COURSE TITLE & NUMBER: U.S. History to 1877: HIST 1250
CREDITS: 3 (3 Lec / 0 Lab)
PREREQUISITES: College-level reading ability is required.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

U.S. History to 1877 is a survey of U.S. history from European discovery in the 1400s to Reconstruction (1865-1877). The events of this era are examined from political, economic, military, and social perspectives. Detailed attention will be give to the process of exploration and settlement; cultural clashes in colonial North America; diversity in colonial settlements; the American Revolution and its outcomes; formation of the Constitution and new nation; industrialization and the movement westward; the era of reform; the path to the Civil War; the Civil War; and Reconstruction.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
I. Exploration
   A. America before Columbus
   B. Pre-contact American Indian culture
   C. The process of European colonization
   D. Competition between Spain, France, Britain, and Holland
II. Colonization
   A. Settlement in New England
   B. Settling the middle colonies and the south
   C. Spanish settlements in the Southwest and the French in New France
   D. The colonial wars (1600-1763)
   E. Social, economic, and political life in colonial America
III. The Revolutionary War and the new republic
   A. Causes of the American Revolution
   B. Outcomes of the war
   C. Formation of the Constitution
   D. The Early National period (1783-1812)
   E. The War of 1812
IV. America expands
   A. Indian removal and settlement in the Northwest Territory
   B. The first wave of immigration
   C. The beginnings of industrialization
   D. The Mexican War and its outcomes
   E. The Gold Rush, the Oregon Trail, the fur trade, and western
The Antebellum Period and the Civil War
A. Jacksonian democracy and reform movements
B. Slavery and African-American culture
C. Political crises in the 1850s
D. Causes of the Civil War
E. The war's military aspects
F. The war's impact at home

Reconstruction
A. The war's end
B. Emancipation and the 13th-15th Amendments
C. Reconstruction in the South, 1865-1877
D. The end of Reconstruction
E. America in 1877

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:
Students will
1. describe the various theories as to the origin of America’s native peoples.
2. identify the push and pull factors in Europe and the Americas that led to European exploration and settlement.
3. describe the cultural clashes that occurred between EuroAmericans and American Indians in the American colonies.
4. explain the differences between British, French, and Spanish colonial experiences.
5. list the causes of the American Revolution and explain whether it was a real revolution.
6. identify the compromises which went into the original Constitution and the roots of the ideas embodied in this document.
7. explain the problems facing the new nation during the early national period.
8. explain the causes behind the War of 1812 and the outcomes for the United States.
9. explain what motivated exploration and settlement of the west.
10. describe how the U.S. acquired Texas, Oregon, and California.
11. list the outcomes of the Mexican War.
12. detail the technological, economic, and transportation advances that encouraged the first stage of America's Industrial Revolution in the 1830s and 1840s.
13. describe the various reform movements that swept the U.S. in the 1830s and 1840s and explain whether they were successful in reaching their reform goals.
14. list the events from 1848 to 1860 that contributed to the coming of the Civil War.
15. identify the causes of the Civil War.
16. explain the advantages and disadvantages possessed by the North and
South at the war's beginning.

17. describe the North and South’s military strategy during the war.
18. identify the war’s military turning points.
19. explain the war's impact on political, economic, and social life in the Union and Confederacy.
20. identify the goals of Reconstruction and assess Reconstruction's successes and failures after the Civil War.
21. evaluate whether Reconstruction was a success in establishing and ensuring civil rights and constitutional liberties for African-Americans.

MNTC GOALS AND COMPETENCIES MET:
History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
Human Diversity

HCC COMPETENCIES MET:
Communicating Clearly & Effectively
Thinking Creatively and Critically

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:
Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis and be prepared to contribute to and participate in class discussions.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE USING INSTRUMENTS SELECTED/DEVELOPED BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.

SPECIAL INFORMATION: (SPECIAL FEES, DIRECTIVES ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, ETC.):

AASC APPROVAL DATE: January 18, 2012
REVIEW DATE: January 2017