

 **HIS 201– American History: Discovery to 1877**

Humanities Department

**Summer Semester 2011**

**Catalog Course Description:** This course is a survey of U.S. history from discovery to 1877. This course includes political, social, economic and intellectual developments during this period.

**Prerequisite(s):** RDG 100 or ESL 100 and ENG 100 or ESL 110

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Departmental Website:** <http://www.midlandstech.edu/humanities/>

**D2L Login Page:** <https://elearn.midlandstech.edu/>

**Instructor:** Steve Strickland (ABD)

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**Departmental Assistant:** Ms. Lisa Cheeks (cheeksl@midlandstech.edu)

**Department Chair:** Ms. Elena Martínez-Vidal (vidale@midlandstech.edu)

**Class Schedule[s]:** His 201-A01 5/18/2011 to 8/08/2011 Congaree Hall 108 T-Th 12:10pm -- 2:05pm

**Textbook(s):** Keene, J.D, et. al., Visions of America, Vol. 1 Prentiss Hall, 2010.

**Additional Textbooks/Readings:** [Delete if none]

**General Education Core Competency Statement:**  **HIS 201** addresses the humanities component of the general education core, which states: “Graduates should understand the diversity of our cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences.”

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Reconstruct meaningful accounts of the major political, social, and cultural changes in a given society or period of time.

2. Compare and contrast the impact of past events on present-day institutions, ideas, and issues.

3. Analyze how cultural differences create both diversity and unity within the heritage of a given society or period of time.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should also be able to:

1. Trace the European exploration and colonization of North America.

2. Describe the British empire in North America and the erosion of British control of the colonies.

3. Account for and explain the causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution.

4. Explain the formation of the United States government and the origins and chief provisions of its basic documents.

5. Trace the increase in political democracy and social equality from the colonial period through Reconstruction.

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6. Describe the institution of slavery and its impact on the economic and social structure of the nation.

7. Describe westward expansion and relate it to the issue of slavery in the territories.

8. Trace the growth of the American economy from the mercantile system through agrarianism to early industrialization.

9. Describe the development of the American political party system and evaluate the evolutionary nature of this system.

10. Trace and evaluate the causes of sectionalism as they culminated in the Civil War.

11. Explain Reconstruction’s attempts to solve the problems which caused the Civil War.

12. Describe the growth of pluralism in the United States to 1877 and draw conclusions about the impact of that diversity on the nation.

13. Identify the significant treaties, important national legislation, and significant Supreme Court decisions during the period to 1877.

Program and course assessment activities are deployed and results collected in accordance with the College’s assessment schedule. Please refer to the information in the syllabus regarding the applicability of the assessment activity for the current semester

**Course Outcomes and Competencies:**

**Intended Course Outcome #1:** Students will critically analyze the diversity of cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences upon culture through their study of the American History to 1877.

**Course Competency (Performance Measure):** Students completing the learning objectives of American History will demonstrate their critical analysis of the diversity of cultural heritage and the effects of artistic or philosophical influences upon culture through a set of locally developed tests focusing on the study of the American History to 1877.

**Measurement Instrument:**  At least 75 percent of all students completing HIS-201 will be able to pass identification and evaluation type exam questions created by the faculty.

**Course Attendance:** Each student is expected to attend ALL classes and is responsible for classwork, homework, lecture notes, and reading assignments, whether present or absent. In the event of circumstances beyond one's control, such as illness, the student is allowed to miss no more than twice the number of weekly class meetings or ***4 (four)*.** Exceeding the maximum allowed absences in this course means that the student can receive NO CREDIT for the course, and the instructor will assign the student a grade of W or WF.

**A student entering class from 1-10 minutes late is considered TARDY. Three tardies equal one absence. Any student entering more than 10 minutes late is considered ABSENT. Students are expected to remain in class for the entire period.**

**Courteous, attentive behavior is expected at all times. Tardiness to class, speaking out of turn (or when instructor is speaking), sleeping in class, receiving calls on cell phones/pagers, etc. are behaviors that are disrespectful and disruptive to everyone in the class and will not be tolerated.**

**Withdrawal:** Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded prior to midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar to be recorded on the student's transcript.  Should the maximum allowable absences be exceeded after midterm, a "W" will be submitted to the registrar if the student was passing the course at the time of withdrawal OR a "WF" will be submitted if the student was failing the course at the time of withdrawal.

**Course Requirements:** There will be between three (3) and Five (5) semester exams (time permitting). Each exam will be afforded equal weight totaling 60% of the final grade. The student will also be responsible for a Book review weighing 10% (more on book review in class). The Book Review is due at class time on **Jul 26th.**  Late book reviews will be accepted, but at a ten (10) point reduction for every day it is late (**Emailed assignments will not be accepted)**. A ***mandatory*** cumulative final will be administered. It will weigh 20% of the final grade. There will also be one short homework essay of 10% to be turned in **Jul 21st**. There will more information on this in class. Make-up exams will be administered in the testing center**. It is the students responsibility to find the testing center and be familiar with its hours of operation.** The student will also have the option of dropping ones lowest grade and replacing it with the grade on the final exam. The final must be taken, no exceptions. If there is a take home exam, it must be turned in at specified time. **There are no make ups for the take home exam.** Though the final exam grade may substitute for one’s lowest exam grade, it must be an in-class exam and one that was taken at the specified time. **ALL EXAMS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF ADMINISTERING SAID EXAM.**

**Final:** This course includes a final exam, which in part, has approximately 20-30 multiple choice questions covering the entire course. The instructor will provide a review for these questions. The instructor may also add to, or incorporate other questions as a part of the course final.

**Course Grading: In Class Exams 60%**

 **Book Review(April 20)** **10%**

 **Essay 10%**

 **Final Exam 20%**

**Grading Scale:** 90-100 A Superior Work

 80-89 B Good Work

 70-79 C Average Work

 60-69 D Below Average Work

 0-59 F Unsatisfactory Work

**Classroom Rules/Other:** The instructor’s notes are not available to students. If a student misses a class or assignment, the student is responsible for borrowing or finding a student willing to Share.

 \*\***Important\*\* Cell phones must be turned off—not to vibrate, but OFF! Any violation of this rule will result in consequences**

 **at the *Instructor’s discretion*! My Discretion begins with a reduction of 20 pts on any assignment or exam. Because of previous issues of cheating, emailing, and websurfing, laptops will be scrutinized!**

Course Outline/Readings:

 May 19th -- May 26th Chapters 1—3

 May 31st – Ju 9th Chapters 4—6 (Salem Witch Trials Movie)

 Jun 14th -- Jun 23rd Chapters 7—9 (Liberty Video—Amer Rev.)

 Jun 27th -- Jul 7th [Chapters 10-11 (July 4th Holiday Mon)]

 (Andrew Jackson Video)

 Jul 12th – Jul 21st Chapters 12—13 (Slavery: Making of America Video)

 Jul 26th – Aug 4th Chapters 13-14 (Civil War Video—Causes)

 Aug 8th – end of class

Week 1—3

American Exceptionalism

Mesoamerica

Spain

French and Dutch

Week 4—5

English Invasion

American Colonization

Chesapeake and New England

American Slavery/American Freedom

England Becomes Empire

Week 6—7

American Revolution

Articles of Confederation/Constitution

Federalist Era/Era of Good Feelings

Sectionalism/Age of Jackson

Week 8—10

Manifest Destiny and Mexico

Market Economy/California

Compromise 1850/ Kansas-Nebraska

Dred Scott/ Toward War

Union Dissolved/War

Reconstruction

# Important dates and Assignment Due Dates

**May 19th First day of class**

**Jul 4th Independence Day/College Closed**

**Jul 26th Essay Assignment Due**

**Jul 26th Book Review Due**

**Jul 28th Last Day of regular classes**

**Tue Aug 4th Final Exam (10:30am to 12:30pm—Congaree 108)**

***College Policies and Expectations***

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Students are expected to read the *MTC Student Handbook* and abide by its policies.

Some of the more important policies that impact your academic work are listed below.

The *Handbook* is located on the web: <http://www.midlandstech.edu/planner/> .

**Academic Integrity:** The students of MTC have adopted the following Honor Code:

*As a member of the Midlands Technical College community, I will adhere to the college’s Student Code. I will act honorably, responsibly, and with academic integrity and honesty. I will be responsible for my own academic work and will neither give nor receive unauthorized or unacknowledged aid. I will behave courteously to all members of the MTC community and its guests and will respect college property and the property of others.*

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification. Such actions will result in discipline.

* Cheating on tests includes copying or presenting someone else’s work as your own, using unauthorized materials during a test, gaining unauthorized access to or information about a test, or collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
* Plagiarism is taking another person’s work and using it without giving the source credit in any graded assignment.
* For more information about academic dishonesty, see Appendix I at the end of the *MTC Student Handbook*.

**Campus Emergency Protocol**:

* To report safety concerns or suspicious activities: Call Campus Security at 7850 (on campus) or 738-7850 (cell phone or off campus).
* To report a security emergency: Call Campus Security at 738-7199 or dial local 911 immediately.
* The college also provides emergency call boxes; look for these red call boxes in or near parking lots on all campuses.
* If a college-wide emergency occurs, the college will communicate additional information and instructions in a number of ways, including the MTC Information Centers, campus loud speakers, email, the MTC web site, and *MTC Alerts!* To sign up for *MTC Alerts!* and receive emergency text messages on your cell phone, go to <http://www.midlandstech.edu/mtcalerts/>.

**Inclement Weather Policy**: If weather conditions or other emergencies cause the college to close or open late, announcements will be made over local radio and TV stations, on the MTC web site, and on the college’s information line (803-738-8234).

* Check for separate announcements for day and evening classes because weather conditions can change.
* Announcements will be sent to students via *MTC Alerts!* and emailed via CampusCruiser when possible.
* Your class schedule in inclement weather: In standard non-lab and non-clinical classes, if the college closing or reopening means that there is at least 30 minutes of a class remaining, plan to attend that class. For example, if the college opens at 10:00 am, classes that normally meet at 8:00 am will not meet, but classes that normally begin at 9:35 am will begin at 10:00 am. Similarly, if the college closes at 8:00 pm, 6:00 pm classes will meet for their regular time, but 7:35 pm classes will not meet.
* Check your syllabus for specific information about the inclement weather policy for that course.

**Student Email Accounts**: All MTC students are assigned a college email account called CampusCruiser. Follow the link on the *Enrolled Students* page to access your account (look under *Online Resources*).

* The college will communicate with students using CampusCruiser. You are responsible for checking your college email regularly for important information and announcements about registration, financial aid, cancelled classes, emergencies, etc.
* In addition to using CampusCruiser email, students may also be required to communicate with instructors through Desire to Learn (D2L), the college-wide learning management system, or through course-specific software, such as MyMathLab.

**MTC Online:** The college conducts business with students through MTC Online. MTC Online provides many services and resources, including access to transcripts, grades, and your program evaluation; information about your financial aid status; and how to search and register for courses. Follow the link on the *Enrolled Students* page under *Online Resources*.

**Class Attendance and Participation**: Students are responsible for meeting all attendance and participation requirements outlined in each course syllabus.

**Student Evaluation of Instruction**: Toward the end of the semester, students will be encouraged to participate in evaluating their courses. You can complete this confidential evaluation through MTC Online, using your username and password. Announcements will be made during the term concerning how and when to do the online evaluation.

**Children on Campus:** Children are generally not permitted on campus except for special events. Children are not permitted in classes, labs, or advisors’ offices. Children can never be left unattended on campus, including in parking lots.

**Students Requiring Special Accommodations**:

* If a student with a disability requires special accommodations, the student should go to Counseling Services in the Student Center on Beltline or Airport Campus. Documentation regarding a specific disability is required in order for special arrangements to be made. All information received will remain confidential.
* For more information, follow the *Disability Resource Centers* link under *Online Resources* onthe *Enrolled Students* page.

**Course Topic Outline/Course Calendar with Assignments: (All exams will be announced one week prior to actual exam).**

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**PLEASE NOTE: Should change become necessary, the instructor reserves the right to adjust the requirements, pace, or scheduling of this course. Any change will be announced in class before it becomes effective.**