

Fall, 2020 - History 1133 - Course Syllabus - Dr. Lindemann

Email: dirk.lindemann@msutexas.edu, Office – OD 221, Office Phone – (940) 397-4147

Text: American Horizons, Vol. I, M. Schaller, et.al. and American Realities, Vol I., J. Williams, T. Youngs

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Text Assignments:</u>
Aug. 24-27.....	Ch. 1 – “Origins of the Atlantic World”
Aug. 31-Sept. 2.....	Ch. 2 – “Colonists on the Margins”
Sept. 9-11.....	Ch. 3 – “Forging Tighter Bonds”
Sept. 14-18.....	Ch. 4 – “Accelerating the Pace of Change”
Sept. 21-25.....	Ch. 5 – “Battling for Souls, Minds and the Heart of North America”
Sept. 28-Oct. 2.....	First Exams
Oct. 5-9.....	Ch. 6 – “Empire and Resistance”
Oct. 12-16.....	Ch. 7 – “A Revolutionary Nation”
Oct. 19-23.....	Ch. 8 – “A New Nation Facing a Revolutionary World”
Oct. 26-30.....	Second Exams (Tentative)
Nov. 2-6.....	Ch. 10 – “Market Revolutions and the Rise of Democracy”
Nov. 9-13.....	Ch. 13 – “A House Dividing”
Nov. 16-20.....	Ch. 14 – “The Civil War”
Nov. 23-24.....	Final Exam (TBA)

REQUIREMENTS: THEME OF THE COURSE.

Our objective is to examine the growth and development of democratic institutions in America. Today the USA is often termed one of the world’s most durable democracies. Yet, our society has not always been as free and open as it is now. Furthermore, there are flaws in our system which allow some people to benefit more than others. In order to understand and perhaps improve upon the weaknesses of our system, we must understand their origins as well. To gain such understanding is the purpose of this course. **CLASS PROCEDURE:** We meet as a class TWICE (2) EACH WEEK: Mondays/Wednesdays, for LECTURE. The topic to be covered will relate to the READING ASSIGNMENT material on the course syllabus. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ EACH ASSIGNMENT BEFORE EACH LECTURE.** For the THIRD class meeting we will break up into DISCUSSION GROUPS (Labs) of 10 to 15 students. Each group will meet under the direction of a History Graduate Assistant (GA) to discuss the assigned material from **AMERICAN REALITIES***. A second syllabus covering the SELECTED ESSAYS* will be distributed in the Discussion Group. The purpose of the discussions is to encourage historical inquiry by YOU the student. History is not merely names, dates, and places: it is the study also of movements, issues, and ideas that have shaped our civilization. After reading the assigned essay, it is hoped you can contribute thoughts and opinions to the group discussion. Do not be hesitant to ask questions, to comment, to inquire. This is the “stuff” of which the study of history is made. **TESTING AND GRADING.** There will be three (3) two-part EXAMS: objective and essay-indicated on your syllabus. The EXAMS will count for 75% of your grade combined. ORAL PARTICIPTION in the DISCUSSION GROUPS will count 25%. The lack of attendance and excessive absences will also affect your FINAL GRADE.