Required Text Book: America: A Narrative History, Vol. One: Ninth Ed., Tindall and Shi (book may be purchased, rented, or borrowed, and may be in any format-physical or online)

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to provide an introductory level survey to the first half of American history from pre-conquest to the end of the US Civil War and Reconstruction, and to prepare the student for college level requirements. This course will examine various aspects of the United States such as political, cultural, social, and economic during this time period that have contributed to the development of the United States as a nation, people and society.

Students will:

- Be able to analyze causes and effects in US History
- Understand the relationship among American economies, politics, demography, and social structure prior to 1876
- Be able to construct an essay which synthesizes assigned readings and lectures into a coherent, fact-based narrative that demonstrates critical thinking skills
- Learn and develop critical thinking skills and develop a critical approach to the study of history

Course Requirements:

- Exams: there will be three (3) exams during the semester, covering the three segments of the course.
- Short writing assignments analyzing primary source documents supplied by instructor
- Readings in the textbook
- Class discussions based on readings from the textbook and primary source documents
- Quizzes over some readings and lecture notes
- Reading of two (2) books outside of class, to be determined later (ample time will be given prior to give students a chance to buy/rent/borrow the book.
Grading:

- There will be ten (10) to twelve (12) grades given each of the three parts of the course. Tests will consist of IDs, and one essay based on prompt.
- Grades will be available on Skyward on a weekly basis.
- Summative Assessments will count as 40%, with other assignments counting 60%, and each grading period will consist of at least two (2) summative grades. (example: all major tests, projects, will count 40%, while daily work, quizzes, etc., 60% of that six week period)
- Quizzes may be in the form of multiple choice, True/False, fill in the blank, or short answer.
- Discussions will be graded as daily grades or quizzes based upon participation.
- Extensive note taking will be required. The first six weeks students must take notes utilizing writing instrument and paper; after the first six weeks, students may use an electronic device for note taking (this is to prepare student for real college note-taking experience as many professors require note-taking on paper and not electronically)
- Occasional quizzes, warm-up work, and lectures may utilize portable electronic devices such as laptops, IPad, or smart-phones.
- The Final Exam will be comprehensive, as required by Angelo State University, and will take place during the regularly scheduled exam times set by FISD. NO EARLY EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN.

Course Outline:

- Part One - Founding the New Nation: The First American Empires, Age of Exploration, Europe and Africa, the Spanish Empire in the Americas
- Part Two – Building the New Nation: Founding the New Nation, War of 1812, The Rise of Mass Democracy, the National Economy, Culture and reform in the early Nineteenth Century
- Part Three – Testing the Nation: The Mexican War, the Slavery issue, Manifest Destiny, the coming of the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

The course will be conducted in a lecture/seminal manner for the most part. Students are expected to attend each class, and absences/tardy policies will be the same as set by Frenship High School.

Late work/Make Up work: Students will have 3 school days to make up work due to absences, whether personal absences or school related absences, but not limited those absences. Late work may or may not be accepted after the 3rd day the assignment is late at the instructor’s discretion.

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities will be upheld according to the students I.E.P. and those recommendations stated in the ARD.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance is taken each day. Excessive/tardiness absences may jeopardize your final grade. Angelo State University and Frenship High School EXPECT students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code. (http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf)