

History of the United States, 1492 – 1865

Spring 2019

Dr. Joseph C. Thompson

Office Hours:

Monday: 11:00 a.m. until noon and 1:15 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:15 until 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday: 11:00 a.m. until noon

Contact Information:

Office: Room 219 in the HS Building

Phone Number: 240.567.7751

E-mail: joe.thompson@montgomerycollege.edu

My Website: historyprofessorjoe.com

My Website:

I strongly urge students to regularly visit my website, historyprofessorjoe.com. There you will find copies of the syllabus, links to the material you will be reading for your writing assignments, as well as links to handouts, primary sources, maps, and graphs that I reference in my lectures. You will also find links to Amazon for those of you who want to buy your books online (you will find these links under the **ABooks@** tab). I will also post announcements about test dates, class cancellations, any changes to class policies, etc. The site also includes **practice quizzes** that are designed to help students prepare for the multiple choice portion of the in-class exams. Each quiz covers a single chapter of the textbook **B** they do not cover the material from my in-class lectures. The answers can be found in the textbook.

Textbook:

H.W. Brands, et. al., American Stories: A History of the United States, volume 1, 3rd Edition
The textbook is available at the MC bookstore on the ground floor of the HS building.

Gen. Ed. Statement:

HIST 200 fulfills a General Education Program Humanities Distribution requirement. Montgomery College's General Education Program is designed to ensure that students have the skills, knowledge and attitudes to carry them successfully through their work and personal lives. This course offers multiple opportunities to develop two or more of the following competencies: written and oral communication, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis and reasoning, technological competency, and information literacy. For more information, please see www.montgomerycollege.edu/gened

Course Description and Objectives:

This course covers a variety of topics: from European exploration, settlement, and culture in the British North American colonies to the movement for independence and constitutional government. We will see how the new nation conducted its foreign policy and how it moved toward a more democratic and egalitarian society. Students will be introduced to the social, cultural, and intellectual trends in the new republic as well as the consequences of Western expansion, economic development, and how the conflict over slavery brought the nation to civil war. In addition to learning the facts of the past, students will learn how to express ideas about historical change in an intelligent, lucid, and analytical manner. They will learn to critically analyze data and to differentiate between that which can be supported by objective evidence and that which cannot.

Outcomes: By the end of the semester students will be able to:

-  Compare and contrast indigenous and European societies and cultures.
-  Describe the processes of conquest and colonization in the 'New World.'
-  Trace the evolution of slavery and other labor systems as increasingly contentious political issues.
-  Explain the factors and ideas leading to American independence and the formation of the United States.
-  Explicate the various causes and consequences of national expansion, sectionalism, and the Civil War.

Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken regularly so that I can learn your names. You will not be penalized for absences; experience tells me that you penalize yourself if you do not attend class. However, I do not lend my lecture notes, so I encourage you to confer with your fellow classmates about any information you missed. Also, if you arrive late for an exam, you will not be granted additional time.

Classroom Conduct: We follow the normal rules of civility in this classroom. That simply means that we should be respectful of other people and their opinions. In addition to that, I have a few of my own rules. First and foremost, NO CELL PHONES or TEXT MESSAGING during the lecture **B (parents and other care givers are exempt from this rule)**. Also, do not do homework during the lecture. Finally, no talking to one another while I'm lecturing.

Exams:

- ✚ There will be **three exams** given over the course of the semester.
- ✚ The first two exams consist of 35 multiple choice questions and five short essays or Aidentifications.@
- ✚ The final exam consists of 60 multiple choice questions and six short essays or identifications. **The final exam is NOT comprehensive.**
- ✚ The dates of each exam will be announced in class and on my website approximately one week in advance of the exam.
- ✚ **I strongly urge students to take the practice quizzes on my website.**
- ✚ **Make up tests will be permitted at the discretion of the instructor.**
- ✚ **Grades will be posted on Blackboard**

Writing Assignments:

Over the course of the semester you will be required to write three (3) short reaction papers to primary source documents that have been posted on my website under the tab “Writing Assignments – HIST 200.” Primary sources are materials that provide us with an individual’s personal perspective of history. These are first-hand accounts that contain crucial information about the past to help historians achieve a developed understanding of historical events. Each assigned document will include a series of “Questions to Consider” to help you evaluate the primary source. After reading the assigned primary sources and studying the “Questions to Consider,” you will be write a brief essay that (1) summarizes the document and (2) answers the questions provided. Your goal is to develop a well-supported response to the questions based on the facts you have learned about the topic.

Due Dates: The writing assignments are due:

- Paper 1 -- Wednesday, February 27
- Paper 2 -- Friday, March 29
- Paper 3 -- Monday, April 29

The first two papers are worth a maximum of 10 points each, the third paper is worth a maximum of 20 points.

General Guidelines:

⊃ Papers must be typed, doubled-spaced using 12 point font on standard 8 1/2 X 11 paper. Do not paste or tape anything to the paper. Your paper must be free from spelling, typographic, and grammatical errors. Your name, along with the days and time your class meets, should be in the upper right-hand corner.

⊃ I recommend that each paper be two to three pages long. This is only a recommendation. There is no minimum number of words. Instead you should let the material determine the length of the review.

⊃ I strongly urge students take early drafts of their papers to the Writing, Reading, and Language Center located in room HS 150. I also suggest that students take advantage of the tutoring services available there.

⊃ **Late papers:** Students will be penalized one point for every *weekday* their paper is late. I will NOT accept any late papers after I return those that were turned in on time.

; **Any hint of plagiarism** will result in a failing grade for this assignment!! Take the plagiarism tutorial on my website if you have any doubts as to what constitutes plagiarism.

WARNING: All papers will be subjected to a plagiarism analysis on Safe Assign, an online service that allows educators to check students' work for improper citation or potential plagiarism by comparing it against continuously updated databases. **Please see me if you have any questions about academic dishonesty.**

Grading:

First exam = 60 point

Second exam = 60 points

Writing assignment 1 = 10 points

Writing assignment 2 = 10 points

Writing assignment 3 = 20 points

Final exam = 90 points

Total possible points = 250

Grading Scale:

225-250 points = A

200-224 points = B

182-199 points = C

150-181 points = D

0-149 points = F

All grades will be posted on Blackboard.

Withdrawal Policy:

Should you decide to withdraw from the course, it is ***your*** responsibility to complete all necessary paperwork. Check My MC for key withdrawal dates (i.e., last day to drop and receive refund, last day to drop with no grade or to change to the audit/credit option, and last day to drop with **AW@**)

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism and cheating are serious violations of the Student Code of Conduct. You will receive a **A0@** on any assignment or exam where you have cheated or where you have plagiarized the majority of your work. Any plagiarism serious enough to warrant a **A0@** will also be reported to the Dean of Student Development. If you have any questions about what counts as plagiarism or cheating, ask me *before* the assignment is due. I strongly encourage you to take the MC Library's Plagiarism Tutorial, available online at: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/library/plagiarismintro.htm>.

All of the following are considered plagiarism:

-  Turning in someone else's work as your own
 -  Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
 -  Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
 -  Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
 -  Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
 -  Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.
-

Important Student Information Link:

In addition to course requirements and objectives that are in this syllabus, Montgomery College has information on its web site (**see link below**) to assist you in having a successful experience both inside and outside of the classroom. It is important that you read and understand this information.

The link below provides information and other resources to areas that pertain to the following: student behavior (student code of conduct), student e-mail, the tobacco free policy, withdraw and refund dates, disability support services, veteran services, how to access information on delayed openings and closings, how to register for the Montgomery College Alert System, and finally, how closings and delays can impact your classes. If you have any questions, please bring them to your professor. As rules and regulations change they will be updated and you will be able to access them through the link. If any student would like a written copy of these policies and procedures, the professor would be happy to provide them. By registering for this class and staying in this class, you are indicating that you acknowledge and accept these policies.

<http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/mcsyllabus/>

Lecture, Reading, and Exam Schedule:

1. "Europe in 1492" – read chapter one
2. "The Spanish Conquest" – read chapter one
3. "England in 1607" – read chapters one and two
4. "English Settlements" – read chapters two and three
5. "Natives, Servants, and Slaves" – read chapters one, two and three
6. "Colonial America" – read chapter three
7. "Breaking the Bonds of Empire" – read chapter four
8. "The American Revolution" – read chapter five

First Exam – covers lectures 1 thru 8 *and* chapters 1 thru 5

9. "The Birth of the Republic" – read chapter six
10. "The Age of Federalism" – read chapter seven
11. "Jeffersonian America" – read chapter eight
12. "The Market Revolution" – read chapter nine
13. "The Rise of Democracy" – read chapter ten

Second Exam – covers lectures 9 thru 13 *and* chapters 6 thru 10

14. "The Antebellum South" – read chapter eleven
15. "Revival and Reform" – read chapter twelve
16. "Destiny and Division" – read chapters thirteen and fourteen
17. "The Collapse of National Parties" – read chapter fourteen
18. "The Drift to War" – read chapter fourteen
19. "The Civil War" – read chapter fifteen

The Final – covers lectures 14 thru 20 *and* chapters 11 thru 15