# History 1133: Minnesota History
## Who are we?
## From whence do we come?
Jack Norton

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**Welcome** to Minnesota History.  Our course will focus on one theme: identity. What does it mean to be Minnesotan, now and in the past.

There are no prerequisites for this course, and you do <u>not</u> need any specialized knowledge.  The class will be taught in English, with occasional cheesy jokes and mild vulgarities in Spanish.

By the end of this class, you should be able to do the following core learning outcomes:
1.  Correctly identify major geographic features in Minnesota and explain how geography shapes the history of the state.
2.  Write effective historical prose in different genres.
3.  Identify and effectively use primary and secondary historical sources.
4.  Analyze secondary sources, including websites, videos, and journal articles, for their credibility.
5.  Demonstrate how personal history relates to larger historical themes.
6.  Develop strategies for advancing your learning skills, such as effective reading, writing, and critically analyzing historical sources.
7.  Recognize how to apply skills used in this class outside of the academic setting.

### Required Resources
*   Norman K. Risjord, *A Popular History of Minnesota*, 2005 Minnesota Historical Society Press.
*   Kao Kalia Yang, *The Latehomecomer A Hmong Family Memoir*, Coffee House Press, 2008.
*   Peg Meier. *Bring Warm Clothes: Letters and Photos from Minnesota's Past*, Minnesota Historical Society Press.
*   Access to high-speed internet connection with web-accessed computer -not just a cell phone or tablet. You can use Normandale's computers for this.
*   Critical Mind

### Contact Information – Jack Norton
Office Phone: 952-358-8911.
Cell Phone: 612-208-3723 – Please do not send me text messages.  No calls after 7 p.m.
Email: jack.norton@normandale.edu . Email is the best way to reach me. I respond to emails and calls within 24-36 hours Monday-Friday (most of the time much faster).  On weekends I respond by Sunday evening.

 Office: Fine Arts Building, F 2204 (In the little hallway connecting Science and College Services - red section of this map left of the tutoring center)

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday Noon to 1:00p.m. Also, by appointment: we can always set up a time to chat 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. by phone or video (skype google+, facetime).

## Course Policies

**Attendance- Attendance is required!** I will take attendance every day starting on the second week of class. As an incentive for regular attendance, those students miss no classes will earn a bonus of 4% on their final grade. Missing more than one class will result in a deduction in your final grade.

**E-Learning- What you need to know**– <u>You must use your student email for all emails to me</u>. The due dates for assignments are hard (see the Calendar in D2L). To succeed in this course you will need to:

- Create documents in a word processing program and convert them to pdf, and then upload them to D2L.
- Sign up for updates via Remind.com .
- Watch streaming video from pgs.org and other websites.
- Navigate the Normandale Library website successfully.
- Spell check everything you write that I will see.
- Recognize that written communication requires more careful word choice than oral communication. For example, sarcastic comments don't work because you can't read sarcasm, only hear it.

If you need technology help, you may call our IT help desk at 952-358-8181. Even better, ask them a question on Normandale's "Ask Us" page, which will help track your request.

**Late Work-** Assignments are due by the date listed in the "Calendar" on D2L. Assignments handed in late are penalized 15 points. Late work may be handed in until April 29th. <u>Quizzes, classroom responses may not be made up.</u>

**Reading and Writing-** This is a reading and writing-intensive course. You will read up to 75 pages a week and write at least 16 pages of typed, doubled-spaced pages of text. Writing guidelines for each assignment will be discussed in course and included on the assignment. **All work** (unless otherwise indicated by me) should be **typed** in a legible 12-point font (times new roman, arial, courier new), have one-inch margins, **be uploaded as a .txt or .pfd file.**

**Grading-** Written work, unless otherwise noted, will be graded according to a rubric (a grading chart,) which will be posted at the time of the assignment. If you are struggling with any assignments, please do not suffer in silence. Make an appointment with me so that we can address your questions. I succeed when you succeed.

**Academic Standards-**
Students in this course will adhere to the rules of Normandale Community College's Code of Conduct. Such rules prohibit plagiarizing other's work (taking credit for someone else's work or stealing work from the web) and creating a hostile academic environment for students or staff. Refer to your student handbook for the full Student Code of Conduct or see here:

http://catalog.normandale.edu/398.htm . We will work through how to properly cite material during the semester. Please be aware that the penalty for plagiarism is failure of the assignment, then possibly the course, and possibly dismissal from the College.

For a plagiarism tutorial and how to avoid plagiarism, see here .

**Writing Resource-** You are encouraged to use Normandale's Writing Center as you create and rewrite your assignments. It is located in the central hallway between College Services and Fine Arts buildings (the old bookstore) All good writers revise their work. Writing tutors can help you at any stage of writing.

SmartThinking (Under "Resources" tab in D2L) also has free, online writing help.

Automatic bonus points: all writing assignments worth more than 5% of the grade submitted to Smart Thinking or that have been reviewed by the Writing Center receive an automatic 2 points bonus.

**General Resources-**

Normandale provides a broad range of support services for you. I strongly encourage you to use these resources as past student experience shows that students who use support services succeed.

- **Counseling-** This department, located at the front of college services provides "academic planning, career development, and personal concerns." For your career or mental health, they are there, including if you need an emergency mental health session. 952-358-8261.
- **Veterans Resource Center-** a one-stop shop for information and support. 952-358-8501
- **Tutoring Center** Houses the writing tutors along with math, science, logic, reading and EAP tutors. Free and walk-in hours. 952-358-8830
- Child Care Learning Tree Development Center offer child care at Normandale. The rates are decent and their flexible with schedules. Professors send their kids here too. 952-358-8613
- **Office for Students with Disabilities** I welcome all students to this class, regardless of disability. Those students with disabilities or other special needs that require accommodation should talk with me in the first week of course. Students should also call the Office for Students with Disabilities at 952-487-7035 (952-487-7032 TTY). Students must be registered with the Office for Students with Disabilities to receive special accommodation. This syllabus is available in alternate formats.
- **Success box**: I have the following items available to students who are facing economic hardship and need a bit of help: snack bars, juice, soda, vegetable juice, toothpaste and brush, soap, shampoo, and deodorant. The items are in my office and I or the secretary who sits outside my door can help you to them, no questions asked.
- If you have a student in your home who qualifies for free lunches, your household qualifies for a low-cost ($10/month) internet connection from Comcast. See here for details.
- The bathrooms in the lower-level of the Koop Student Center have showers, which can be used any time the Student Center is open.

# How to use the Calendar in D2L
# FAQs

1. Where is the Calendar?

   It sits on under the "Materials" dropdown menu button.

2. Once I've clicked on it, it shows me a weekly calendar, but I want to see a whole month. What can I do?

   Click on the tabs above the date to switch between Day, Week, and Month views. You can also click on the "List" tab for all of the dates in a long list.

3. How do I know when things are due?

   Assignments are due when their dropboxes close. Other graded items, such as quizzes, discussions, and responses, show their due date by indicating "availability ends."

4. Can I download this calendar to my calendar?

   Yes. Once in the calendar, there is a link "Subscribe." Click on it and follow the directions. Google calendar, Microsoft Outlook, and Apple's calendar are all supported with this feature.

5. Why don't we have a paper or pdf schedule?

   D2L creates an automatic calendar for our assignments when I create the dropboxes. Creating a paper copy of the calendar causes confusion. I've also received feedback from past students that a single place to locate material is preferable to a paper/pdf copy and an online copy.

   6. What if there are changes that need to be made, such as the professor decides to push back an assignment to the following week? Changes will be announced in the "News" section, noted in the calendar, and broadcast via Remind.
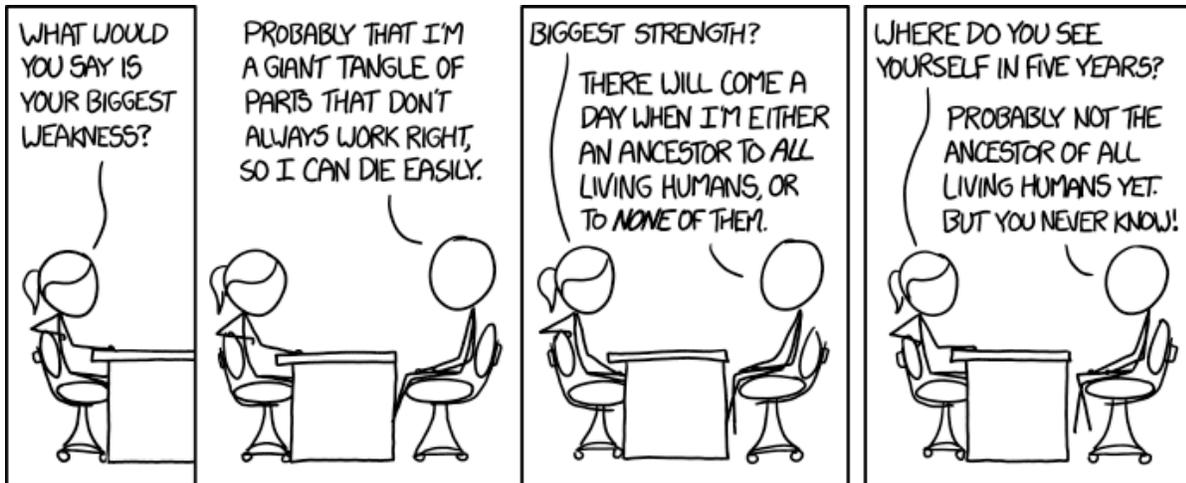
HTTP://IMGS.XKCD.COM/COMICS/STRENGTHS_AND_WEAKNESSES.PNG

I reserve the right to amend this syllabus to better facilitate students' learning. Changes to the syllabus (if any) will be announced in the news section and a new syllabus will be posted on the class website.