

**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS**

DEPARTMENT: HISTORY
COURSE PREFIX: HIS

COURSE NUMBER: 221

CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE: American Experience to 1865

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES: A thematic approach to the history of the U.S. to 1865, designed as a University Studies elective. Three basic themes will be included: the transplanted European and African cultures to America and their interaction with the cultures of native American Indians; the emergence of distinctive American values and institutions and the establishment of the American nation; and the stresses that culminated in the Civil War.
Prerequisites: n/a

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES: HIS 221 is a University Studies elective and a requirement of several programs. With completion of the course, students will:

- A. Engage in mature, independent, and creative thought and express that thought effectively in oral and written communication;
- B. Apply sound standards of information gathering, analysis, and evaluation to reach logical decisions;
- C. Demonstrate a critical understanding and knowledge of American history;
- D. Understand the dynamics of cultural diversity, of economic and political systems, and of complex moral and ethical issues.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE: The information included below is a general course outline. Inasmuch as deviation from it may be necessary to meet the needs of the class, the right is reserved to make adjustments where necessary. Adjustments made will be based on reasonable discretion and consistent with fundamental fairness.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Course will focus on discussion, lecture, and paper.

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES: N/A.

VII. TEXTS AND RESOURCES (may include the following):

Pogue and Waterfield Libraries

Norton, Mary Beth, et al. *A People and a Nation: A History of the United States*. Volume 1 to 1877. 9th edition. United States: Wadsworth-Cengage Learning, 2012.

Hollitz, John. *Thinking Through the Past: A Critical-Thinking Approach to US History, Volume 1 to 1877*. 3rd edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2005.

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADING PROCEDURES: Grades will follow the A-B-C-D-E (100-90-80-70-60) scale and will not be curved. Students must complete all components of the course to receive a passing grade.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance is required. Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletin.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days.

Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

XI: NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889 (TDD).