

**Course Number:** SOCS 5750.01 **Course Title:** 19<sup>th</sup> Century American History **Term:** Fall 2

**Site:** Thursdays  
5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Main Campus

**Instructor Contact:** James Truesdell JD, LLM, MAT **Credit Hours:** 3.0  
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**Course Descriptions:** A study of America's coming of age. Developing themes from historical events and literature of the century. The Lewis and Clark Expedition, The Emergence of Parties, Economic Change, Jacksonian Democracy, events leading to Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, and the country's emergence as a world power. Relevancy to today's world and today's students.

**Learning Outcomes:** Course is designed to assist social studies instructors to interpret and communicate the events of the nineteenth century to their students through active discussion, creative techniques, and linkage of various disciplines. Course will serve as an elective in the MAT Social Science curriculum.

### **Schedule of Required Readings, Class Preparations, Out-of-Class Assignments, and Exams:**

Each class, beginning with week two, students will prepare a "reflection" (one to two pages in length, double-spaced typed), addressing their choice of one of three relevant questions dealing with the past week's material. Part of each class session will address the responses to these three questions.

Students will also prepare a report on a selected St. Louis area field trip from a list of eligible nineteenth century sites. The report will focus on how an instructor can structure and utilize such a field trip to enhance the educational experience of his or her students. The report will be two to four pages long, typed and double-spaced. The student will give a brief oral report to the class.

Students will prepare a final paper on a selected topic from nineteenth century America (8 to 12 pages, typed and double spaced), with emphasis on suggested teaching techniques/activities for the topic. The student will make a brief oral presentation to the class.

There will be no scheduled exams. Class participation will revolve around assigned weekly readings from the text, focus groups, debatable questions, and linkages to modern day problems and situations.

#### **Weekly Schedule**

##### Week One

Setting the Stage

The Emergence of Parties

America's Relationship to Europe at the Beginning of the Century

The War of 1812- Coming of Age

##### Week Two

Text Chapt. 1 The Scope of Economic Change

Chapt. 2 Culture and Social Order pp. 9-86

##### Week Three

Text Chapt. 3 The New Middle Class and Reform

Chapt. 4 The Creation of a Party System pp. 87-156

##### Week Four

Text Chapt. 5 The Breakdown of the Party System pp. 157-190

The Mexican War Approach to Civil War

##### Week Five

Text Chapt. 6 The Crisis of Secession and War  
Chapt. 7 The Crisis of Reconstruction pp. 197 to 262

Week Six

Text Chapt. 8 The Economic Reordering of America  
Chapt. 9 Social Change and Cultural Conflict pp. 269-357  
Field Trip Reports Due

Week Seven

Text Chapt. 10 Gilded Age Politics  
Chapt. 11 Renewed Crisis and Its Resolution pp. 363-426

Week Eight

Final Reports Due  
Conclusions

**Resources:**

Required Text

Barney, William L. The Passage of the Republic: An Interdisciplinary History of Nineteenth Century America D. C. Heath and Company. Lexington, Ma. 1987

**Evaluation:**

Each of seven weekly evaluations will be worth 5 per cent of grade. Total 35 per cent

Field Trip report will be worth 15 per cent of grade.

Final Report will be worth 30 per cent of grade.

Class Participation will be worth 20 per cent of grade.

**Total 100 per cent**

**Grading Scale:**

95 to 100 per cent	A
90 to 94 per cent	A-
87 to 89 per cent	B+
83 to 86 per cent	B
80 to 82 per cent	B-
77 to 79 per cent	C+
73 to 76 per cent	C
70 to 72 per cent	C-
69 per cent and below	F

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

Students at Webster University are expected to practice academic honesty.

**Accessibility/Accommodations Policy:**

If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations contact the Director of Academic Resources Center, Dr. Pat McLeese, at 314-968-7495.

**Vision, Mission, Theme, Lists of SOE Goals and Dispositions:**

See School of Education Narrative and Graphic.