

HIST 1301.200

History of the United States to 1877

Midland College, Fall 2007

M/W/F, 9:00 – 9:50, Allison Fine Arts Building, Room 102

Instructor:

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Course Description:

- This course is a survey of U.S. history from prehistoric times through Reconstruction. Topics include the American Indians, the European heritage of colonists, the structure of North America colonies, the creation and development of the American nation, slavery and sectional differences that led to the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

Course Objectives:

- Successful completion of this course will enable students to do the following:
 - Discuss U.S. history through the period of Reconstruction
 - Think critically about the major topics in American history, and determine how they relate to the United States today
 - Read, summarize, and be able to react to essays relating to this period
 - Show understanding of how this country developed its institutions, values, mores, lifestyles, religions, and social character through discussion, writing, and other means of examination

Grading:

➤ Midterm Exam #1	100	A: 400+
➤ Midterm Exam #2	100	B: 350+
➤ Final Exam	150	C: 300+
➤ Assignments	70	D: 250+
➤ Attendance	20	F: below 250
➤ Total	440	

Course Requirements:

Reading:

- Ayers, et al., *American Passages*, Chapters 1-17, 3rd Edition
- Mills, *Faces in the Crowd: "We Hold these Truths"* Vol. 1, 4th Edition
- Students are expected to read, write, and understand Standard English.

Exams:

- There will be two midterms and final exam. Each will cover only the materials in the section immediately preceding the exam. The final exam will cover more than the last section of the course, but will focus primarily on the final lectures.
- December 7th is the day for makeup exams. Students who miss an exam will be given the opportunity to make up a single exam on this date.
- Students will be required to take a pre-test (used to give me an understanding of your basic reading, writing, and critical thinking abilities) and a post test (used to illustrate development and improvement in reading, writing, and critical thinking). **IN ORDER TO PASS THIS CLASS YOU MUST TAKE BOTH!**

Assignments:

- Each student will be responsible for reading articles found in the collection of essays entitled, *Faces in the Crowd*. Reading Assignments are due on the date indicated in the Lecture Schedule. Late work will be accepted, but at a reduced average.
 - Late one week reduced 50%
 - Late two weeks reduced an additional 50%
 - Work more than two weeks late will not be accepted

Discussion/Class Participation:

- Involvement with the material is essential – students must read, take notes, and ask questions. Students must be prepared to participate in classroom discussion.

Attendance:

- Attendance should be considered mandatory. Role will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Students who are unable to attend class regularly will find it difficult to do well on exams. Attendance is calculated as follows:
 - 0 absences will be worth 20 points.
 - 1 absence will be worth 15 points.
 - 2 absences will be worth 10 points.
 - 3 absences will be worth 5 points.
- If you miss a lecture, be sure to obtain notes from another student. The instructor does **not** furnish notes.
- Students are expected to arrive on time. If you are going to be late, do not come to class at all. Missing class harms only you; being late is inconsiderate and bothers others. More importantly, do not leave before the conclusion of each class period. This, too, is inconsiderate and really irks your instructor.
- As a common courtesy, I ask that you remove sunglasses and mp3 players. Cell phones and pagers should be put on vibrate. Regularly scheduled class periods are also not a time in which you should be compelled to catch up on other reading. Remember we are together to learn history.

Drop/Withdrawing:

- It is not the responsibility of the instructor to drop a student from the course. If the student finds that he/she is unable to keep up with the course requirements, the **student** must take the responsibility to initiate a drop. The final day to drop is 08 November 2007.
- The Texas Legislature dictates that each college student will be afforded a maximum of six (6) course withdrawals for his/her **entire** college career. Therefore it is in your best interest to drop prior to the census date – 12 September 2007.

Cheating:

- Any student caught cheating will be rewarded with an "F" for the course and will be dealt with according to Midland College policy. See the *Midland College Student Handbook*.

Disabilities:

- Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact your instructor as soon as possible so that the necessary accommodations can be made.

Religious Holy Days

- The Texas Legislature requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. Absences resulting from needed travel time are also excused. The student will be allowed to make up an exam or given extra time to complete an assignment. No prior notification is required.

Lecture Schedule:

Aug. 27 Course Introduction

29 Native Societies before Contact

📖 *American Passages*: 8-14

31 Native Societies after Contact

📖 *American Passages*: 8-14

Sept. 03 **No Class – Labor Day Holiday**

05 The Cultural and Environmental Impact of Contact

📖 *American Passages*: 8-14

07 **Assignment # 1 Due**

📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 2, Lewis Hanke, "Conquest and the Cross"

10 European Imperialism – Spanish Exploration and Colonization

📖 *American Passages*: 15-39

12 European Imperialism – French, Dutch & English Exploration and Colonization

📖 *American Passages*: 15-39

14 **Pre-Test** & European Imperialism – English Colonization

📖 *American Passages*: 8-34 (Pre-Test Reading)

📖 *American Passages*: 39-61

17 Society and Culture in the Colonies

📖 *American Passages*: 61-80

19 **Assignment #2 Due**

📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 4, Wellington Newcomb, "Anne Hutchison Versus Massachusetts"

21 Toward Independence – British Colonial Policy

📖 *American Passages*: 81-128

- 24 Toward Independence - "Radical Whig Ideology"
 📖 *American Passages*: 128-140
- 26 **Midterm # 1**
- 28 American Revolution
 📖 *American Passages*: 140-157
- Oct. 01 American Revolution
 📖 *American Passages*: 140-157
- 03 Shaping the Constitution
 📖 *American Passages*: 160-183
- 05 Shaping a Federal Union
 📖 *American Passages*: 187-211
- 08 Early National Challenges
 📖 *American Passages*: 187-211
- 10 **Assignment # 3 Due**
 📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 8, Douglas L. Wilson, "Thomas Jefferson and the Character Issue"
- 12 Jeffersonian Republic
 📖 *American Passages*: 221-233
- 15 Madison & the War of 1812
 📖 *American Passages*: 233-239
- 17 Jacksonian Democracy
 📖 *American Passages*: 273-295
- 19 Jacksonian Democracy
 📖 *American Passages*: 273-295
- 22 Early Nineteenth Century Economy
 📖 *American Passages*: 299-303
- 24 **Assignment # 4 Due**
 📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 13, Richard M. Ketchum, "The Thankless Task of Nicholas Trist"
- 26 Manifest Destiny
 📖 *American Passages*: 322; 327-331
- 29 War with Mexico
 📖 *American Passages*: 322; 327-331
- 31 **Midterm # 2**
- Nov. 02 Origins of Slavery in America
 📖 *American Passages*: 84-88
- 05 The Antebellum South
 📖 *American Passages*: 359-361
- 07 **Assignment # 5 Due**
 📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 18, Marianne Goodyear, "Frederick Douglass"

- 09 Slavery in the Territories
📖 *American Passages*: 332-336
- 12 Abolitionism
📖 *American Passages*: 308-312
- 14 The Armistice of 1850
📖 *American Passages*: 343-345
- 16 Sectional Crisis
📖 *American Passages*: 358-374
- 19 John Brown's Holy War
📖 *American Passages*: 358-374
- 21 Secession and the Civil War
📖 *American Passages*: 375-380
- 23 **No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday**
- 26 **Assignment # 6 Due**
📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 18, Mary Elizabeth Sergent, "Classmates Divided"
- 28 Civil War
📖 *American Passages*: 383-428
- 30 Civil War
📖 *American Passages*: 383-428
- Dec. 03 Reconstruction
📖 *American Passages*: 428-466
- 05 **Discussion # 7**
📖 *Faces in the Crowd*, Chapter 19, Eric Foner, "A New View of Reconstruction"
- 07 **Post-Test & Make-up Exams**
📖 *American Passages*: 466-489 (Post-Test Reading)
- Dec. 12 **Wednesday – Final Exam – 9:00 to 11:00 – AFA, 102**