



WACO, TEXAS

Course Syllabus and Instructor Plan

United States History I

HIST-1301-D087

Chad DeMars

NOTE: This is an Online course.

NOTE: This is a Face-to-Face course.

Course Description: United States History I (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 the 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:

The syllabus serves as a guide for the expectations and completion of the course. Read the syllabus completely. Ask questions if the syllabus requires more explanation. Any changes will be communicated to students electronically and in class. Professor DeMars is committed to student success and believes appropriate participation and attendance achieve that goal.

Meeting Times

The course meets each week online asynchronously.

Instructor Information:

Instructor name: Chad DeMars

MCC E-mail: cdemars@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8920

Office Location: Michaels Academic Center (MAC) 332

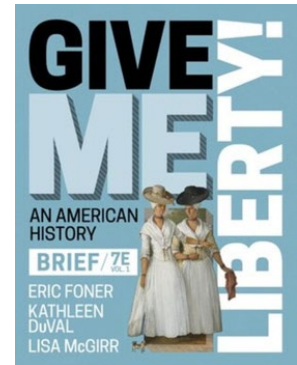
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Noon), and by appointment

Other Instruction Information: <https://mclennan.zoom.us/j/2255989531>

Please contact me via email. Information on email is included in this syllabus. I reply within 24 hours of receiving your email, except on weekends or holidays.

Required Text & Materials

Title: *Give Me Liberty! An American History*
Authors: Eric Foner, Kathleen DuVal, and Lisa McGirr
Edition: Brief 7th Edition
Publisher: Norton
ISBN: 1324041765



MCC Bookstore Website:

<https://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning

A variety of methods will be used in teaching United States History II, including lectures, presentations, recorded presentations and videos, discussion forums, quizzes, and written assignments. Student assessment includes completing objective quizzes, discussing materials, and reading and writing analysis of primary and secondary sources. These measures will assess the following course objectives and competencies. A departmental rubric may assess different aspects of the course objectives (see below). Read all instructions and descriptions provided to you in correspondence and assignments.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies

- **Critical Thinking:** Through lectures 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, 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, and essays.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance per the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in this syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster before certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly, and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Course Schedule:

This Schedule is tentative. Any changes will be announced in class and reflected in due dates.

Week 1 8/25-8-31 Class Introduction & Syllabus, Pre-Columbian People

Week 2 9/1-9/7 **9/1 Labor Day** European Exploration

Week 3 9/8-9/14 England & Her Colonies, The British Empire in America

Week 4 9/15-9/21 Colonial Slavery, The Colonies Come of Age

Week 5 9/22-9/28 Colonial Wars, From Good Englishmen to Independence , Main Idea Paper Due 9/28 11:59 PM

Week 6 9/29-10/The American Revolution, Confederation to Constitution.

Week 7 10/6-10/12 The Federalist Era, Jeffersonian America

Week 8 10/13- 10/19 Midterm Exam, Jacksonian America

Week 9 10/20-10/26 The Second Great Awakening, Abolitionist & Reform.

Week 10 10/27-11/2 Questioning Morality in the 19th Century, Manifest Destiny

Week 11 11/3-11/9 The Politics of Slavery and Gold Response paper due 11/9 @ 11:59 PM

Week 12 11/10-11/16 The Gathering Storm, Secession/Slavery Documents Lecture

Week 13 11/17-11/23 Secession and Civil War

Week 14 11/24-11/30 **Short week because Thanksgiving** Civil War Continued

Week 15 12/1-12/7 Civil War Conclusion, Reconstruction

Week 16 12/8-12/11 Final Exams

Course Grading Information

The course is fully online and asynchronous, organized into Brightspace modules, with assigned readings per module, and conducted through reading and assignment activities. Professor DeMars facilitates course participation and designed content and structure to support the development of student ideas and interpretation of history. Students are expected to participate fully and regularly.

Professor DeMars participates and provides feedback and grades on all submitted assignments, posts announcements, and gives reminders for course content and any necessary course changes. All contributions by Professor DeMars will be written or recorded, and he may add additional video or audio messages relevant or complementary to the course modules and content.

EXAMS

There will be two exams: one midterm and one final. The exams are given in essay-only format in order to allow you to demonstrate your understanding of historical topics and to provide your own interpretations of historical events and themes. It is more important that you be able to exhibit critical thinking skills than to regurgitate a laundry list of names and dates.

Exams will not be cumulative, BUT the questions will be based on lecture, the textbook, and the supplementary readings. You will not be able to succeed on the exam by only coming to class and not reading (or vice versa).

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

You will be required to write two essays over the supplemental readings. The first of these writing assignments must be at least 250 words. The second essay must be at least 900 words in length. Both must be double-spaced, with standard 1-inch margins and 12-point font. Cite your sources in footnotes. I will provide a prompt for each of the essays, so you will be using the supplementary readings to respond to a specific historical question. We will discuss these assignments and the citation guidelines in greater detail during class.

QUIZZES

QUIZZES

There will be 150 Quiz points offered over the course of the semester. These quizzes will be on Brightspace.

GRADING SCALE

Exams—400 points (One Midterm worth 200 points and a final exam worth 200 points)

Written Essays: 300 points (1 short essay worth 100 points and 1 longer essay worth 200 points)

Quizzes: 150 points

Short Response Assignments - 150 Points

TOTAL POINTS: 1000

A= 1000-900; B = 899-800; C =799-700; D = 699-600; F = 599 and below.

Late Work and Make-Up Work Policies:

Ample time and notifications are provided for due dates. I recommend you plan to complete your coursework based on these expectations, manage your time well, and prepare for the unexpected. No extensions are granted unless they meet the Attendance and Make-Up Work Policies.

Attendance and Make-Up Work Policies

In the case of an emergency, students are required to provide documentation of the emergency within seven days of any missed due date and the work is due within the same time frame.

Attendance is recorded with the completion of assigned materials. Your instructor reviews course progress and completion dates/times to facilitate and assist student success and attendance. Therefore, not completing content or missing an assignment counts as an absence and contributes to the risk of not succeeding. An attendance register is included in Brightspace.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

THIS IS A COLLEGE COURSE. Students are expected to behave professionally and display respect for themselves, fellow students, the instructor, and the course, in all interactions. It is the student's responsibility to track their course progress. Course interactions may be moderated by the instructor without warning. Please direct concerns regarding course behavior to the instructor. **Extra credit** Bonus opportunities may be offered in the course. Do not ask for "extra credit" opportunities.

Read the Syllabus

The instructor is not responsible for the student reading the syllabus. It is in the student's best interest to have completely read the syllabus on day one and to ask questions if any criteria, evaluation method, or course policy requires clarification or explanation.

Communication, MCC email, and Brightspace

Students are required to use their MCC student email. Communication with your instructor and classmates is vital and you must access your MCC email and the D2L Brightspace interface daily. The instructor may use other communication methods where relevant or appropriate.

Identification

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name or gender pronoun than what is on (or indicated by) the class roster, please let me know. I will gladly honor your request. Please advise me of your pronouns early in the semester so I may make appropriate changes to my records.

Time Commitment and Computer Use

An online course requires more time commitment that you must schedule on your own than a face-to-face course and reliable access to a computer. All content, announcements, and assignments are provided through Brightspace. You are responsible for using a computer to review those materials and complete assignments. **Technical issues from computer problems to poor Internet connectivity are not accepted as excuses for missed or late assignments.** If you encounter any difficulties, contact the instructor.

Academic Integrity

Do not be academically dishonest. In any case where academic integrity is questioned, the student will be contacted, the penalty may be a 0 grade, but revision or resubmission may be offered. The violation will be reported and the potential for harsher penalties, including course failure, exists. Feedback regarding suspected academic dishonesty will be provided to the student for review.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- **Cheating**: copying answers; using unauthorized materials; stealing tests/assignments; substituting for another student; including unauthorized or “hidden” materials in submitted work to meet assignment expectations (may also fall under plagiarism).
- **Plagiarism**: using someone else’s work, ideas, writings, etc. without citations. Anything in your work should be in your own words except quoted and cited examples from sources. Self-plagiarism is NOT allowed: all coursework should be new and original for this course.
- **Collusion**: unauthorized collaboration with other persons on an assignment or assessment.
- **Artificial Intelligence**: use of any AI software or interface to compose or complete any work in this course is not allowed. ***It is considered cheating and easy to identify.*** The use of AI in any assignment will result in an automatic 0 without revision.
- **Sharing one’s work**: any work shared with another classmate in any capacity is considered academic dishonesty if it impacts either or both students’ grades on assignments.

Turn It In

Brightspace sends submitted written work through a similarity-checking system called Turn It In to confirm academic integrity and students can review those reports in Brightspace. Ask the instructor for information about exploring that opportunity. Turn It In is a great resource to check your writing and citation of included examples and references from assigned materials in the course. Students should review the report following the submission of each assignment.

Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy

<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>

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

06/24/2025



ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

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 Accommodations (Disability Services) as soon as possible to begin the steps for requesting accommodations. 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 Accommodations (Disability Services). For additional information, please visit www.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

Title IX:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive Federal funds. 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 a Title IX incident are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465.

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students which can include educational accommodations such as excused absences

and the opportunity to make up assignments and tests. Lactation spaces are also available on campus. Please email titleix@mclennan.edu for more information.

MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Faculty and Staff may email titleix@mclennan.edu to submit a report.

Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <https://www.lighthouse-services.com>

Visit McLennan's Title IX webpage at <https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/> to learn more about Title IX protections, reporting, and resources.

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/>

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

Success Coaching Services is here for you.

We know life can be overwhelming sometimes—and that challenges outside the classroom can impact your success inside it. That's why our Success Coaches provide personalized support to help you navigate it all.

Success Coaching is available to every MCC student, no matter where you're starting from. Whether you're looking for direction, need quick advice, or just want someone to talk to, our coaches are here to listen, celebrate your strengths, and help you move forward with confidence. At Success Coaching Services, your voice is heard, your goals matter, and your future is our focus.

To learn more or schedule an appointment, visit www.mclennan.edu/successcoaching, call 254-299-8226, or email success@mclennan.edu.

College personnel also recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources and other essential resources, we encourage you to contact the CREW - Campus Resources Education Web by calling 254-299-8561 or emailing crew@mclennan.edu.

Success Coaching Services, the CREW, and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services, suite 249.

The Student Counseling Center offers confidential mental health counseling to currently enrolled students at no charge. Counselors are trained to help students with problems related to personal, social, and emotional concerns. Sessions focus on short-term goals in order to facilitate students college success and adjustment. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom.

Make an appointment to meet with a counselor by visiting the center in the Wellness & Fitness building, room 101, calling 254-299-8210, or emailing counseling@mclennan.edu.

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html>

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Please view our [Academic Integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

For online and blended/hybrid courses, students must have access to a reliable computer and internet. For more information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system go to: <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-StaffCommons/requirements.html>

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 notified via 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.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication

method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.