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## **HISTORY 2010-906**

### **The United States to 1877**

#### **Syllabus**

This syllabus has detailed information about how this class works. You should read it thoroughly right away and keep it with your course materials. It should be your first resource if you have any questions about the course, but if after checking the syllabus you still have questions please contact me.

#### **Communication and Office Hours**

Email will be answered within 24 hours during the weekday. On weekends, I will respond to email within 36-hours. Please send all email communication via your ETSU email. I am also happy to set up a Zoom meeting.

#### **Course Description**

This course is designed to help students identify and explore the fundamental issues in American History from the earliest inhabitants of the American continent to the end of Reconstruction. The course starts with two tutorials that will help you with studying history and this course. After that are three units comprised of chapters from your digital text. Each chapter is broken into smaller sections, which are each followed by a short three question Check Your Understanding Quiz to help you monitor how you are absorbing the material. Remember that you have the opportunity to go back and check the text before answering a question. At the end of each chapter is a test that covers the entire chapter. You will have three opportunities to take the test, with only the highest-grade counting. Some chapters also contain Primary Source Exercises. You will use the historical knowledge you have gained from going through the chapters to place primary sources in context and analyze them as historical documents. Like with the Tutorials and Chapter Tests, you will have three opportunities to take the exercises, with only the highest-grade counting.

#### **Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Think analytically and critically and clearly communicate his/her views.
- Explain the contributions of various cultures to American development.
- Analyze the growth and evolution of the American political tradition.
- Examine the role and relationship of government to citizens.
- Analyze the economic development from industrial to postindustrial.
- Place American history in a global context.

#### **Course Materials**

This semester we are using a program called MindTap. The easiest way to get MindTap is to click on a link in the Content section of D2L. There will be more material on the Course D2L home page about how to do this and purchase options.

### Using MindTap

To use the ebook and MindTap students must use an updated browser and disable their popup blocker. If you encounter difficulties with MindTap please try their 24 hour tech. There is a module at the bottom of the content section that you can use to send a report that will automatically capture information about the course. You can also use their support hotline, 1-800-990-8211.

### Evaluation

Students will be evaluated through Tutorials, Check Your Understanding Quizzes, Chapter Tests and Primary Source Exercises. The overall grade is calculated by dividing the total points earned by the total points possible across all graded assignments. Each question in MindTap is worth 1 point. I will use the grade book in MindTap and not D2L.

### Grade Scale

A = 95.0-100%  
A- = 92.0-94.9%  
B+ = 90.0-91.9%  
B = 87.0-89.9%  
B- = 83.0-86.9%  
C+ = 80.0-82.9%  
C = 76.0-79.9%  
C- = 74.0-75.9%  
D+ = 70.0-73.9%  
D = 65.0-69.9%  
F = 64.9% and below

### MindTap Assignments

Students will purchase a course code allowing access to the MindTap program. Students may access these critical thinking activities by clicking the appropriate links in the content as directed by the instructor. Further instructions about how to complete the work are detailed under the News section of our D2L course. Students can attempt all the assignments but Check Your Understandings **three** times and only the **highest** score will count.

### Assignments and Due Dates

To do well in any course, students must participate in all aspects of the course and complete assignments in a timely manner. While this is an online course and students do not meet in a traditional classroom setting, the course still involves assignments and deadlines.

Students should submit work early so that, in the event of a problem, the work may still be submitted in advance of any deadline. As a word of caution, students who fail to log in on a regular basis or make a habit of putting off assignments until the last minute tend to score lower in the course. All assignments are open from day one of the semester. So, those who would like to work ahead please feel free to do so. Due dates are below and on the MindTap page.

**Because this is an online course** and because the student has chosen to enroll in it, the student bears responsibility for ensuring that s/he has a reliable internet connection, appropriate software,

and dependable hardware. A persistent problem with Wi-Fi, connectivity, software, or hardware will not be considered by the instructor as a valid excuse for nullifying or changing deadlines, accepting late assignments, or opening closed assignments.

**Extra Credit** will be given for a letter to the editor that appears in the *Johnson City Press* or another local newspaper, using knowledge you have gained in class to support your position on a current issue. Your historical evidence, of course, must be accurate and appropriate to your argument and the instructor reserves the right to determine if a letter meets the criteria for extra credit. Please check if you have any questions about types of evidence or how to use it in a letter to the editor. Only the first letter by each student will receive extra credit and you must send me a copy of the published letter. The extra credit will be 5% added to the final grade.

**Academic Integrity** is taken seriously at East Tennessee State University. Depending on the extent of plagiarism or cheating, as determined by the professor, students will at a minimum fail the assignment and may fail the course. All cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the university and may result in possible disciplinary sanctions beyond the course. For more information on exactly what constitutes academic misconduct and the penalties, ask the instructor or see the ETSU website at <http://www.etsu.edu/students/spectrum/pa.htm#a6>.

**Student Performance** in the course, including grades and attendance, will not be discussed with parents or anyone else other than ETSU faculty or administrators who need the information for their jobs. The reason for this policy is The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99), a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

**Students with Disabilities** will be given every opportunity to succeed in the course. Any student who needs an accommodation based on a disability should make an appointment to see me during my office hours. A Faculty Accommodation Form from Disability Services authorizing your accommodations also will be needed to arrange accommodations. It is each student's responsibility to make the arrangements for accommodation in a timely fashion. Disability Services are located in the lower level of the D. P. Culp University Center. Its phone number is 439-8346 and the website is <http://www.etsu.edu/students/disable/disable.htm>.

**Students** who email me a 100-150 word introduction describing themselves by September 13, 2021 will get an extra 2% on their final grade. The introduction helps me to learn about individual students in an internet course.

**Important** university information can be found at:  
<http://www.etsu.edu/reg/academics/syllabus.aspx>

**Finally**, I reserve the right to amend this syllabus to fit the changing needs and circumstances of the class.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Unit 1: Tutorials - Students who have completed the Tutorials by the due date will be marked as not attending the course.	September 13, 2021, at Midnight
Unit 2: Native Americans & Colonization - Chapters 1-3	September 27, 2021, at Midnight
Unit 3: The American Revolution - Chapters 4-6	October 18, 2021, at Midnight
Unit 4: A New Nation - Chapters 7-9	November 1, 2021, at Midnight
Unit 5: Antebellum America - Chapters 10-12	November 22, 2021, at Midnight
Unit 6: The Civil War Era - Chapters 13-16	December 6, 2021, at Midnight

A detailed list of assignments can be found both on D2L in the content section and in MindTap.