

Syllabus

HIST 1301: United States History to 1865

Fall Semester 2020

CRN 11050

Online Course: Students are not required to meet at specific days or times

Faculty Contact

Dr. Eric Rodrigo Meringer

Email: ermeringer@utep.edu

Online Office hours: Tuesdays 10 am to 12 noon; Thursdays 6 pm to 8 pm.

UTEP Dates and Deadlines

Aug 24	First day of classes
Aug 24 - 28	Late registration (fees incurred)
Sept 7	Labor Day – University Closed
Oct 30	Fall drop/withdrawal deadline
Nov 26 – 27	Thanksgiving Holiday – University Closed
Dec 7 – 11	Final Exams
Dec 16	Grades are due

Course Description

HIST 1301 is a historical survey of the history of the United States from pre-Columbian America to the 1865. Touching on different aspects of social, political, economic and cultural history, the course is presented in chronological order with the first half focusing on indigenous America, European colonialism and the American Revolution and second half devoted to the creation of the American Republic, the Market Revolution, Westward expansion 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 in bringing about the Civil War. This course presents this history of the United States 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>.

Course Organization

Weekly Modules

Course material is presented in weekly modules on the Blackboard website. This semester is 16 weeks long so there are correspondingly 16 modules. In each module students will find links to readings, videos, quizzes and assignments. With the exception of the digital history project, all assignments presented within the module are due at the end of the associated week. After that time incomplete assignments are considered late and are no longer accepted. For more information on assignments and due dates see the Assignment Schedule below.

Grading Information

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

8 Quizzes (50 points each, lowest score dropped)	350 points
6 group responses (50 points each, lowest score dropped)	250 points
Peer evaluation and Participation	50 points
1 mid-term exam	100 points
Digital Story Map	100 points
<u>1 final exam</u>	<u>150 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 (25% of final grade): There will be two exams: one mid-term and one final. The mid-term is worth 100 points and the final is worth 150 point for a total of 250 points. Exams consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions and a short answer question. Exams draw heavily on quizzes and on the group response exercises. **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 online quizzes. Each is worth 50 points. The lowest quiz score is dropped leaving a total of 350 points possible toward the final grade. Quizzes consist of between 10 to 25 multiple choice questions. Quizzes draw largely from the textbook but also from weekly powerpoints. Quizzes are generally open by Wednesday and due on Sundays by midnight. You can take the quiz twice and only the highest score will be counted. Don't forget to take the quizzes by the Sunday night deadline though as quizzes will not be reopened once they are closed.

Group Responses (25% of grade): There are six small-group response assignments. Students will be randomly placed in groups at the beginning of the semester and maintain their groups throughout the semester. In groups, students will collaboratively answer questions based on specific readings or other course related materials by submitting a single, jointly agreed-upon response. Student participation is essential for these assignments and a portion of the final grade is based on this participation.

Peer Evaluation and Participation (5% of grade): Students will submit peer evaluations of group members on two separate occasions. In these evaluations, students will be asked to distribute a fixed number of points among each group member in accordance with each individual's level of participation. Points earned through these peer evaluations will be incorporated into the final 1000 points possible.

Digital History Group Project (10% of grade): In the second half of the class, student groups will create interactive digital story maps using Story Map JS program - (<https://storymap.knightlab.com/>). The digital map will graphically present a historical topic of your choosing (provided that the topics are referenced in the textbook and draw from 19th Century American history). This project requires students learn how to use the Story Map program and conduct research using primary and secondary resources. The exercise also requires students to properly cite sources in the Chicago Manual of Style format. More detailed instructions will be provided later in the semester.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis. Occasionally, however, the instructor may opt offer extra credit to the class as a whole if there is a need to raise the class average.

Communication

Online Office Hours: Messages sent during online office hours will be answered most promptly, usually within the hour. Online office hours are Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 noon and Thursdays from 6 pm to 8 pm. Messages sent outside of office hours will be responded to within 24 hours. **My email address** is ermeringer@utep.edu. Please note that it does not include the word "miners." Only student email addresses include the word "miners."

Tips for effective student 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 announcements). It is a good idea also to include a word or two in the subject line regarding the matter of concern. 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.

To better serve students during the pandemic, UTEP's Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) has launched AIM, the Accessible Information Management system. AIM serves as a virtual front desk where UTEP students with a disability or a temporary disability can request an accommodation. Contact CASS at cassportal.utep.edu or <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 links on the Technology Support Helpdesk, which is located under the "Institution Page" tab at the left-hand side of the page. Those requiring technical assistance can access "UTEP's Help Desk" at (915) 747-4357 or directly connect to UTEP's Blackboard Central office at the library by calling (915) 747-5940 or blackboard@utep.edu.

Tutoring Services

UTEP offers tutoring services for help with writing. The link to the University Writing Center is <https://www.utep.edu/uwc/>

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.

Coronavirus Updates

For more information on the University Coronavirus-related policies see the Health and Safety heading on the Blackboard homepage.

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 and Weekly Topics	Readings and assignments	Due dates
Module 1 (Week of Aug 24) The New World <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Syllabus• Pre-Columbian America• Columbian Exchange and Black Legend of Spanish Barbarism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the syllabus• Textbook: Read chapter 1• View audiovisuals (videos and powerpoints)• Introductions	✓ Introductions by Sunday Aug 30

<p>Module 2 (Week of Aug 31) Colliding Cultures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Encounter • Protestant Reformation • Pilgrims and Puritans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapters 1 and 2 • View various audio-visuals • Submit Group Response 1 • Quiz 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Response 1 by Sept 6 ✓ Quiz 1 by Sept 6
<p>Module 3 (Week of Sept 7) British North America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic Slavery • Colonial Society and Indian Warfare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapters 2 and 3 • Read Online Handout: "Divine Right to Occupy Land" • Watch PBS Video (After the Mayflower) • Submit Group Response 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Response 2 by Sept 13
<p>Module 4 (Week of Sept 14) Colonial Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Awakening • Consumption and Trade • French and Indian War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 4 • View various audio-visuals • Quiz 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Quiz 2 Sunday Sept 20
<p>Module 5 (Week of Sept 21) American Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Enlightenment • Revolution • Articles of Revolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 5 • View various audio-visuals • Submit Group Response 3 • Quiz 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Response 3 by Sept 27 ✓ Quiz 3 Sunday Sept 27
<p>Module 6 (Week of Sept 28) New Nation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Constitution • Federalists and Anti-Federalists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 6 • Group Peer Evaluation #1 • Quiz 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Peer Eval by Oct 4 ✓ Quiz 4 by Oct 4
<p>Module 7 (Week of Oct 5) Review and Mid-term Exam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review chapters 1 - 6 • Mid-Term on Blackboard: Multiple choice questions and one short answer question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mid-term due by Sunday night Oct 11
<p>Module 8 (Week of Oct 12) Early Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jefferson as President • War of 1812 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 7 • View various audio-visuals 	

<p>Module 9 (Week of Oct 19) Market Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Revolution • Erie Canal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 8 • View various audio-visuals • Document Reader: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ #1 “James Madison asks Congress to support internal improvements” ➤ #2 Traveler describes life on the Erie Canal • Quiz 5 	<p>✓ Quiz 5 by Oct 25</p>
<p>Module 10 (Week of Oct 26) Democracy in America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Jackson • Missouri Compromise • Democracy in America 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 9 • View PBS Video on Cherokee Removal • Group Response 5 • Quiz 6 	<p>✓ Group Response 4 by Sunday</p> <p>✓ Quiz 6 by Nov 1</p>
<p>Module 11 (Week of Nov 2) Religion and Reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mormon Religion • Indian Removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 10 • Group Activity 5 (Primary Source Scavenger Hunter) 	<p>✓ Group Response 5 by Sunday</p>
<p>Module 12 (Week of Nov 9) Cotton Revolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton Kingdom • Slavery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 11 • Group Activity 5 (three options for StoryMap) 	<p>✓ Group Response 6 by Sunday</p>
<p>Module 13 (Week of Nov 16) Manifest Destiny</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westward Expansion • Texas Independence • US Mexico War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 12 • View the Powerpoint • Choose topics for story Map • Quiz 7 	<p>✓ Choose topic by Nov 22</p> <p>✓ Quiz 7 by Nov 22</p>
<p>Module 14 (Week of Nov 23) Sectional Crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis over slavery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 13 • View the Powerpoint • Submit Story Map 	<p>✓ Story Map due Nov 29</p>
<p>Module 15 (Week of Nov 30) Civil War</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil War 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook: Chapter 14 • Document Reader: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ #1 Alexander Stevens • View various audio-visuals • Submit Peer Evaluation #2 • Quiz 8 	<p>✓ Peer Eval by Dec 6</p> <p>✓ Quiz 8 by Dec 6</p>
<p>Module 16 (Week of Dec 7) Final Exam</p>	<p>FINAL EXAM</p>	<p>FINAL EXAM date to be announced</p>

