

**U.S. HISTORY I – F201**  
**Professor Heather Verdi**  
**hverdi@mxcc.comnet.edu**

**Semester – Spring 2018**

**CRN - 1144**

**Online – 3 Credits**

**Textbook** – The Unfinished Nation, Alan Brinkley, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.

**Catalog Description**

Students will study the development of British North America from the establishment of the first colonies to the founding of the United States with an emphasis on the nature of immigration, slavery, and overall themes of colonialism. Likewise, students will explore United States development from the early days of the republic through the Civil War with a focus on regional development and Westward Expansion. This is a “D” course.

**Learning Expectations**

- ❖ The nature of this course is such that you will learn by completing both individual work and by collaborating, through the Discussion Forum, with your classmates.
- ❖ Weekly Assigned Chapter Readings must be completed thoroughly as they will provide the basis for assigned discussions and written assignments.
- ❖ You are expected to log on to the course frequently throughout the week for any course updates and to complete your requirements by the deadlines each week.
- ❖ Any BlackBoard or other technical issues must be referred to the appropriate department at MxCC

**Course Requirements**

- ❖ Download the Syllabus – read completely to insure you understand course expectations in advance of due dates!
- ❖ Make sure you have the textbook – if you are waiting, collaborate with a classmate to get the information you need. Late work will not be accepted due to lack of textbook!
- ❖ Weekly Assignments are available each Monday at 12:01 am and close at 11:59 the following Sunday (see dates below).
- ❖ Weekly assignments consist of a Discussion Forum and Weekly Essay Questions Assignment (explained below). The Mid Term and Final Exams are in PPT format. Dates are outlined in the syllabus – any changes will be communicated through the Announcements.
- ❖ All work must be submitted to the proper portal, do not submit any work by email! Use the Messages Portal to address any concerns for more timely feedback.

**Evaluation Methods (Total Points Possible for Course)**

<b>I. Weekly Discussions</b>	<b>130 points</b>	<b>(10pts/week)</b>
<b>II. Weekly Essay Questions</b>	<b>780 points</b>	<b>(60 pts/week)</b>
<b>III. Mid-Term Project</b>	<b>100 points</b>	
<b>IV. Final Project</b>	<b><u>100 points</u></b>	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>1110 points</b>	

## I. Weekly Discussion Forum

- ❖ Students are expected to read and then answer one of the Understand, Analyze and Evaluate questions located within designated chapter for each week via the Discussion Portal. Students will then interact with their classmates in the Discussion Portal by discussing at least two other responses (not necessarily the question they answered).
  - I recommend that your initial post should be completed by Wednesday of each week so that others can interact on a high level with you (and you with them!)
  - Initial post and feedback to two classmates is due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. each week to earn maximum points (6 points for your initial post and 4 points for interacting with two classmates regarding their posts)
  - Always be respectful of others (it is okay to disagree!) and use academic language
- ❖ **The Discussion Portal for each week opens on Monday at 12:01 a.m. The Discussion Portal will close at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday.** Late submissions will **not** be accepted due to the nature of the Discussion Forum.

## II. Weekly Essays

- ❖ There will be a total of three essay questions due each week – questions are located at the end of each chapter under the heading RECALL AND REFLECT (you will choose three to answer). Essays are worth 20 points each for a total of 60 points each week. Submit your essays together (you are only allowed one submission in BlackBoard) via the Weekly Essay Portal using .doc, .docx or .rtf format only or cut and paste into the text box (that is preferred – do not submit in comments section)
- ❖ Submissions must be in proper essay format (paragraph form, complete sentences), grammatically correct, and no spelling errors (use spell-check!). All parts of each question must be answered using information from the chapter, but you may also use outside sources if you cite the source. There is no length requirement but please make sure to answer the question completely to receive full credit.
- ❖ **The Essay Portal for each week opens each Monday at 12:01 a.m. The deadline for essay submission is Sunday, 11:59 p.m.** Late submissions will be accepted but there will be full grade deduction.

## III. Mid-Term PowerPoint Presentation

- ❖ The format of the Mid-Term will be a PowerPoint Project with multiple components pertaining specifically to content from Chapters 2-8. Further directions are available in the Mid-Term PowerPoint Presentation Assignment Portal.
- ❖ Late submissions will receive a full grade penalty.

#### **IV. Final PowerPoint Presentation**

- ❖ The format of the Final will be a PowerPoint project with multiple components pertaining specifically to content from Chapters 2-8. Further directions are available in the Final PowerPoint Presentation Assignment Portal.
- ❖ Late submissions will **not** be accepted due to the completion of the course.

#### **Weekly Chapter Assignments**

<b><u>Week 1, Jan 17 – Jan 28</u></b>	<b>Chapter 2 – Transplantations and Borderlands</b>
<b><u>Week 2, Jan 29 – Feb 4</u></b>	<b>Chapter 3 – Society and Culture in Provincial America</b>
<b><u>Week 3, Feb 5 – Feb 11</u></b>	<b>Chapter 4 – The Empire in Transition</b>
<b><u>Week 4, Feb 12 – Feb 18</u></b>	<b>Chapter 5 – The American Revolution</b>
<b><u>Week 5, Feb 19 – Feb 25</u></b>	<b>Chapter 6 – The Constitution and the New Republic</b>
<b><u>Week 6, Feb 26 – March 4</u></b>	<b>Chapter 7 – The Jeffersonian Era</b>
<b><u>Week 7, March 5 – March 11</u></b>	<b>Chapter 8 – Varieties of American Nationalism</b>
<b><u>March 12 – March 18</u></b>	<b>Spring Break – no class</b>
<b><u>Week 8, March 19 – March 25</u></b>	<b>Mid-Term PowerPoint Presentation</b>
<b><u>Week 9, March 26 – April 1</u></b>	<b>Chapter 9 – Jacksonian America</b>
<b><u>Week 10, April 2 – April 8</u></b>	<b>Chapter 10 – America's Economic Revolution</b>
<b><u>Week 11, April 9 – April 15</u></b>	<b>Chapter 11 – Cotton, Slavery, and the Old South</b>
<b><u>Week 12, April 16 – April 22</u></b>	<b>Chapter 12 – Antebellum Culture and Reform</b>
<b><u>Week 13, April 23 – April 29</u></b>	<b>Chapter 13 – The Impending Crisis</b>
<b><u>Week 14, April 30 – May 6</u></b>	<b>Chapter 14 – The Civil War</b>

**IMPORTANT COLLEGE POLICIES!! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/](http://www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/) or scan the QR code with your smart phone. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/](http://www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/).



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The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

- Primary Title IX Coordinator  
Dr. Adrienne Maslin  
Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator  
amaslin@mxcc.edu; 860-343-5759; Founders Hall Room 123
- Secondary Title IX Coordinator  
Ms. Queen Fordham  
Coordinator of the Meriden Center Welcome Desk  
qfordham@mxcc.edu; 203-608-3011