

Professor: Derek Frisby
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Office Hours: By appointment
Course Website: <http://www.mtsu.edu/~dfrisby>

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you have a disability that may require assistance of accommodations, or if you have any questions related to any accommodation for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible. You may also contact the Office of Disabled Student Services (898-2783) with any questions about such services.

Course Objectives: This course will present a history of the United States from its colonial origins through the Civil War. The intention of this survey course is to provide students with a broader understanding of the figures, events, and forces that have shaped the nation and continue to exert a strong influence over contemporary America. Students are expected to acquire a high degree of familiarity with the factual material to assist them in analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating American history.

Course Format: This course will be conducted through a coordinated series of lectures by the instructor, text readings, and supplementary assignments.

Required Texts:

Primary Text: Keene, et.al., *Vision of America: A History of the United States*, vol. 1

Course Website: The course website will be an integral part of your instruction. This website provides study guides, articles for review, and links to important U.S. history resources.

Attendance: Attendance is expected at all classes, especially in the summer sessions. By enrolling in this course, you have accepted the responsibility to attend class on time and for the entire class period. Excessive tardiness or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. If you do arrive late for class, please enter quietly from the rear classroom door and take the nearest available seat with a minimal disruption to the class. In semester courses, one scheduled day equals one class period, and my summer courses are divided into two class periods/day. Leaving during a class period voids any graded assignment completed during that class period. Only those with excused absences will be allowed to makeup exams. There are no makeups for chapter quizzes or other assignments missed due to absences (excused or unexcused). Should an unforeseen circumstance arise that will require you miss an exam, the absence may be excused and a makeup exam taken by submitting the appropriate documentation upon your return detailing the reason(s) for your absence. Students remain responsible for material covered and assignments due during their absence.

Classroom Civility: While in this classroom, you must respect the rights of other students so that both you and they can remain attentive to the material being discussed. Cell phones, radios, digital audio devices, PDAs, and other similar items must be turned off or on silent (not vibrate) before class begins. Electronic communication of any type is prohibited while in the classroom. Students observed engaged in disruptive activities (i.e. texting, reading newspapers, talking, passing notes, working on other assignments, etc.) will be asked to leave and will incur a penalty to their grade. Food and beverages may be consumed in class, but only if done in such a manner that does not disturb others around you or disrupt the instructor. No trash should be left in your area at the end of each period and all recyclables should be deposited in the appropriate container as you exit the classroom. Failure to observe the policies will result in a suspension of these classroom privileges.

Grading: The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) and MTSU have mandated that students demonstrate competency in the following learning objectives to fulfill General Studies' Area III-A (Social and Behavioral Sciences) requirements prior to graduation.

- LO-1. Analyze historical facts and interpretations.
- LO-2. Analyze and compare political, geographic, economic, social, cultural, religious and intellectual institutions, structures, and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
- LO-3. Recognize and articulate the diversity of human experience across a range of historical periods and the complexities of a global culture and society.
- LO-4. Draw on historical perspective to evaluate contemporary problems/issues.
- LO-5. Analyze the contributions of past cultures/societies to the contemporary world.

Fulfillment of these objectives will be accomplished via a combination of lectures, classroom discussions, essays, quizzes, exams, and map exercises. Successful completion of this course will depend upon a student's demonstrated mastery of the factual material through short-answer questions on exams and quizzes and by the student's ability in applying those facts to construct written exam responses and original essays on early U.S. history.

Chapter Quizzes: A series of twelve short-answer quizzes covering the primary text readings will be given during the term. Students must complete the quizzes on D2L before class within a 36 hr. window prior to the scheduled date. Each quiz will cover the respective text reading for that week. The quiz grades will be used to calculate 30% of the overall course grade (300 pts). OPPORTUNITY: 12 quizzes @ 30pts/quiz=360pts This means students may be able to enhance their final grade by up to six (6) points.

Exams: There will be two exams given during the semester; each exam will comprise for 30% of your grade. These exams will cover all material covered in lecture and assigned readings. Dates for these exams are noted on the course outline attached to the syllabus. Exams will consist of a section containing approximately fifty (50) short-answer questions dealing with text and lecture terms (100pts), twenty-five (25) geography questions (50pts), interpretation of significant historical quotes (50pts), and an essay portion asking students to compose well-reasoned essays in response to pre-determined questions on early US history (100pts).

Sample Short-Answer:

“What are the first ten amendments to the US Constitution called?”

Sample Geography Question:

Locate Chesapeake Bay on the map provided.

Sample Quote Question:

Briefly explain why George Washington was described as an “American Cincinnatus.”

Sample Essay Question:

“A series of economic revolutions – Transportation, Market, and Industrial – transformed the American economy between 1815 and 1860. Describe as best you can this transformation and explain its significance.”

Department: Attendance in and attention to lecture is essential to comprehension of course material. Based upon their prompt and consistent attendance as well as their participation and attentiveness, a department component will be factored into the final grade. During the summer courses, each day contains two class periods. Students will receive a 5% reduction in their final grade upon each of their fourth and fifth class period absences. Upon the sixth class period absence, the student will receive a failing grade for the course, regardless of other grades.

The instructor reserves the right to make further adjustments to a student's department grade based upon their performance/behavior in the classroom.

Synopsis of Grading Policies:

Exam #1	300pts.
Exam #2	300pts.
Chapter Quizzes	300pts.
<u>Department</u>	<u>100pts.</u>
Total	1000pts

All assignments must be turned in during class or via the appropriate D2L method. Email submissions of assignments, placing assignments in faculty mailboxes, or sliding assignments under the office door is prohibited.

Email Communication Guidelines: Please do not contact me via email or phone in the event of an absence, unless you will be missing an exam. Email communication should be reserved for substantive communication with the instructor (e.g., explaining or clarifying course material). Personal communication between the students and the instructor before or after class is preferred and appreciated.

It is your responsibility to check your MTSU email for announcements from the instructor.

Academic misconduct as defined by the university and acts of dishonesty will not be tolerated. Violations of Middle Tennessee State University's Academic Misconduct Policy will be reported to the departmental monitor for review and further action. Students found guilty of violating MTSU's Academic Misconduct Policy will receive an "F" for the course from the instructor and may be subject to additional sanctions/penalties from the university.

*Related schedules and study guides also constitute the course syllabus.

Grading in this course will follow the plus/minus grading scale below:

Letter Grade		Numerical Equivalent	Description
A	=	100-93	Work of distinctly superior quality and quantity accompanied by unusual evidence of achievement
B+	=	92-87	Above Average
B	=	86-83	Work showing the above qualities to a lesser extent
B-	=	82-80	Average
C+	=	79-77	Average
C	=	76-73	Substantial conscientious fulfillment of the essentials of a course
C-	=	72-70	Marginal
D+	=	69-67	Marginal
D	=	66-63	Passing work, but below the standards of graduation quality
D-	=	62-60	Failing
F	=	59 and below	Failure necessitating repetition of the course to obtain credit

TENNESSEE EDUCATION LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP STATEMENT

Lottery Eligibility Statement: To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a **cumulative** TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. You may qualify with a 2.75 **cumulative** GPA after 72 attempted hours (and subsequent semesters), if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a **semester** GPA of at least 3.0. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. Lottery recipients are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of five years from the date of initial enrollment, or until a bachelor degree is earned. For additional rules, refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form, review lottery requirements on the web at <http://scholarships.web.mtsu.edu/telsconteligibility.htm>, or contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-2830.