**HIST 1301.083FE United States History I**

**Course Syllabus:** Spring 2020, 2nd 8 weeks, online



***“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”***

**Instructor:** Melissa E. Fulgham, Ph.D.

**Office:** HUMA 128E (but will not be there for remainder of Spring 2020)

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| **Office**  **Hours** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Online** |
| Online by appointment. | Online by appointment. | Online by appointment. | Online by appointment. | Online by appointment. | Online by appointment. |

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** This is a survey course focusing on the development of American characteristics and institutions. Topics include the forging of a new society from European, African, and Native American cultures; the colonial experience and revolution; the rise of a democratic spirit and way of life; the frontier experience; conflict with Mexico; sectionalism; and Civil War and Reconstruction.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

# Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students should be able to employ appropriate methods and technologies to conduct basic research on historical concepts, figures, events and topics related to United States history prior to 1877.
2. Students should be able to recognize and understand the significance of key historical figures, events and concepts related to United States history prior to 1877.
3. Students should be able to recognize and assume responsibility as a citizen by learning to think independently, by engaging in public discourse and debate, and obtaining information about and maintaining an understanding of current events and their relationship to the past.

# Evaluation/Grading Policy:

# Chapter Readings (SmartBook) 20 %

# Discussion Board Conversations 20 %

# Course Journal 20 %

# Show What you Know (tests) 20%

# History Essay 20%

**Required Instructional Materials:** Davidson, et al. *Experience History: Interpreting America’s Past*. 9th edition. Online textbook.

# Publisher: McGraw-Hill ISBN Number: 978-1-259-54180-3

# Optional Instructional Materials: McGraw-Hill Connect to accompany textbook. Included online.

# Minimum Technology Requirements: You must have access to a computer to take this course. Your computer needs to have Windows XP SP3 or later or MAC OS X10.3 or higher. You will need Office 2003 or higher, and you will need broadband internet access. You can check your operating system by right clicking on the My Computer icon on the home screen. You can check your word processing program by going to Start and clicking on All Programs. You will find your Office program there. If you do not have access to a computer with the minimum computer requirements, I strongly suggest that you reconsider taking this online course.

**Required Computer Literacy Skills**: Ability to use Blackboard as well as Microsoft Office. Microsoft Office programs, including Word, are provided free to all enrolled students.

# Course Structure and Overview: The course will be presented as a set of lesson modules. Once you’ve completed all required work in a module, you will be able to advance to the next module. Due dates note when you should complete a module so that you can stay on schedule, but you are welcome to move ahead earlier. Modules will “disappear” from your home page once the deadline for completing the work in that module has passed. Knowledge checks will be taken at the end of each module to assess that you’ve learned material in that module. A comprehensive final exam at the end of the course will assess mastery of the material covered. All tests can be taken up to 3 times. A history research essay will allow you to dig deeper into a topic of interest to you that relates to the material being studied in this course.

Module 1: Start Here

Virtual Introduction & Why Study History Discussion

Read Chapter 1 of textbook SmartBook

Show What You Know 10 pt Test

Module 2: Choices

Read chapters 2 through 7 of textbook SmartBook

Discussion Board Conversation Discussion

Show What You Know 10 pt Test

Module 3: Consequences

Read chapters 8 through 11 of textbook SmartBook

Discussion Board Conversation Discussion

Show What You Know 10 pt Test

Module 4: Results

Read chapters 12 through 17 of textbook SmartBook

Discussion Board Conversation Discussion

Show What You Know 10 pt Test

Module 5: History Essay and Course Wrap Up

Course Journal Due Journal

History Essay Due Essay

Show What You Know (entire course) 60 pt Test

# SmartBook Reading Quizzes:

As you read the online textbook, a series of questions will help you understand the material. Your grade will be based on the percentage of questions successfully completed. If you only complete half the questions, your grade will reflect that. If you answer all the questions correctly, you can expect a perfect score.

# Discussions:

Each lesson module contains one or more discussion boards. You will make an initial post to a question posed. Once you’ve done that, you will see your classmates’ postings. Interact with at least one classmate in a meaningful way. Do not simply say “I agree.” Rather, make meaningful comments that help to cultivate a class conversation or move the discussion forward by adding additional details and posing thoughtful questions in response.

# Show What You Know Tests:

Each module will end with a chance for you to “Show What You Know!” The questions will come from the material covered within the module. If you do not pass the test the first time, you will see which questions you have gotten right and wrong (but the correct answers will not be displayed for the questions you have missed). This will give you a chance to go back through the module. You may complete the activity up to two times, and your final score will be the highest attempt. The end of module opportunities to “Show What You Know!” are timed and will close once completed. Make sure that you have a stable internet connection before you begin. Once you have completed the activity, the next lesson module will open.

# History Essay:

The history essay is a chance for you to dig deeper into a topic from this class that interests you. For a full description of the assignment, see the “Final Essay Assignment” link on the course page. The history essay will be due the final week of the course. The final week of the class is devoted to finishing up your history essay.

# Course Journal:

The course journal will consist of questions that you will answer as you work your way through the course. Each module will begin with a series of questions that you should thoughtfully answer as you work your way through the module lessons. The journal should indicate that you’ve read and thoughtfully reflected upon the material. The course journal is an online journal that you will be working on throughout the course and will be due the last week of the semester.

# Communications: Blackboard messages or direct email serve as the best ways to communicate.

# NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

# ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website[.](http://www.ntcc.edu/index.php?module=Pagesetter&func=viewpub&tid=111&pid=1)

# Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered “eligible students.” In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child’s college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as “directory information” may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student’s name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.