

**American History to 1865**  
HIST 1133 – 201  
Spring 2020  
MWF 11:00 – 11:50 pm, PY 103

Dr. Mary Draper  
mary.draper@msutexas.edu  
Office: O'Donohoe 233  
Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri – 9am to 10am  
Tues., Thurs. – 11am to 12pm

**Course Description:**

Why did Europeans colonize the Americas in the 1600s, patriots overthrow their mother country in the 1700s, and Americans fight a deadly war against one another in the 1800s? This course examines the history of colonial America and the United States to the end of the Civil War. The first third explores the effects of colonization, including the rise of race-based slavery, the displacement of indigenous peoples, and the road to revolution. The second third considers how Americans struggled with the meanings and consequences of independence. The final third examines the polarizing politics of slavery that led to the secession of eleven states. It took a deadly civil war to restore the Union and destroy slavery. Throughout the semester, we will contemplate what it meant to be free—or unfree—at various moments in American history.

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Synthesize historical material about colonial America and the United States
- Develop an argument in response to historical questions
- Critically evaluate a variety of primary sources and use them as evidence for arguments
- Identify and evaluate historical debates
- Communicate effectively by writing clear, well-supported exams and papers

**Required Texts:**

Locke and Wright, 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 in the book store or on Amazon (currently listed for \$20.72).

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

- This collection of primary sources is available for free online. The sections correspond with chapters in *The American Yawp*.

**Course Expectations and Evaluation:**

**ATTENDANCE AND CLASS MEETINGS:** You are expected to attend all class meetings. If you are traveling on the day of class to an athletic or university event, please let me know in

advance and provide proper documentation. I will periodically take attendance in class. Be attentive and engaged. That means taking notes, asking questions, and being “present.”

**READING ASSIGNMENTS:** You are expected to complete all assigned reading, which includes both your textbook and primary sources. Read these texts for major themes, thinking about the context, causes, and consequences of the people and events we discuss in class.

**READING QUIZZES:** There will be six reading quizzes throughout the semester. They are timed (15 minutes) through D2L and consist of 10 multiple choice questions based on the textbook reading. They are due by 5pm on Friday (but will be posted a week prior). Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped. These quizzes can make or break your grade if you are on the cusp.

**DOCUMENT ANALYSES (DA):** Throughout the semester you will be required to turn in **three 1-page document analyses (DA)** based on primary-source readings. You can choose which week you respond based on your schedule and/or interests, but you must complete one prior to each exam. You **can** turn in a DA on the day of an exam. That being said, students who turn in a DA prior to the week of their exam will receive 2 extra credit points added to the multiple choice portion of their exam. See the schedule below.

- Your first DA is due on or before February 21 (or on/before Feb. 14 for extra credit).
- Your second DA is due on or before April 3 (or on/before March 27 for extra credit).
- Your third DA is due on or before May 8 (or on/before May 1 for extra credit).

Your Document Analysis should respond to **one** primary source in the *American Yawp Reader* (link on D2L). These assignments are to be turned in, in hard copy, no later than the start of class on Friday the week that the sources are assigned. No late work will be accepted. **I will not accept e-mailed DAs.** An instruction sheet on how to complete these assignments is on D2L.

**EXAMS:** You will take **3 exams** during the semester. Each exam will consist of 20 multiple choice questions and 2 short essays. Before each exam you will receive a series of possible questions that you should spend time researching/preparing. You will be required to answer the short essays in paragraph form. The best answers make arguments with specific evidence.

**GRADES:**

- Document Analyses = 10%
- Reading quizzes = 10%
- Exam 1 = 25%
- Exam 2 = 25%
- Exam 3 = 30% (during final exam period)

**GRADING SCALE:** A = 100-90; B = 89-80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60, F = 59 and below

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY:** “*As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so.*” Academic misconduct—cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.—will not be tolerated and will receive an F.

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DA Reader: [www.americanyawp.com/reader.html](http://www.americanyawp.com/reader.html)

**WEEK 1: Ancient America and the Atlantic World**

Wednesday, January 22      Course Overview  
Friday, January 24      *American Yawp*, Ch. 1: “The New World”  
DA: “The New World”

**WEEK 2: Colonizing a Continent**

Monday, January 27      *American Yawp*, Ch. 2: “Colliding Cultures”  
Wednesday, January 29  
Friday, January 31      DA: “Colliding Cultures”  
**Reading Quiz #1 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**

**WEEK 3: Witches, Rebels, and Captives**

Monday, February 3      *American Yawp*, Ch. 3: “British North America”  
Wednesday, February 5  
Friday, February 7      DA: “British North America”

**WEEK 4: The Struggle for Empire**

Monday, February 10      *American Yawp*, Ch. 4: “Colonial Society”  
Wednesday, February 12  
Friday, February 14      DA: “Colonial Society”  
**Reading Quiz #2 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**  
**\*\*Last day to turn in a DA for extra credit on Exam 1\*\***

**WEEK 5: Revolution!**

Monday, February 17      *American Yawp*, Ch. 5: “The American Revolution”  
Wednesday, February 19  
Friday, February 21      DA: “American Revolution”  
**In-Class Exam; Last Day to turn in DA #1**

**WEEK 6: The Articles of Confederation**

Monday, February 24      Get ahead on reading for this class  
Wednesday, February 26  
Friday, February 28      DA: “American Revolution” (if you did not write on it already)

**WEEK 7: Creating a Constitution**

Monday, March 2      *American Yawp*, Ch. 6: “A New Nation”  
Wednesday, March 4  
Friday, March 6      DA: “A New Nation”  
**Reading Quiz #3 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**

**WEEK 8: The new United States**

Monday, March 9                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 7: “The Early Republic”  
Wednesday, March 11  
Friday, March 13                    DA: “The Early Republic”

**WEEK 9: Spring Break****WEEK 10: A Nation of Things**

Monday, March 23                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 8: “The Market Revolution”  
Wednesday, March 25  
Friday, March 27                    DA: “Market Revolution”  
**Reading Quiz #4 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**  
**\*\*Last day to turn in a DA for extra credit on Exam 2\*\***

**WEEK 11: Jacksonian America**

Monday, March 30                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 9: “Democracy in America”  
Wednesday, April 1  
Friday, April 23                    DA: “Democracy in America”  
**In Class Exam; Last day to turn in DA #2**

**WEEK 12: Reforming America**

Monday, April 6                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 10: “Religion and Reform”  
Wednesday, April 8                    DA: “Religion and Reform”  
Friday, April 10                    NO CLASS

**WEEK 13: Slavery in the Old South**

Monday, April 13                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 11: “The Cotton Revolution”  
Wednesday, April 15  
Friday, April 17                    DA: “The Cotton Revolution”  
**Reading Quiz #5 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**

**WEEK 14: The Road to Disunion**

Monday, April 20                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 12: “Manifest Destiny”  
Wednesday, April 22  
Friday, April 24                    DA: “Manifest Destiny”

**WEEK 15: The 1850s**

Monday, April 27                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 13: “The Sectional Crisis”  
Wednesday, April 29  
Friday, May 1                    DA: “The Sectional Crisis”  
**Reading Quiz #6 due on D2L (take by Friday at 5pm)**  
**\*\*Last day to turn in a DA for extra credit on Exam 3\*\***

**WEEK 16: The Civil War**

Monday, May 4                    *American Yawp*, Ch. 14: “The Civil War”  
Wednesday, May 6  
Friday, May 8                    DA: “The Civil War”  
**Last day to turn in DA #3**

**Final Exam:** Monday, May 11 from 10:30am to 12:30pm  
Your final exam is \*not\* cumulative. It will cover material from weeks 11 to 15.