

Professor: E. Chávez
Office: Liberal Arts 320
Phone: 915.747.7064
E-mail: echavez@utep.edu
Office Hours : TTh 3-4:20 p.m.; T 4:30 -5 p.m. or by appointment.

History 1301: The United States to 1865 **Fall 2023**

This course is a survey of U.S. history to 1865. Its major objective is to discuss the various forces that created the American Republic. Consequently, we will explore the diverse peoples—men and women-- American Indians, African Americans, Mexican Americans, and European Americans-- who forged this nation. In order to better organize the course, we will engage the following themes: (1) The struggle for power among the various groups that inhabit the Americas; (2) the construction of race in the U.S.; (3) the limits of community; and, (4) contradiction in U.S. history.

Required Texts:

The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook. Vol. 1: To 1877.
 (Available online. A link is provided in Blackboard. It can be downloaded as a PDF.)

The American Yawp Reader: A Documentary Companion to The American Yawp.
 (Available online. A link is provided in Blackboard. It can be downloaded as a PDF.)

Douglass, Frederick, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. ISBN: 978-0451526722

Course Requirements:

There will be two exams: a midterm and a final. For both exams you must integrate material from the readings, lectures, and other class materials. You will receive the questions for both of these exams in advance. Your midterm exam will take place on **October 19**. Your final exam is scheduled (as stipulated by the university) for **Thursday, December 14, 4 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.** In addition to the exams there will be four engagement exercises, which are just that and will be based on the lectures and other course materials (these will be 1-2 pages, instructions to follow). They will be due **September 14, October 12, November 16, and December 7**. You will be required to write a longer essay (6-7 pages long) based on themes in the book *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, which will be due **November 4**. This paper will be uploaded to Safe Assign on Blackboard and a hard copy must be submitted in class. Lastly, you must attend three Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS) tutoring sessions throughout the semester. You will receive detailed instructions for all the assignments prior to of when they are due or occur. **Late assignments will not be accepted.**

Grade Distribution: 4 Engagement Exercises 5% each; 3 PASS sessions: 3% each; Midterm Exam: 20%; Final Exam: 20%; *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* paper: 20%; Attendance and Participation: 11%.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester students will know the basic contours of U.S. history, from the beginning of the peopling of the Americas to the end of the Civil War. In addition, students will be able to think in a complex manner about the causes and outcomes of key historical events and communicate this knowledge in a clear, concise, and intelligent manner both verbally and in writing. The ultimate objective of this course is to teach students to think critically about history, a skill that they will hopefully use in their other classes and in life in general. History is a conversation between the present and the past that allows us to think about and imagine the future.

Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS)

We are lucky to have access to Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS), a free tutoring program that consists of student led review sessions for historically difficult courses. The weekly review meetings are led by a student who has previously taken the course and works closely with the professor to help provide individualized academic support to students.

Austin Hawks (arhawks@miners.utep.edu) will lead these PASS sessions. Since he is not a TA (teaching assistant), but rather a peer leader (and a history major) Austin cannot extend deadlines, inform you of your grades or give you extra credit. However, Austin can help you gain the knowledge and skills that will help you excel in this class and others.

Austin will be attending some classes. He will introduce himself and post his schedule on Blackboard. He will also inform you how to access his sessions.

It is mandatory that you attend three PASS sessions during the summer session, but you are highly encouraged to attend as many sessions as possible. These sessions will be worth 5 % each for a total of 15 % (they are mandatory) of your final grade. If you attend more sessions, I will take that into consideration as I calculate your final grade.

iClicker Cloud

We will use iClicker Cloud polling to register responses in the class and to record attendance. You can use your smart phone, tablet, or computer to access the app or website. A link to more information on the “clicker” can be found on Blackboard. You will need to register the device on Blackboard. Attendance is worth 10% of your grade. If you do not show up to class, it is likely you will not do well in it.

Scholastic Integrity:

I must remind you that academic dishonesty, including cheating on an exam or quiz, and **plagiarism** of any form, meaning presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, will not be tolerated. Cutting and pasting information from a website without citing the data constitutes plagiarism. If anybody is caught committing this egregious offense they will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. To prevent you from committing plagiarism, your papers will be submitted to “Safe Assign,” on Blackboard, which will check your essay to ensure you are not trying to pass someone else’s work as your own.

Class Etiquette:

Please respect your fellow students and me. If you are compelled to talk while in class—do not. I will not tolerate class disturbances of any kind. This means the use of cell phones and other electronic devices is prohibited. If you do not comply with these rules I will ask you to leave the room. Finally, I must remind you that this class starts when I walk into the classroom; therefore, you should be ready to engage and take notes when we commence. **I urge you to take notes—you will not be able to remember what was said if you do not, and a good deal of the exams are based on class content.**

Blackboard:

We will use Blackboard to facilitate class discussion and process assignments. Most assignments will be turned in online to safeguard against plagiarism; they will also be graded on line.

Checking Your E-Mail Account:

It is very important that you check your official email account (for most of you this is your @miners.utep.edu address) on a regular basis. During the semester you may receive email messages regarding your academic performance and attendance through this system. It is required that you read and respond to these email messages.

Syllabus as Contract:

This syllabus constitutes a contract between you and us. The dates might change for certain lectures as the semester progresses, but you must be aware of what the assignments are and when they are due. Again, check your email and Blackboard often.

Schedule**Week 1: August 29 & 31**

Introduction; the Indian World.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 1; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 1.

Week 2: September 5 & 7

Spain in the New World

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 2; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 1., Chapter 2.

Week 3: September 12 & 14

The Clash of Cultures; England in the Americas.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 3; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 3.

Engagement Exercise 1 due.

Week 4: September 19 & 21

The Origins of American Slavery.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 4 part one; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 4.

Week 5: September 26 & 28

The Great Awakening & the Seven Years' War.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 4, part two; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 1., Chapters 5 & 6.

Week 6: October 3 & 5**A Common Cause: The American Revolution**

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 5; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 5; Douglass, pp. v- 35.

Week 7: October 10 & 12

The Creation of the American Republic.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 6; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 6; Douglass, pp. 36-102.

Engagement Exercise 2 due.

Week 8: October 17 & 19

The Early Republic: Capitalism and a New Social Order.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 7 & 8; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 7 & 8; Douglass, pp. 103-124.

Midterm.

Week 9: October 24 & 26

Moving West; Removing Indians.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 9; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 9.

Week 10: October 31 & November 2

Slavery: The Peculiar Institution.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 11; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 11.

Week 11: November 7 & 9

The Second Great Awakening; Antebellum Reform.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 10; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 10.

***Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* paper due.**

Week 12: November 14 & 16

The U.S. War with Mexico.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 12; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 12.

Engagement Exercise 3 due.

Week 13: November 21

The Crisis of the 1850s.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 13; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 13.

Week 14: November 28 & 30

Secession and Civil War.

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 14; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 14.

Week 15: December 5 & December 7

The Civil War; Are we still fighting the Civil War?

Readings: *American Yanp*, Chapter 14; *American Yanp Reader*, Chapter 14.

Engagement Exercise 4 due.

The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, December 14 from 4-6:45 p.m.