

**AMBERTON UNIVERSITY**  
**e-COURSE SYLLABUS**

**HIS1011.E1 American History to 1877**  
**Winter 2024**

**PROFESSOR INFORMATION:**

Name: Professor Amanda Morrison  
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**COURSE INFORMATION:**

HIS1011.E1 American History to 1877  
Level: Undergraduate  
Beginning Date of Session: Saturday, December 2, 2023  
Ending Date of Session: Thursday, February 22, 2024

**Student access available to the Student Portal: Saturday, December 2, 2023.**

**Winter Holiday Break:**

**Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, through Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**  
**(Classes resume on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024)**

*Students enrolled in distance learning courses are not assessed any additional fees for security or identity verification.*

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:**

None

**TEXTBOOK(S) AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Title: American Pageant  
Author: David M. Kennedy  
Publisher: Cengage Publishing Company  
Year Published: 2020  
Edition: 17<sup>th</sup> Edition  
ISBN: 978-0-357-93937-6  
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Amberton University has an agreement with eCampus.com to provide a full-service online bookstore to students. The Amberton University Virtual Bookstore is accessible through the University's website, [www.Amberton.edu](http://www.Amberton.edu). There is also a bookstore link in the Student Portal.

The AU Virtual Bookstore provides an easy to use interface, online buyback of books, and same day shipment of most titles with an average delivery time of 2-3 days depending on the student's location. Textbook options include new, used, rental, and electronic media as available.

Since no books are sold on campus, students should plan accordingly and purchase their books in advance of the first day of class, allowing time for shipping. Be certain you are enrolled in the course before purchasing your book(s). All textbook information (Title, Author, ISBN, etc.) is available in the course syllabi so students can shop competitively. Most textbooks can be purchased from many different textbook vendors. Some textbooks may only be available on the University's Virtual Bookstore. Students should be careful to obtain the exact resource(s) required for the course.

**APA Requirement**

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 7th edition, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please

consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, (7th ed.). All coursework at Amberton University will comply with the standards contained in the APA Publication Manual.

### **COURSE COMPETENCIES:**

The following represents the course competencies for this class. Competencies are equivalent for all lecture and distance learning courses. Following each competency is the assignment used to gain mastery of this area of study.

The course introduces the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the United States to 1877. The course is designed to help students understand and evaluate their society in the context of the historical experience.

### **UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE COMPETENT IN:**

1. Describing America prior to Columbus' arrival.
2. Identifying the origins and consequences of European exploration and conquest of the New World and contrasting settlement patterns of the Spanish, French, Dutch, and English.
3. Describing the development of colonial institutions, life, and culture.
4. Describing how colonial American resistance to British imperial policy evolved into the War of Independence.
5. Discussing the course of the War for Independence including its effects on American economy, politics, and culture.
6. Describing the development of representative government (and federalism) from the Articles of Confederation to the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
7. Identifying the development and practice of American political institutions including the presidency, the judiciary, and the government's role in the economy.
8. Describing the development of American foreign policy from Washington's Neutrality Proclamation to the Monroe Doctrine.
9. Comparing and contrasting the commercial economies that developed in the North and South prior to the Civil War.
10. Discussing the growth of democracy during the Age of Jackson.
11. Describing the development of the distinctive culture of the Old South including the cotton culture, slavery, and relations between planters and yeomen.
12. Describing the spirit of reform from 1830-1860 that led to the secession of the Southern Confederacy.
13. Understanding the military, political, economic, and social features of the Civil War in the North and South.
14. Discussing the strategies used to implement Reconstruction and analyzing their effects on black and white racial groups in the North and the South.

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

**Late/Make-Up Work Policy:** All work is expected to be completed by the due date, but if students are late, these are the policies for the individual assignments.

- The Midterm Exam, Signature Assignment, and Discussion Board Questions may be submitted late at a reduced grade. 10% per day will be deducted.
- The Final Exam may not be completed after the due date as the semester is over and there is no time.

Make up work or exams are given at the discretion of the instructor and are rarely given except in cases of the death of immediate family members, illness of the student (with verifiable doctor's note) or hospitalization of the student and all require documentation before the makeup work will be scheduled.

Special Note: No late assignments will be accepted in the last week of the course, except in extreme circumstances and arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date. No assignments will be accepted after the course end date.

**Procrastination Policy:** \*\*\*While it is your prerogative to wait until the last minute to submit your work in the course, it is not advised. If you attempt to complete your work at the last minute and encounter technical

difficulties, and there is not enough time to get help (college is closed, after-hours, etc), you will be responsible for late penalties (if applicable) or subject to receiving a 0 on the assignment. It is advised that you leave plenty of time for unforeseeable problems to occur.

**Research Paper Sources:** When you are conducting research for any assignment, the majority of your sources should be the textbook, primary sources or peer-reviewed academic journals, such as those you find in the University library databases.

**SOURCES WARNING:** Internet searches will often take you to non-academic information resources such as Wikipedia.com, History.com, Historychannel.com, Ask.com, Answers.com, Encarta.msn.com, Infoplease.com, etc. Keep in mind that the information you find in these sources is unreliable and may not be accurate, since it does not come under a formal oversight or peer-review process. Do NOT use these types of sources. It is NOT permitted in this course and will NOT be counted towards fulfilling assignments.

**Discussion Board Threads:** Students are expected to be engaged online a minimum of three days per week and to contribute in a meaningful way. Student responses to the instructor's initial discussion question (s) should be posted by midnight Monday night. Initial responses should be thoroughly written, a minimum of 200 words. Responses to peers should be posted throughout the week before the due date. Overall performance will be assessed by accuracy of post, professionalism, consistency, and quality of engagement.

**Email:** All students are required to use their Amberton University email to correspond with the professor. Students should check their email at least every other day to ensure they are not missing any communication with the instructor.

### ***Student's Responsibilities***

This syllabus contains information, policies, and procedures for a specific course. By enrolling, the student agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, rules, regulations, and ethical standards of Amberton University as contained in the current university catalog and schedule of classes.

### ***Attendance Policy:***

Regular and punctual class attendance and engagement is expected at Amberton University. In case of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor as soon as possible. If a student intends on withdrawing from a course, it is the student's responsibility to follow the university's policy on formally withdrawing from a course. **Ceasing to attend classes does not constitute an official withdrawal.**

Attendance in a lecture course is defined as punctual arrival to, and engagement in, a full lecture session. Attendance in a distance learning course is defined as active participation in the weekly online class sessions. "Active participation" can be defined as: submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam, engaging in an interactive tutorial, participating in an online discussion forum (or chat session), or initiating (or responding to) a communication with a faculty member about an academic assignment or the subject matter of the course. A student not meeting these requirements may be dropped at the discretion of Amberton University.

### ***Plagiarism Policy***

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as though it were your own. If you use another person's words, ideas, or information; or if you use material from an outside source – whether a book, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or electronic media – you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism is a violation of the University's code of student ethical conduct and is one that is taken seriously. Amberton University operates on an honor system; therefore, honesty and integrity are essential characteristics of all who are associated with the institution. All Amberton students are expected to abide by the honor system and maintain academic integrity in all their work. Amberton University and its instructors monitor student work for plagiarism and reserve the right to submit such work to technology-based plagiarism detection services and applications at any time.

Self-plagiarism means reusing work that you have already published or submitted for a class. It can involve:

- Resubmitting an entire paper
- Copying or paraphrasing passages from your previous work

Self-plagiarism misleads your readers by presenting previous work as completely new and original. Students may not submit the same paper in substance in two or more classes without prior written permission of the instructors involved.

Amberton University students who use Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content must adhere to the following policies:

**Originality:** Students must avoid presenting AI generated content as their own original work. It is essential to acknowledge the involvement of AI in the content creation process in order to maintain academic and ethical standards.

**Paraphrasing:** When using AI generated content, students must rephrase and/or modify the generated text. Paraphrased AI generated content should also be properly cited.

**Acknowledgement:** When using AI generated content in any assignment, proper credit must be given to the AI system that generated the content. <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for a textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism and self-plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in future papers. Use of Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Turnitin is a writing improvement and plagiarism prevention tool which uses special algorithms, to compare text-based student submissions to the Turnitin database and other online sources. Turnitin produces a detailed **similarity report** that can be customized and viewed by instructors and students.

Turnitin “Draft Coach” is a Google based add-on to Turnitin which supports students in developing high-quality academic writing; and serves as an integrity coach. Draft Coach helps address errors and improve the quality of student’s writing by highlighting grammar mistakes, identifying incorrectly cited sources, and scanning for similarity across several databases. By providing formative feedback on how to address citation issues, incorrect grammar, and matches with the Turnitin database, Draft Coach provides explanations to help students become more confident writers, capable of producing higher quality work both in academics and in the workplace.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:

Week	Topic	Assignment	Competencies Covered	Due Date
1	In the Beginning	Read chapters 1 & 2, Discussion Board 1	1	Saturday, 12/9
2	Early Settlers	Reach chapters 3 & 4, Quiz 1, Research Paper Topic submitted to instructor	2, 3	Saturday, 12/16
	Dec 19 - Holiday Break. Classes resume Tuesday, January 2nd			Dec 19 - Holiday Break. Classes resume Tuesday, January 2nd
3	Revolution	Read chapters 5, 6 & 7, Discussion Board 2	4, 8	Saturday, 1/6
4	Independence and the New Republic	Read Chapters 8 & 9, Quiz 2, Sources for your paper	5, 6, 8	Saturday, 1/13

		submitted to instructor		
5	Jeffersonian Democracy & New American Society	Read chapters 10 & 11, Discussion Board 3	7,8	Saturday, 1/20
6	Jacksonian Democracy and the New National Economy	Read chapters 12 & 13, Quiz 3	8, 9, 10	Saturday, 1/27
7	Reforms & the Institution of Slavery	Read Chapters 14 & 15, Discussion Board 4	11, 12	Saturday, 2/3
8	Manifest Destiny & Sectional Struggles	Read Chapters 16 & 17, Quiz 4	11, 12	Saturday, 2/10
9	Heading Towards Civil War & Civil War	Read chapters 18 & 19, Discussion Board 5	13	Saturday, 2/17
10	End of the Civil War & Reconstruction	Read chapters 20 & 21, Quiz 5	14	Thursday, 2/22

### **GRADING CRITERIA:**

Discussion Board Questions (5)- 25%, Quizzes (5)- 50%, Research Paper (1)- 25%. Grades will fall according to the following scale:

#### Undergraduate

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

### **GRADE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK:**

A successful distance learning experience requires a flow of communication between instructor and student throughout the session. Instructor comments are considered essential to the learning process. Therefore, each assignment/exam submitted will be reviewed, graded and returned to the student in a timely manner along with the appropriate commentary. Students should carefully review all comments.

Final grades are processed approximately one week after the last day of the session and may be located in the My Grades section of the online registration portal as well as being emailed to the student's Amberton University email. Amberton University staff will not release grades over the phone. University instructors will not leave a message with comments or grades in any type of media that is not secure.

For questions regarding grades after the semester has ended, students should use their university email account and contact the instructor at the faculty email address as provided above in *Professor Information* area.

### ***Incomplete Grades***

An "I" (incomplete grade) is given at the discretion of the professor and may be given only when an emergency or illness prevents the student from completing course requirements. Should an "I" be granted, the student has 30 days from the end of the session to complete the conditions of the incomplete. An "I" which is not properly removed within 30 days following the session enrolled will become an "F" grade.

### ***How To Withdraw From a Course***

To be official, the class withdrawal must be in writing and signed by the student requesting the withdrawal; no withdrawal is accepted verbally. Please review the "Schedule of Classes" (online or in-print) for procedures for class changes or withdrawals and the refund policy and schedule.

## **COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:**

This course is offered as a distance-learning course through the Moodle Learning Platform. Amberton's distance learning courses, called e-Courses, are identical to classroom courses in terms of learning outcomes, competencies, and instructor expectations. A student choosing to take an e-Course must have the following skills and technical capabilities:

1. Access to the Internet
2. General knowledge in:
  - Internet browser settings and configuration
  - e-mail and file attachments
  - Uploading and downloading files
  - Using a word processing package
3. Ability to conduct on-line research

Students who have not mastered these skills should not enroll for this course, but should consider enrolling in MIS2110 Computer Concepts and Internet Technologies for instruction in these areas.

## **HOW TO ACCESS YOUR COURSE:**

### ***Through the Amberton University Student Portal***

Students enrolled in distance learning courses using the Moodle Learning Platform may access the course through the Amberton University Student Portal. The site may be accessed through the University's main page (<http://www.Amberton.edu>) or at <http://apps.Amberton.edu>. After selecting the "Student Portal" link, you will be prompted for a Username and Password.

Use your assigned **username and password** (AUID) as described below to enter the AU Student Portal:

**Username** = your capitalized firstname **initial**+lastname+last 3 digits of your SSN.

\* Use your name exactly as it is listed on the University's records, including any suffixes or hyphenations, such as Jr, Sr, or II, as a part of your username.

For example: James Jones, Jr. SSN: 123-45-6789

Username: JJonesJr789

**Password** = your Amberton University ID# (AUID) **including the dashes**

For example: 04-999-999

Once your login has been validated, you may select from a variety of menu options, including your individual E-Course, email account, Remote Research, General Tools, all Syllabi, Research Tutorials and Electronic Instructor Folders (FTP).

If you are accessing the Student Portal from a public or shared computer, close the browser completely when finished, or click on the Logout button. For security purposes, no other person should have access to your Username or Password. If you feel your information has been compromised or if you experience technical difficulties, contact the e-course system administrator at: [e-sysop@amberton.edu](mailto:e-sysop@amberton.edu)

If you have lost or do not know your Amberton ID#, please contact the Student Services Office 972/279-6511 or [advisor@Amberton.edu](mailto:advisor@Amberton.edu) for a replacement AUID card. You must know your Amberton ID# to gain access to the course and to send email to your professor.

### ***Through the Amberton University Moodle Website***

Students enrolled in distance learning courses using the Moodle Learning Platform may also access the course by going to: <http://moodle.Amberton.edu>

For those utilizing Moodle for the first time, the **username and password** for the Moodle Learning Platform will be emailed to the student's University email account prior to the start of the course. For those returning to Moodle who do not remember their username and password, click on the link "*Forgotten your username or password*" available on the Moodle log in page (<http://moodle.Amberton.edu>). Otherwise use the same username and password as previous session.

### **Moodle Tutorial:**

Upon successful log in and access to the Moodle learning platform, there is a *Student Moodle Tutorials* course available, to learn about the basics of Moodle. Simply click on the link for the *Student Moodle Tutorials* and read through the various learning topics: Navigating; Communicating; Assignments & Exams; Grades; and Student Resources.

### **COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:**

Students will communicate with faculty through the Moodle Learning Platform or the Amberton University email system.

Each student enrolled is assigned an Amberton email account, which gives the student access to the Amberton email system ([my.Amberton.edu](http://my.Amberton.edu)). This email account is provided by Google Apps for Education. Students are encouraged to check their email regularly for University news, notices, and to communicate with instructors.

The student's assigned email address would be Username@my.Amberton.edu

Example: LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

The student Username is determined by:

firstname initial+lastname+last 3 digits of student ssn.

For example: Linda Jones-Smith    SSN: 123-45-6789  
Email Address = LJones-Smith789@my.Amberton.edu

Students will be prompted for a Username and Password when accessing their email account. Use the Username portion of the email address as the username (Example: LJones-Smith789) and your Amberton ID# (including the dashes) as the password.

If you already have a Google gmail account, you might be prompted to add this account to your current account. Click 'Yes' and you will be logged into your my.Amberton.edu email account. It will be a separate email account from your personal gmail account.

If you need assistance with your email account, please visit <https://support.google.com/mail>

**Students are responsible for reviewing the "Communication Guidelines" provided on the individual E-Course for specific instructor requirements.**

Upon completion of a session, all communication and course specific information is removed from the Moodle system. If a student needs to maintain a record of communications or assignments, the student is strongly encouraged to print out or download these items to a disk for their own records.

### **FORMAT AND SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:**

Assignments are to be submitted to the appropriate assignment Drop Box in the Moodle system. Specific directions and guidelines for submission of assignments are located on-line in the "Communication Guidelines" of the e-course. Due to compatibility issues, Office 2007 files cannot be read by earlier versions of Microsoft Office. Before submitting an exercise file, confirm the file is in the proper format for grading by the instructor.

### **INSTRUCTOR/COURSE EVALUATION:**

Each session, all Amberton students are provided with the opportunity to evaluate their courses and instructors. The evaluation process is an important one and provides students with an anonymous and confidential way to give meaningful feedback to the University. Summary information and comments are provided to faculty after the close of the session. All information provided is anonymous.

The Instructor/Course Evaluation will be open for completion during week 9 of the session. An evaluation assignment will be placed in week 9 of the Moodle course, along with the instructions on how to complete the evaluation. Prior to week 9, the University will send out an email containing instructions and dates for the evaluation period.

### **RESEARCH RESOURCES:**

The Library provides access to full-text, and peer reviewed articles, and digital research tools. Students can search Library holdings through the online catalog and databases search engines available on the Library website or browse the physical library space and holdings located at the Garland campus.

Research items not contained in the Amberton Library collection can be located through interlibrary Loan (ILL) or through the TexShare program with the help of the Library staff. Students with questions about available services, resources, or research, may contact the Library via email at [Library@amberton.edu](mailto:Library@amberton.edu).

### **RESEARCH ACCESS:**

Databases can only be accessed by authorized users, and students at Amberton must enter their Amberton ID credentials-same as Moodle login-to gain access when off-campus. Use an Amberton website, such as the University site ([Amberton.edu](http://Amberton.edu)) or the library site ([Library.amberton.edu](http://Library.amberton.edu)) to find links to databased and digital books. Online resources are available all day, every day.

### ***Library Live Chat Feature***

Library staff are available to assist students with research problems or questions during Library hours through a live online chat feature, telephone, email, "How-to" videos, or in person. The library telephone is (972-279-6511 ext. 185. You can email questions to [library@amberton.edu](mailto:library@amberton.edu) or visit the library in person on the Garland campus for assistance.