United States History to 1865  
History 1301, Section 007  
Fall 2013  
Dr. Martin

Class Meets: Tues/Thurs, 11am-12:15pm, Cl 128  
Office Hours: Thursdays, 1:00-3:00pm, and by appointment  
Office: FC253  
Email:  
Office Phone: 825-5783

Course Description:  
This course will introduce you to North American and United States History from Native American habitation to the Civil War. We will look at some the major political, economic, and especially social changes that took place during this period, paying particular attention to issues of race, class and gender. What does it mean to be an American, who can claim membership in the nation, and how do these things change over time? By the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of the founding, expansion, and temporary disintegration of the United States taking place before 1865.

Student Learning Outcomes:  
Students who successfully complete this course will:  
• demonstrate critical thinking by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information, gathering and assessing information relevant to a question, and analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing information  
• develop communication skills by interpreting and expressing ideas through written, oral, or visual communication  
• demonstrate personal responsibility by evaluating historical choices and actions, and relating consequences to decision making  
• develop social responsibility by identifying intercultural competence and civic responsibility in past regional, national, and global communities

Assignments:  
The core of your grade will come from two in-class exams. These are NOT cumulative. You will receive a study guide ahead of time. You are required to provide your own bluebook and scantron on testing day. If you do not bring these supplies with you on testing day, you will not be permitted to take the exam.  
Exam 1 – 30% of your overall grade  
Exam 2 – 35% of your overall grade

The other component of your grade is two short, formal essays demonstrating your skills analyzing primary sources. These essays will be two full pages, typed, double-spaced, and stapled. I will not accept essays late, or through email.  
Essay 1 – 15%  
Essay 2 – 20%

Attendance - I expect you to attend every class. Even though I do not take attendance, knowing the material covered in lecture is essential to doing well on the exams. I do not post or share my notes or slides.

Extra Credit – I do not offer any.
Grade Breakdown:
A+: 97.5-100%  B+: 80-82.4%
A: 92.5-97.4%   B: 82.5-87.4%
A-: 90-92.4%    B+: 87.5-89.9%
A: 92.5-97.4%  B: 82.5-87.4%
A: 90-92.4%    B+: 87.5-89.9%
A: 92.5-97.4%  B: 82.5-87.4%
C+: 77.5-79.9%  C: 70-72.4%
C+: 77.5-79.9%  C: 70-72.4%
C+: 77.5-79.9%  C: 70-72.4%
C+: 77.5-79.9%
F: 0-59.9%

If you have a question about an individual grade on an assignment, please come to my office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss. If you would like to dispute your grade, I am more than happy to speak with you, but you need to wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned before approaching me.

Texts:
**Required:** Major Problems in American History Volume 1: To 1877, 3rd edition, Cengage Learning

Other free online sources are listed on the lecture schedule.

**Optional:** Created Equal: A History of the United States, Combined Volume, 4/E

Other Supplies:
You will need two bluebooks and two scantrons (one of each for each exam). You will also need internet access and the ability to occasionally print documents.

Policies and Expectations:
Since you are in college, I expect you to approach this class like the responsible adults you are. This means:
- Arriving to class on time
- Turning off cell phones, music players, and other distractions. And putting them away. Your phone needs to stay in your backpack/bag/purse during class time – you do not need a phone out during lecture. Please do not text during class time, or I will ask you to leave lecture. Take care of it before or after class.
- You are welcome to use laptop computers for appropriate classroom activities, such as taking notes, but I reserve the right to ask students who are doing other things (like checking email, facebook, or completing assignments for other courses) to leave class.
- I WILL NOT accept late work. Seriously. All assignments must be submitted on the due date at the beginning of your class time – no exceptions. This includes all written work, exams and quizzes. Written assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class in print form. If they are turned in after I start the day’s lecture, they are considered late and will not be accepted. I expect you to be in class to take all exams and quizzes. I do not offer make-ups except under EXTRAORDINARY circumstances. Vacations, colds, doctor’s appointments, changes in work schedules, etc. do not count as extraordinary. That said, I want you to succeed in this class, so if something comes up that will impact your ability to come to class and meet the expectations of the course, please let me know as soon as possible.
- All written work must be handed in as a hard copy. Assignments will NOT be accepted via email.
- All papers must be stapled. Buy or have access to a stapler – I will not accept multi-page work that is not stapled together. Double-sided printing is fine.
- I do not post or share notes or Powerpoint slides. If you miss class it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate.
- You are responsible for adding and dropping yourself from the course.
- You are responsible for tracking your grade in the course. If you have a smart phone, I highly recommend the app “Grades 2.”
- I may occasionally send you emails regarding the course. You are responsible for checking your Texas A&M email account frequently.
- I expect you to abide by TAMUCC’s Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/index.html
- TAMUCC’s policies on academic integrity and plagiarism are available at http://cla.tamucc.edu/forms/academicmisconductprocedures.pdf. If you cheat or plagiarize on one or more assignments you will fail this course.

By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by these policies.

- In the event of a hurricane, I will follow the published policies of TAMUCC. If the campus remains officially open during the time that our class normally meets then class will proceed as scheduled (including all graded events). If the university closes campus then we will push the course requirements to the next official class meeting. If an exam date is cancelled, the exam will be held during the next official class meeting, so come prepared.

Academic Advising:
Academic advisors are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. In our college the undergraduate advisor is Linda Miller (825-3466, Linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate advisor is Rachelle Stanley (825-3466, Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. For more information please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

Americans with Disabilities Act:
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at 825-5816 or visit their office in Driftwood 101.

Grade Appeal Process:
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, the student may take the steps below.
1. Presentation of grievance to instructor. (This step must be taken within fourteen calendar days after the beginning of the next term)
2. Appeal to department chair or area coordinator.
3. Written appeal to the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
4. Preliminary review and advising by an ombudsman appointed by the Provost.
5. Submission of file by department chair to the chair of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee.
6. Review of file by committee chair and submission of case to committee.
7. Proceedings of the University Academic Standards Grievance Committee. (Committee holds hearing, reviews data, presents findings to all parties, and makes recommendation to Provost.)
8. Decision by Provost.
9. Final appeal in writing to the Provost if student or instructor thinks appropriate procedures have not been followed.

For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Provisional Course Outline
(this is subject to possible change)

Week 1
9/5 Expectations and Introduction to Sources

Week 2
9/10 Native America
9/12 The “Rise of the West”

Read for 9/10: Major Problems Introduction
    Watch “Guns, Germs & Steel, Episode 2”
    [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgYZ6gfqslQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgYZ6gfqslQ)

Week 3
9/17 Worlds Collide
9/19 European Exploration and Settlement

Read for 9/17: Major Problems, CH 1
Week 4
9/24 Creating the British Colonies - Jamestown
    Jamestown Movie
9/26 Growth of the Chesapeake

Read for 9/24: *Major Problems*, CH 2

Week 5
10/1 British New England
10/3 Slavery in the New World
    **Essay 1 due**

Read for 10/1: *Major Problems*, CH 3

Week 6
10/8 The Road to Revolution
10/10 Independence and Meanings of Liberty

Read for 10/8: *Major Problems*, CH 4
    The Declaration of Independence (Click on “read transcript”)
    Abigail Adams, “Remember the Ladies” Letter and Reply
    [http://history.hanover.edu/courses/excerpts/165adams-rtl.html](http://history.hanover.edu/courses/excerpts/165adams-rtl.html)
    Slaves’ Petition for Freedom to the Massachusetts Legislature, 1777
    [http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/6237/](http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/6237/)

Week 7
10/15 A New Constitution
10/17 Consolidating a New Nation

Read for 10/15: *Major Problems*, CH 5

Week 8
10/22 **Exam 1**
10/24 A Cotton Kingdom

Read for 10/24: *Major Problems*, CH 6, 7

Week 9
10/29 The Market Revolution
10/31 The Market Revolution con’t

Read for 10/29: *Major Problems*, CH 8
Week 10
11/5 A Growing Republic
11/7 The Age of Jackson

Read for 11/5: *Major Problems, CH 9*

Week 11
11/12 Life Under Slavery
  **Essay 2 Due**
11/14 An Age of Reform

Read for 11/12: *Major Problems, 10*
  Seneca Falls “Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions”
  [http://ecssbarutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html](http://ecssbarutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html)

*Note: Nov 15 is the last day you can drop*

Week 12
11/19 Texas and the War with Mexico
11/21 Rising Sectional Tensions

Read for 11/19: *Major Problems, CH 12*

Week 13
11/26 Secession
11/28 Thanksgiving Break – Enjoy!

Read for 11/26: *Major Problems, CH 13*

Week 14
12/3 The Second American Revolution - The Civil War
12/5 Lincoln and Reconciliation

Read for 12/3: *Major Problems, CH 14*

Week 15
12/10 Exam 2