The last day to drop this course during the semester is March 31st.

"The principal office of history I take to be this: To prevent virtuous actions from being forgotten, and that evil words and deeds should fear an infamous reputation with posterity" - Tacitus (55-120ca), Roman Historian

I. Course Description

A study of America's European background, colonial development, and the American Revolution will be conducted. Also, the early Republic, the rise of sectional controversies, the Civil War, and Reconstruction will be treated in a topical manner.

II. Required Texts


III. Learning Objectives

Required pre-requisites include the ability to write coherent, college level essays, and the ability to understand and comprehend college-level textbooks. The student should complete all developmental reading and writing courses before taking this course. In this course, students will:

- Explain and analyze key historical events or processes in the area and during the period under study which shape individuals, communities, and nations.
- Think critically about the diversity of the human experience as influenced by geographical location, race, ethnicity, cultural traditions, gender and class.
Distinguish between primary and secondary sources, and understand how each are used to make historical arguments.

Assess, use, and synthesize different kinds of evidence from a variety of historical sources, including primary and secondary sources, to make a coherent argument about the past.

Effectively conduct research and write a coherent historical essay or research paper that articulates a clear argument, effectively uses and interprets multiple forms of evidence, identifies arguments in secondary historical texts, and uses appropriate citations.

Understand and demonstrate the difference between opinions and substantiated scholarly claims.

IV. Course Requirements and Expectations

While it is true that your online class will take place in a different kind of environment than a face-to-face course, there are actually many ways in which the course will be similar to on-campus classes. This course has a real instructor, students, and course materials, but the course also allows more flexibility of time compared to a traditional classroom setting. The amount of time that students spend completing work in an online class is roughly equivalent to the amount of time they would spend on a campus-based course. A common formula for figuring out how much time should be spent on a course looks like this:

1. A traditional 3-credit class meets three hours per week per semester
2. The amount of time you should spend outside of class to complete assignments, read the textbook study, etc. - is 6 hours
3. You will spend from 6 to 9 hours a week working on this course

The biggest difference between this course and an on ground course is when you spend that time. When and, where you work on the course will be up to you! This flexibility has a flipside. An online course takes more self-initiative. The student will need to pay close attention to the course schedule and due dates. It will be easy to put off studying to attend to other responsibilities that may seem more pressing at the time. As an online course doesn’t take less time than an equivalent on-campus class, the student can get behind and feel overwhelmed in a hurry. Developing a personal schedule for completing coursework and pacing yourself will be the key to success. Don’t wait until Sunday to complete your weekly coursework.

The following information will be important in determining how to manage time in your online history course:
o The weekly course material introduction and review of key terms will take about 10 - 15 minutes.

o Reading the weekly textbook chapters will take less than one hour.

o Most of the course videos are about 10 minutes in length.

o You can expect to spend about 30 to 60 minutes on the discussion questions about every other week. These discussion questions require that you follow the directions given in the discussion forum, and provide an original response to each question and an appropriate and adequate response to your fellow classmates (when requested).

o You can expect to spend 60 to 120 minutes each week on the module quizzes. The weekly quizzes are based on your comprehension of the reading material and the information in the lectures and videos. The quizzes are open-book and consist of generally 25 to 50 questions. YOU HAVE TWO CHANCES TO TAKE YOUR QUIZ FOR A PASSING GRADE. The course has been programmed to take the highest of the two scores you receive on each weekly quiz.

o You will need 120 to 180 minutes each week, during the first half of the course, to complete the required research writing requirements and deposit them in the course Dropbox.

o You will need the remainder of your time each week to read the textbook and assigned reader on Manifest Destiny.

o The total amount of time expected, per week, in this course about six to nine hours each week.

REMEMBER: You must complete the weekly tasks by Sunday at 11:59pm. You will not be able to access the material from the previous week!!!!

V. Course Assignments, Grades, and Weights

20% (8+2) Discussion Questions and Writing Assignments
20% (15) Quizzes
15% (1) Research Paper
45% (3) Exams
100% of final grade

90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
59% and below = F
VI. Discussion Questions

About every other week (8 times) throughout the semester you will be required to participate in classroom discussions. These discussion questions will be linked within the weekly content page. You are to answer the question as posted. Each post should be well-thought out and will require a 100 word minimum - some more. You may also be expected to respond to at least one other learner's post. Read the discussion question carefully. Your response(s) to your fellow classmates' post need to consist of a well-thought out response. If you agree with the position your classmate has taken, state why you agree. If you disagree with their response explain why you disagree. "Good post" or "I agree" responses will not be sufficient for a satisfactory grade. Response posts do not count toward the student's 100 word count for the main post.

The grading rubric for discussion posts is as follows:
10 points - Post exceeds 100 words. Post includes response post (if required). No grammar, spelling, or capitalization errors. Post completely addresses the discussion question, and does not repeat what another student has already said. And, if the discussion question is a threaded discussion student stays within the thread or chronology.

9 points - Post meets 100 words, is grammatically correct, and mostly free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. Post includes response post (if required). Post addresses the discussion question, and does not repeat what another student has already said. And, if the discussion question is a threaded discussion student stays within the thread or chronology.

8 points - Post is a little less than 100 words, is mostly grammatically correct, and/or mostly free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. Post does not include response post (if required) or has some grammar or punctuation errors. Post somewhat addresses the discussion question, but may repeat what another student has already said. And, if the discussion question is a threaded discussion, the student may have drifted from the thread or chronology.

7 points - Post is less than 100 words, is not grammatically correct, and not free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. Post does not include response post (if required). Post somewhat addresses the discussion question, but may repeat what another student has already said. And, if the discussion question is a threaded discussion, the student may have drifted from the thread or chronology.
6 points - Post is less than 100 words, is not grammatically correct, and not free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. Post does not include response post (if required). Post does not address the discussion question, and may repeat what another student has already said. And, if the discussion question is a threaded discussion, the student did drift from the thread or chronology.

5 points or less - (any combination of any three of the following criteria, but at the discretion of the instructor) Post is significantly less than 100 words, is not grammatically correct, and/or not free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. Post does not include response post (if required). Post did not address the discussion question, and/or does repeat what another student has already said. If the discussion question is a threaded discussion, the student did drift from the thread or chronology.

VII. Weekly Quizzes

Students will successfully demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the weekly textbook readings by taking 15 quizzes that will evaluate their comprehension of material covered in the textbook readings. Student will have two attempts to maximize their score on the weekly quiz(s). The computer program will take the higher of the two grades. You can expect to spend 120 to 180 minutes each week on the module quizzes. You will have 120 minutes for each attempt at a weekly quiz. The weekly quizzes are based on your comprehension of the reading material and the information in the course and videos. The quizzes are open-book and consist of generally 25 to 50 questions.

VIII. Writing Assignments

All writing assignments, including the research paper, submitted to the course dropbox must be in either MS Word or .rtf formats. No zipped files or other file formats will be accepted or graded. Students will be expected to successfully demonstrate knowledge of historical research skills by completing two writing assignments that are geared to successfully complete the research paper for the course. The skill units are in preparation for the term paper, and you should consider them critical building blocks for the research paper. These assignments are weighted the same as a quiz grade, and are counted in the quiz grade category of your final course grade.
The grading rubric for the writing assignments is as follows:

9-10 points - student met or exceeded the assignment requirements. The assignment was grammatically correct and free of spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization issues. The assignment was formatted correctly.

7-8 points - student met the assignment requirements. The assignment was largely grammatically correct and free of spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization issues. The assignment was mostly correct in formatting.

5-6 points - student did not meet the assignment requirements. The assignment was grammatically incorrect and was not free of spelling, punctuation, and capitalization issues. The assignment was not formatted correctly.

4 points or less (instructor’s discretion) - student did not meet the assignment requirements and/or did not complete the assignment correctly. The assignment was full of grammatical errors, and/or had significant spelling, punctuation, and/or capitalization issues. The assignment was not formatted correctly.

VIII. Research Paper

Students will write one short paper (4 full pages of text - excluding the cover sheet, endnotes page, and bibliography page), based upon Greenberg's *Manifest Destiny and American Territorial Expansion*. Your paper will be based on a series of questions which you will find posted in the content page with the first writing assignment. Jackson State Community College’s rules on plagiarism applies to all papers and written assignments in this course. The skill units and term paper will be completed using Turabian’s style documentation methods. Multiple resources will be available to help the student complete this project. Be advised that plagiarism detection software will be used in grading the assignment to determine if you copied and pasted your work from another source. Students that plagiarize will have their grade significantly penalized. No late grades will be given and no make-up work will be allowed for this assignment. The student should assume that each page of the paper is 15% of the total grade for the assignment.

The grading rubric for the research paper is as follows:

90-100 points - Paper met or exceeded the four full pages of text requirement, but was no longer than six pages of text. Paper had a correct cover sheet. Paper had correct in-text endnotes, had a correct endnotes page, and had a correct bibliography page at the end. The bibliography page had more than three scholarly sources
(general reference encyclopedia are not considered scholarly, and only web sites with .edu or .org are considered acceptable). The paper was grammatically correct and free of spelling, punctuation, italicizing, and capitalization issues. All the documentation was formatted and finished correctly.

80-89 points - Paper met the four pages of text requirement, and was no longer than six pages of text. Paper had a correct cover sheet. Paper had in-text endnotes, had an endnotes page, and had a bibliography page at the end. The bibliography page had a least three scholarly sources (general reference encyclopedia are not considered scholarly, and only web sites with .edu or .org are considered acceptable. The paper was grammatically correct and mainly free of spelling, punctuation, italicizing, and capitalization issues. Paper had minor formatting issues.

70-79 points – Paper was slightly short of the four full pages of text requirement. Paper had a cover sheet. Paper had in-text endnotes, had an endnotes page, and had a bibliography page at the end. The bibliography page had a least three scholarly sources (general reference encyclopedia and children's books are not considered scholarly), and only web sites with .edu or .org were included. The paper was not grammatically correct and free of spelling, punctuation, italicizing, and capitalization issues. Paper had formatting issues.

60-69 points - Paper was at least one full page less than the four full pages of text requirement. Paper may have been missing the correct cover sheet, in-text endnotes, an endnotes page, and/or a bibliography page at the end. The bibliography page may have had less than three scholarly sources (general reference encyclopedia are not considered scholarly, and only web sites with .edu or .org are considered acceptable. The paper had grammatical errors and/or had spelling, punctuation, italicizing, capitalization issues, and/or formatting issues.

50-59 points - Paper was more than one full page less than the four full pages of text requirement. Paper may have been missing the correct cover sheet, in-text endnotes, endnotes page, and/or a bibliography page at the end. The bibliography page had less than three scholarly sources (general reference encyclopedia are not considered scholarly, and only web sites with .edu or .org are considered acceptable. The paper had many grammatical errors or many spelling, punctuation, italicizing, capitalization, and/or formatting issues.

50 points or less (at the discretion of the instructor) - Paper may have been significantly less than four full pages of text, may have not had a cover sheet, bibliography, in-text endnotes, or an endnotes page. The instructor will determine
the completeness of the assignment. Generally, 15 points will be deducted for each of the following from the 100 points - no in-text endnotes, no endnotes page, no bibliography page, cover sheet, and each page less than four full pages of required text.

IX. Exams

The three course exams must be taken during the week that they are scheduled. Be aware, that the age-old excuse of, "I didn't know it was scheduled for this week" is not an acceptable excuse. It is clearly listed in that week's module as a required assignment for that week.

Examinations are scheduled for the one week that they are in a module, and once you enter the exam you will have one hour - 60 minutes - to take the exam, with a 5 minute grace period at the end. Understand this . . . Once you enter the examination you cannot leave it for any reason until you have completed your work! If you leave the exam you will not be allowed to reenter. Of course, there are circumstances which could, and have, caused some students to be "kicked" out of their examinations. Sometimes there are power outages. And, Google Chrome, wireless, and Respondus Lockdown Browser have problems operating together and their combined use must be avoided. Technical issues can be resolved by contacting the college's technical support. If you have a problem, and you should not since the exam will be open for an entire week, your instructor may reset the exam for you one time (it is the instructor's discretion if they want to reset the exam for you). After one reset or problem taking the exam or another assignment, and to insure that there are no future problems taking exams, you will be required to go to a JSCC testing center/learning resource center to take all future exams to insure that there is no problem.

Exam dates are in the week that the module opens. You may complete the exam any time that week. However, please understand that your instructor may not begin to post the grades for that exam until all the students have completed the exam that week (after Sunday 11:59pm). My suggestion - Do not wait until Sunday to take the exam. Your instructor will be much less forgiving if you do wait until Sunday to take the exam and have some kind of problem.

The exam grading rubric is as follows: 90-100 points - Student exhibited a high degree of conceptualization, synthesis, understanding, and/or application of historical knowledge.
80-89 points - Student completed above average conceptualization, synthesis, understanding, and/or application of historical knowledge.

70-79 points - Student showed average conceptualization, synthesis, understanding, and/or application of historical knowledge.

60-69 points - Student completed below average work on conceptualization, synthesis, understanding, and/or application of historical knowledge.

59 points or less - Student showed a minor degree of conceptualization, synthesis, understanding, and/or application of historical knowledge.

X. ADA Accommodation Statement and Universal Accessibility Instructions

A. It is the policy of Jackson State Community College and the instructor in this course to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. This college will adhere to all applicable Federal and State laws, regulations and guidelines, with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their instructors and the Coordinator of Disabled Services, located in the Counseling Office of the Student Union Building, about accommodation. Instructors should be notified the first week of class. To initiate the accommodations process for ADA a student must:

1. Supply appropriate documentation to the Disabled Student Services Coordinator.
2. Obtain a "Special Accommodation Form" from the Coordinator.
3. Obtain required signatures and return it to the Coordinator.

B. In this online course, most audio/video is in Youtube. Youtube uses experimental speech recognition technology to provide machine generated captions, or "auto-captions." And, although this technology is not perfect, the auto-captions help make video content accessible. For students with access needs, please use the following instructions to view subtitles for the Youtube videos:

1. Click the up arrow button on the bottom right of the video player.
2. Click the left arrow button in the [cc] menu. This button will only be clickable if there are captions/subtitles for the video.
3. When viewing a video, hover over the caption menu and choose the Transcribe Audio button.
4. Wait a few seconds for Youtube to generate the captions and click Ok to view them.

In this online course, some content may have National Public Radio (NPR) websites linked to the course content. To access this content, you will need the following instructions:

1. When you arrive at the website, you will see the main toggle switch with the word Listen on it.
2. Just to the right of the word Listen is the word Transcript.
3. Click on Transcript

XI. Course Operations and Tech Requirements

A. System Requirements
   - Minimum Windows 7 operating system
   - Minimum 64 MB of RAM
   - Sound and video capabilities
   - Headphones or speakers

B. Software Requirements - Be advised that Google Chrome with wireless does not work good with Respondus Lockdown Browser
   - Java-Plug In
   - Flash Media Player
   - Internet Explorer
   - Respondus Lockdown Browser

C. Student Operations
   - Do not email assignments to the instructor. Assignments are timed to open and close on a weekly basis (from 12:01am on Mondays to 11:59pm on Sundays)
   - Communications - By enrolling in this course you are automatically part of the course mailing list, and you are encouraged to check your Elearn email and view the "News" section on the course main page once a day. Go to Classlist under the Communication tab on the main page to find the instructor and communicate with the instructor. The "News" section on the main page is periodically updated by the instructor to post important course information. When communicating with the instructor, identify yourself and which class you have registered for.
Discussions - The course discussions, which require a 100 word post, can be found in the weekly module and in the GoToClass tab on the main page. After you read the discussion question carefully, click on the "add message" tab on the discussion box. Type your 100 word message and then spell check it by using the icon with the check mark and abc above it. Then submit your discussion. To respond to another student, click on the "reply" button.

Weekly Quizzes - The weekly quizzes are accessed from the weekly course module, and they can be found under the GoToClass tab in Testing.

Dropbox - The dropbox replaces the need for you to mail, fax, or email assignments to your instructor. You will use the dropbox tool to submit your two research-preparatory writing assignments and research/term paper. The two research-preparatory writing assignments and the research/term paper can be deposited in the course dropbox from the weekly course module, and deposited in the course dropbox under the GoToClass tab. After an assignment is graded, you can view the instructor's feedback.

Exams - The three semester exams are accessed from the weekly course module, and they can be found under the GoToClass tab in Testing.

Instruction content pages - The "Instruction" pages in each module should be followed sequentially/numerically by the student for maximum learning potential and engagement.

XII. Attendance

After a student has missed two consecutive weeks of coursework, the student should consider dropping the course. At that point, the student is in serious danger of not successfully completing the course.

XIII. Getting Started Quiz

After you have completed reading the course syllabus take the Getting Started Quiz at the following link:  Getting Started Quiz.

This syllabus and course maintained by Dr. Lawrence Gundersen, Professor of History and Political Science