

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

United States History I
HIST_1301.91

Jennifer Nichter

United States History I

HIST 1301_91

Course Description:

HIST 1301

A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

Prerequisite: Must have passed the reading section of the TSI Assessment or have credit for INRW 0402. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

N/A

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Jennifer Nichter

MCC E-mail: jnichter@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: N/A

Office Location: N/A

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00PM via email

Other Instruction Information: I will respond to email inquiries within 24 hours, 48 hours on weekends.

Required Text & Materials:

Title: Give Me Liberty (MCC Custom)

Author: Foner

Year: 2014

Edition: 4th

Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co., Inc.

ISBN: 9780393605143

Title: The Lowell Offering

Author: Eisler

Year: 1977

Publisher: W.W. Norton & Company, Incorporated

ISBN: 9780393316858

Title: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

Author: Douglass

Year: 1995

Publisher: Dover Publications, Incorporated

ISBN: 9780486284996

[MCC Bookstore Website http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/](http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/)

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at

<http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources, we encourage you to contact a success coach by calling (254) 299-8226. Students can visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to meet with a success coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) is open 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, without an appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be contacted/notified through your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

* [Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L/Brightspace](http://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)
(www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

A variety of methods will be used in teaching United States History I, including the use of lecture, discussion, written assignments and various projects. Student assessment will include objective exams, readings of primary and secondary sources, discussions, subjective and objective essays, projects and portfolios. These measures will assess critical thinking, communication, social responsibility and personal responsibility. A departmental rubric may be used to assess different aspects of the course objectives.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Critical Thinking: Through lecture and a variety of objective strategies, students will be assessed on critical thinking ability. Objective examinations will specifically be used to assess critical thinking. Other assessment vehicles may include essays, portfolios, primary source objective exams, and presentations.

Communication: Measures such as objective tests, written assignments, discussions, portfolios and presentations may be used to measure the student's ability to communicate.

Social Responsibility: Because the teaching of history involves evoking examples of successes and failures in social responsibility, and the continual importance of this issue politically and personally today, social responsibility naturally is emphasized. Assessment measures may include readings, primary document exams, discussions, projects and essays.

Personal Responsibility: Because the teaching of history also involves evoking examples of successes and failures in personal responsibility, and the consequences that personal choices can have, personal responsibility is also naturally emphasized. Assessment measures may include participation, readings, primary document exams, discussions, projects and essays.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.

Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.

Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

Course Outline or Schedule:

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Note: For the purposes of this course, each week begins Monday and ends on Saturday (with the exception of the final exam). Your work for each week is due on Saturday nights, by midnight, **unless otherwise noted in the assignment**.

Week One: The New World and English America

08/26-08/31: Read Foner Chapters 1-2

08/31: **DBQs 1 due** (Discussion board questions)

Week Two: Creating Anglo America

09/02-09/07: Read Foner Ch. 3

09/07: **DBQs 2 due**

Week Three: Slavery and Empire

09/09-09/14: Read Foner Ch. 4

09/14: **DBQs 3 due**

Week Four: The American Revolution

09/16-09/21: Read Foner Ch. 5

09/21: **DBQs 4 due**

Week Five: The Revolution Within

09/23-09/28: Read Foner Ch. 6

09/28: **DBQs 5 due**

Week Six: Founding a Nation

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09/30-10/05: Read Foner Ch. 7

10/05: **DBQs 6 due**

Week Seven: Securing the Republic

10/07-10/12: Read Foner Ch. 8

10/12: **DBQs 7 due**

Week Eight: Midterm Exam (Ch. 1-8)

10/14-10/19

10/19: **Midterm Exam due**

Week Nine: Market Revolution and “Mill Girls”

10/21-10/26: Read Foner Ch. 9

10/26: **Eisler paper due (Paper #1)**

No DBQs this week

Week Ten: The Age of Jackson

10/28-11/02: Read Foner Ch. 10

11/02: **DBQs 10 due**

Week Eleven “The Peculiar Institution”

11/04-11/09: Read Foner Ch. 11

11/09: **DBQs 11 due**

Week Twelve: The Age of Reform

11/11-11/16: Read Foner Ch. 12

11/16: **Douglass paper due (Paper #2)**

No DBQs this week

Week Thirteen: The Coming Crisis

11/18-11/23: Read Foner Ch. 13

11/23: **DBQs 13 due**

Week Fourteen: The Civil War

11/25-11/30: Read Foner Ch. 14

11/30: **DBQs 14 due**

Week Fifteen: Reconstruction

12/02-12/07: Read Foner Ch. 15

12/07: **DBQs 15 due**

Week Sixteen: FINAL EXAM (Ch. 9-15)

12/10 (Tuesday): Final exam due

Power Points slides accompany each chapter in the text. These are meant to supplement your notes, not serve as your only source of information. They can be found in the "Lectures" link under the "Content" tab in Brightspace.

Instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If a change becomes necessary, you will be notified via email, as well as an announcement on the Brightspace portal.

Course Grading Information:

Grading Criteria

Discussion Board	30%
Paper I	15%
Paper II	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Description of Grading Criteria

Papers:

You will write two five-page papers for this class. **A detailed instruction sheet will follow as we approach the first paper assignment.**

Midterm and Final Exams:

The midterm and final exams will be taken/turned in online. You will not need to come to campus to take the exams. The exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer and/or essay questions. **Detailed instructions will follow as we approach the first exam.**

Discussions (and general Brightspace information):

As an online course, the most important prerequisite is that you have access to McLennan's Brightspace portal, located at <https://brightspace.mclennan.edu/d2l/login>

(preferably by way of a high-speed internet connection). **If you do not have login credentials (i.e. a username or password) for McLennan's Brightspace portal, or do not know if you do, you must resolve this immediately.** Failure to do so will most definitely result in failure of the course, since regular assignments in the course will begin during the first week of the semester. Although many of you are already familiar with Brightspace, since a substantial portion of your final grade depends on Brightspace participation, these details bear repeating.

Be sure to look around the Brightspace course shell. Perhaps you have used Brightspace before, but not this version. The main modules that I will use in this course include "Announcements," "Assignments," "Discussions," "Lectures," and "Syllabus." By way of a few words on each:

- "Announcements" is where I will post communications about the course.

- “Assignments” is where you will find further instructions concerning your papers and exams, as well as any additional readings that are assigned throughout the semester. This folder can be found under the “Content” tab in Brightspace.
- “Discussions” is the Brightspace Discussion Board where you will post answers to your weekly assignments. You will answer three questions on the Discussion Board each week. **When you post your answers to the weekly Brightspace Questions, for each question you are required to submit three posts. The first should be a longer post that thoroughly answers the question and demonstrates that you mastered the reading for that week. The second and third posts are shorter comments to your classmates’ posts. Each week that they are assigned, I will post discussion questions on Monday. They will be due the following Saturday night at midnight.**
**** Each week, you will have the opportunity to earn 5 bonus points by posting your response to my question by Wednesday evening. Please see the discussion forums for more information.**
- “Lectures” is the link that I will use to post Power Point slides for each week of reading that you do. These slides will help to supplement the notes you take as you read. This folder can be found under the “Content” tab in Brightspace.
- “Syllabus” is where I will always post the latest version of the syllabus (in case there are revisions during the semester). This folder can be found under the “Content” tab in Brightspace.

The inherent flexibility of a course of this type is that you are able to complete the weekly assignments at your leisure, while the drawback is that you will have to be disciplined and self-motivated to such an extent that you are able to complete all assignments in a timely manner.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Late Papers and Incompletes:

Any assignment submitted after the due date and time will be subject to a penalty of ten percent per twenty-four-hour period late. This includes papers and discussion board responses. **Exams will not be subject to this penalty – if you fail to take/turn in an exam on time, you will receive a zero.**

An incomplete will only be granted to those students who 1) find it impossible to complete the course due to circumstances beyond their control, and 2) have kept me informed of those circumstances as they develop.

Exam Make-up Policy:

Due to the online nature of this course, there will be no opportunity to take an exam other than at the assigned date and time. If you are unable to take an exam as scheduled, you will not receive a grade for that exam.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

N/A

* **[Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

* **[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

Accommodations/ADA Statement

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

* **[Click Here for more information about Title IX](#)**

(www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.

** You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link's information.*