



NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYVILLE | KANSAS CITY

Humanities and Social Sciences Department

The United States Since 1877

HIST 33156, 48 contact hours, 3 Credit Hours

5-Week Summer Session

Instructor: TBD

E-mail: TBD

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

An introduction to the themes, events, people, issues, and debates in U.S. history since Reconstruction. No prerequisites.

This is a course about the history of the United States since the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Students will be asked to answer the fundamental question: What is the story of America since the Civil War? From this key question, we will search the answer to other questions including Who are Americans? How has the legacy of slavery affected America? What has had the most significant economic impact in American history? What does freedom mean and how has that changed? How have Americans thought of each other? What have Americans accomplished? How does the world perceive the actions of past Americans?

We will be working through complex historical material, much of it personal and potentially upsetting. It is very important to work on this with an open mind as you will be asked to treat issues of history with understanding and grace.

Course Objectives

This course will cover many concepts of American history, yet there are four main objectives for the course. Students will compare historical value perspectives recognizing similarities and conflicts in tests, papers, and quizzes. Students will also demonstrate knowledge of the history of oppression, most notably through exams and discussions. Students will use research effectively in written text as demonstrated in papers and discussion posts. Students will produce original expression of ideas through papers.

Northwest Core competencies and student learning outcomes for this course:



NW Core Competencies	Student learning outcomes
Communication: Students will recognize the role of writing and speaking in living and learning.	Students will use research effectively in written text.
Critical thinking: Students will engage in disciplined thought to generate and communicate ideas.	Students will understand and use reading to actively interact with texts and understand the value of reading in the university.
Valuing: Students will understand the formation and context of values.	Students will compare historical value perspectives recognizing similarities and conflicts.

Instructional Methods, Textbooks, and Supplementary Material

This course will be delivered fully online, and all instructional methods and assessments outlined as follows will be adapted to this format on Canvas. To get the most of the educational experience offered in this course, all students will be expected to read and understand assignments from the text for the course. Our text is

Shi, David E., George Brown Tindall, Erik Anderson, and Jonathan Lee. *America: The Essential Learning Edition*, Part 2, 1st edition. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2015.

Students are also expected to come to class prepared to discuss and answer questions about the readings for the day. When lectures are given, students are expected to take *extensive* notes. PowerPoint slides will be used as *outlines* – students are expected to take notes on much more than what is displayed on the screen. Students are expected to ask questions.

If material is unclear, or students are confused with the content, it is essential that students take initiative to understand the material.

Assessment Methods

This course will require significant writing and participation. Students in HIST 156 will be evaluated on two exams (20% each); two papers (15% each); Quizzes (20%); Discussion Posts (10%).

Grading Scale:

100-90%	A
89.9-80%	B
79.9-70%	C
69.9-60%	D
59.9-0%	F

Graded Course requirements



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Quizzes

All students will complete online quizzes based on readings for the week. Reading the text is essential to this course. The course includes a selection of primary and secondary sources among the reading material. Students are expected to do the assigned weekly reading and to attend all lectures. Regular discussions are expected as well.

Exams

All students will take two exams. The tests will consist of multiple-choice questions. The examinations will each represent 20% of the course evaluation. The exams will be held in class.

Writing Assignments

All students will complete two Writing Assignments.

All papers should be typed using a 12-point standard font, double-spaced, with proper note and bibliographic citations. Writing for history should be in a formal writing style.

Papers should be written with attention to the highest quality content and grammar. While paper grades will be based on analysis, content, and argument, poor grammar will also reduce grades. A fantastic resource for grammar to own is Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*.

Papers are due at the beginning of the class period. Once class begins, papers will be considered late. No late papers will be accepted unless the student has a legitimate excuse or has made acceptable arrangements with the instructor ahead of time.

Attendance/Class Participation

Class Participation constitutes 5% of the course evaluation. It includes attendance and involvement in discussions or in-class work. If students are texting, or on Facebook, or participating in a similarly distracting behavior while in class, participation grades will be affected. Attendance/participation may be a deciding factor for all borderline evaluation considerations.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes as specified in the course syllabi for each course. It is the responsibility of the student to promptly notify his or her instructor when unable to attend class. Please refer to the university policy on attendance at <https://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Attendance.pdf>

Laptop/Phone Policy

Please use laptops and phones appropriately out of respect for your fellow students and the professor. Inappropriate phone use will not be tolerated and should obviously be avoided. To be clear: please leave your phones put away through class. Headphones are just bad manners in class and absolutely should be put away throughout class. On occasion, students will be required



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to bring their laptops to class and participate in digital historical work. Students will be expected to have knowledge of good computer practices to fully participate in the course, including proper etiquette in respect for the professor and fellow students.

Email/Northwest Online Etiquette

All emails (whether sent by computer or phone) need to include your class name and meeting time, as well as a pertinent subject line. “Hey Professor”, “Yo”, or “Sup” are not appropriate subject lines for professional emails and will be deleted accordingly. I will do my best to act in a professional manner towards you. I expect the same from you.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

The students, faculty, and staff at Northwest endeavor to sustain an environment that values honesty in academic work, that acknowledges the authorized aid provided by and intellectual contributions of others, and that enables equitable student evaluation. Please refer to Northwest Missouri State University’s Academic Integrity Policy at

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Academic-Integrity.pdf>

Non-discrimination and anti-harassment policy: Northwest Missouri State University is committed to maintaining an environment for all faculty, staff, students, and third parties that is free of illegal discrimination and harassment. Please refer to the Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy at

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/diversity/titlevi.htm>

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) policy: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (commonly known as the Buckley Amendment), is a federal law which provides that colleges and universities will maintain the confidentiality of student education records. Please refer to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Policy a

<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Family-Educational-Rights-and-Privacy-Act.pdf>

HIST 33156 - Course Plan Summer 2019

Week	Class Lecture Topic	Reading Chapter	Assignment/Exam
1.	a. Introduction to the Course and discussion of terms;	15, 16, 17	Quizzes (15-17)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. Review U.S. Civil War/ Reconstruction/ Rebuilding the U.S.c. Industrial Revolutionsd. New Cities and Urbanization		
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The New South and Westb. Native America and the Westc. The Gilded Age and Populismd. American Empire	18, 19,	Quizzes (18, 19) Writing Assignment #1
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The Progressivesb. The Great Warc. The Roaring 20s/Jazz Aged. The Depression	20, 21, 22, 23	Quizzes (20-23) MidTerm Exam
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. World War IIb. Post-War Americac. The Cold Ward. The Third World	24, 25, 26	Quizzes (24-26) Writing Assignment #2
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Civil Rights movementsb. Disorder and Discontent in the 1960sc. Modern Americad. Course Reflections/Conclusion	27, 28, 29, 30	Quizzes (27-30) Final Exam

***Note:** Course schedule is subject to change with instructor notification and students will be responsible for abiding by these changes.*