
| <p>December 31 Thursday</p> | <p>Legacies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reflections on the War’s Causes 2. Hardships on the Southern Home Front 3. A Union Soldier Objects to the Emanc. Proc. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reading Assignment due by 11:59pm |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">4. The Breakdown of the Plantation System5. Conditions in the Postwar South6. Flagging Confederate Morale | |
| January 1 Friday | <u>Final Exam</u> | <u>Final Exam</u> |