

HIST 1301: United States History to 1865

Syllabus

Spring Semester 2020

CRN 21655

Class meeting time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am – 10:20am

Class Location: Union Cinema

Faculty Contact

Dr. Eric Rodrigo Meringer

Email: ermeringer@utep.edu

Office: LART 329

Office hours: Mon and Wed 1:00pm – 2:00pm; Tues and Thurs 10:30am – 11:30am

UTEP Dates and Deadlines

Jan 21	First day of classes
Jan 21-24	Late registration (fees incurred)
Mar 16-20	Spring Break – No classes
Mar 27	Cesar Chavez Day – No class
Apr 3	Spring drop/withdrawal deadline
Apr 10	Spring study day – No class
May 7	Last day of classes
May 12	Final Exam 10:00am – 12:45

Course Description

HIST 1301 is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from pre-Columbian America to the 1877. The course is presented in chronological order with the first half focusing on indigenous America, European colonialism and the American Revolution. The second half of the course explores the creation of the American Republic, the Market Revolution, Westward expansion in the nineteenth century, and the American Civil War. Some of the recurring themes in the class include indigenous relations, justifications for conquest and domination, economic and technological change, and the role of slavery as a cause of the Civil War. This course presents United States history in a global context and encourages students to think critically by considering perspectives beyond those of the founding fathers while challenging historical narratives based on what historian James Loewen has referred to as the “ignorance of ethnocentrism” and the “arrogance of American exceptionalism.”

Textbook

The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook, Volume 1: to 1877.
Edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright. Stanford University Press, 2019. ISBN 978-1-5036-0671-5. We will be using both the textbook and the reader.

Online versions of the textbook are open-access and free at:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>.

You can also acquire a hard-copy text at the UTEP bookstore under [HIST 1301 required materials](#).

The Weekly Module

Course material is presented in weekly modules on the Blackboard website. This semester is 17 weeks long so there are correspondingly 17 modules. Each module treats a different chapter and a different topic. For more information see the Assignment Schedule below.

Grading Information

Final Grades will be determined by points earned in the following areas:

8 Quizzes (50 points, lowest score dropped)	350 points
6 in-class activities (50 points each, lowest score dropped)	250 points
1 mid-term exam	200 points
<u>1 final exam</u>	<u>200 points</u>
Total Points	1000 points

Grading Scale

900-1000 points	A
800-899 points	B
700-799 points	C
600-699 points	D
Below 600	F

Exams (40% of final grade): There will be two exams: one mid-term and one final. Each exam is worth 200 points. Exams consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions and an essay question. Exams draw heavily on quizzes and in class activities. **Make-up exams** in cases of unavoidable scheduling conflicts must be arranged prior to exam date. Exceptions for unanticipated medical or family emergencies will require written documentation from the student.

Quizzes (35% of grade): There are a total of 8 quizzes. Each is worth 50 points. The lowest quiz score is dropped for a total of 350 points possible. Quizzes consist of between 10 and 25 questions. Quizzes are online and you will have numerous days to take them but they will always be due by Sunday at midnight. You will also be given two attempts with only the highest score counting. Don't forget to take the quizzes by the due date as quizzes will not be reopened once they are closed.

In-Class Activities (25% of grade): There will be six in-class, team-writing exercises worth 50 points each. Students will form small groups in class and collaboratively answer questions based on specific readings or other related materials. As these are in-class activities students must be present to earn points for these exercises. Groups will share one grade. In these activities the lowest score will again be dropped but any assignments missed beyond the one dropped grade cannot be made up.

Extra Credit Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis. Occasionally, however, the instructor may opt to have an extra credit activity in class in order to raise the class average as a whole. As such activities are offered in class you have to be present to participate in any such activity.

Communication

Office Hours: Students can visit the instructor during regular office hours in LART 329, Mon and Wed 1:00pm – 2:00pm; Tues and Thurs 10:30am – 11:30am

Tips for effective student online communication: To facilitate prompt and effective email communication, make sure that you have thought out your question before sending a message. Be sure to first check to make sure the answer cannot be conveniently found using other course resources (syllabus, discussion boards or other). Make sure also to **include the course name and class time** in the **subject line** in addition a brief word or two regarding the subject matter as the instructor generally has numerous course offerings in a single semester.

Closing the Loop: In all email exchanges with the instructor, make sure to respond to the instructor's message in order to confirm that the message was received and either a satisfactory answer was provided or that further information is needed. This is called "closing the loop" and is an important aspect of maintaining effective online communication.

Special Accommodations

Students with physical or other challenges who require accommodation(s) in order to participate in this course should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (Union Building, East, room 106). Telephone: +1.915.747.5148. Email: Cass@utep.edu. Internet: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>. It is your responsibility to speak with a counselor in order to receive necessary help. Within the first week of the beginning of the semester, you must provide documentation from CASS in order to receive any accommodation(s). Failure to contact CASS and provide documentation in a timely manner may delay such accommodation(s) being made.

Student Services: Blackboard Support

To successfully navigate the online classroom new students are encouraged to view the "Blackboard FAQs for Students" links, or the "Student Bookmarks" links, which are located under the "Student Services" tab at the upper right hand side of the Blackboard header. Those requiring technical assistance can access "UTEP's Help Desk" under the "UTEP Blackboard" header. Scroll down to the lower right hand of the page to find it under "UTEP Resources." Technical support is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week via the Help Desk link or via phone at +1.915.747.5257.

Tutoring Services

UTEP and the History Department offer tutoring services in writing and in history related topics. Links to the University Writing Center and the History Tutoring Center are provided here:

<https://www.utep.edu/uwc/>

<https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/history/resources/student-resource/history-tutoring-center.html>

Student Course Evaluations

UTEP values its students' feedback. You will be asked to complete an online evaluation toward the end of the term. The primary purpose of this evaluation process is to assess the effectiveness of classroom instruction in order to provide the best learning experience possible and make continuous

improvements to every class. Responses are kept confidential. Please take full advantage of this opportunity to provide your feedback.

More Information

For more information about student services and other general information, visit the “Community and Student Services” tabs on the Blackboard header.

Course Policies and Information

You are responsible for understanding and abiding by the policies and procedures described below. Any problems that the Instructor encounters in this course may be reported to the Dean of Students.

Course Civility

You must uphold a mature level of interaction with fellow students and with the instructor. Please respect other students, showing courtesy in all interactions.

Disputed grades

If you disagree with a grade, you should consult the instructor.

Dropping the Class

You are entitled to drop this class with a grade of “W” until the official university drop deadline, as described in the Schedule of Classes and the University Catalog. You are responsible for dropping the class. There will be no faculty-initiated drops, except under special circumstances if you request the Instructor to drop you.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

As a member of the University of Texas at El Paso academic community that honors integrity and respect for others, you are expected to maintain a high level of personal integrity in your academic work at all times. Your work should be original and must not be reused from other courses.

According to the Merriam Webster Online Dictionary, plagiarism can be defined as “the act of using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person” (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarism>). In other words, it is literally a form of theft. You are expected to do your own work on all graded material submitted for all course requirements.

All work submitted must be written for this course during the term in which the course is being completed. Work from other courses or from other academic or non-academic settings, past or present, is not acceptable and will result in failure for that assignment. No opportunities for resubmission or revision will be granted.

The names and student numbers of students suspected of knowingly using, or attempting to use, another person's work as though such work is their own, and of students suspected of permitting, or attempting to permit, another student to use their work, will be given to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Such conduct may constitute grounds for sanctions ranging from the assignment of a grade of “F” for the work to expulsion from the University.

If you are uncertain regarding what actions constitute plagiarism, or about the University policy, then you should consult the instructor.

Course Management

I will promptly grade all assignments, and other work submitted for a grade soon after your deadlines.

External Link Disclaimer

This course may contain links to external sites neither owned nor maintained by UTEP. UTEP bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality, or content of external sites or for that of subsequent links. In addition, the terms of use, security policies, and privacy policies may differ from those of UTEP. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content, terms of use, and policies.

Syllabus Changes

All items on this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.

Assignment Schedule

Module number/Week number And Topics	Readings and assignments	Due dates
Module 1 (Week of Jan 20) The New World <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions and syllabus• Pre-Columbian America• Historiography – what is history?• Columbian Exchange and Black Legend of Spanish Barbarism	Review the syllabus Textbook: Chapter 1 Document Reader: #1 Native American Creation Stories #6 Virgin de Guadalupe	
Module 2 (Week of Jan 27) Colliding Cultures <ul style="list-style-type: none">• European Encounter• Protestant Reformation• Pilgrims and Puritans	Textbook: Chapters 1 and 2 Document Reader: #2 Winthrop's City on a Hill Additional Blackboard Reading: Divine Right to Occupy Land In Class Activity 1 (Predestination and Indian Relations) Quiz 1	Submit in class Thursday Jan 30 Due Sunday Feb 2
Module 3 (Week of Feb 3) British North America <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jamestown (Pocohontas)• Atlantic Slavery• War and Rebellion	Textbook: Chapters 2 and 3 Document Reader: #1 Olaudah Equiano	

<p>Module 4 (Week of Feb 10) Colonial Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Awakening • Consumption and Trade • French and Indian War 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 4</p> <p>Document Reader: #3 John Edwards Sinners at the Hand of an Angry God</p> <p>In Class Activity 2 (End of Salutary Neglect)</p> <p>Quiz 2</p>	<p>Submit in class Thursday Feb 13</p> <p>Due Sunday Feb 16</p>
<p>Module 5 (Week of Feb 17) American Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Enlightenment • Revolution • Articles of Confederation 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 5</p> <p>Document Reader: #2 Thomas Paine calls for Independence #3 Declaration of Independence</p> <p>Quiz 3</p>	<p>Due Sunday Feb 23</p>
<p>Module 6 (Week of Feb 24) New Nation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Constitution • Federalists and Anti-Federalists 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 6</p> <p>In Class Activity 3 (Federalists and Anti-Federalists)</p>	<p>Submit on Thursday Feb 27</p>
<p>Module 7 (Week of Mar 2) Early Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jefferson as President • War of 1812 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 7</p> <p>Document Reader: #2 Thomas Jefferson's Racism 1788</p> <p>Quiz 4</p>	<p>Due Sunday Mar 8</p>
<p>Module 8 (Week of Mar 9) Review and Mid-Term Exam</p>	<p>Review chapters 1 – 7</p> <p>Midterm Exam</p>	<p>Multiple choice section is online and due by class time on Mar 12.</p> <p>You will write your essay in class on Thursday Mar 12.</p>
<p>Module 9 (Week of Mar 16)</p> <p>SPRING BREAK NO CLASS</p>	<p>Relax</p>	

<p>Module 10 (Week of Mar 23) Market Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Revolution • Erie Canal 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 8</p> <p>Document Reader: #1 James Madison asks Congress to support internal improvements #2 Traveler describes life on the Erie Canal</p> <p>In Class Activity 4 (Erie Canal)</p>	<p>Submit in class Mar 26</p>
<p>Module 11 (Week of Mar 30) Democracy in America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Jackson • Missouri Compromise • Democracy in America 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 9</p> <p>Quiz 5</p>	<p>Due Sunday Apr 5</p>
<p>Module 12 (Week of Apr 6) Religion and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abolition 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 10</p> <p>Document Reader: #5 What to the Slave is the Fourth of July (from chapt 9) #3 David Walkers appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World (chpt 10) #4 William Lloyd Garrison introduces the Liberator (chapt 10)</p> <p>In Class Activity 5 (Slavery and the Ideal of America)</p>	<p>Submit in class Apr 9</p>
<p>Module 13 (Week of Apr 13) Cotton Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton Kingdom • Slavery 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 11</p> <p>Quiz 6</p>	<p>Due Sunday Apr 19</p>
<p>Module 14 (Week of Apr 20) Manifest Destiny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westward Expansion • Indian Removal • Texas and Mexican War 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 12</p> <p>Quiz 7</p>	<p>Due Sunday Apr 26</p>
<p>Module 15 (Week of Apr 27) Sectional Crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis over slavery 	<p>Textbook: Chapter 13</p> <p>In Class Activity 6</p>	<p>Submit in class Apr 30</p>

Module 16 (Week of May 4) Civil War and Review for Final Exam	Textbook: Chapter 14 Document Reader: #1 Alexander Stevens on Slavery and the Confederate Constitution Quiz 8	Due Sunday May 10
Module 17 (Week of May 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Exam Week	Final Exam	Multiple choice section is online and due by class time on May 12. You will write your essay in class on Tuesday May 12 at 10 am