

HIST 1301: United States History to 1877

Syllabus

Summer I, 2020

CRN 33401-204

Faculty Contact

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

UTEP Dates and Deadlines

June 8	First day of classes
June 10	Census day – last day to register and pay for course
June 26	Summer 1 drop/withdrawal deadline
July 2	Summer 1 last day of class
July 6	Final Exam

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 treating topics of 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 Univ. Press, 2019. ISBN 978-1-5036-0671-5.

The online version of this textbook is **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/1301/204](#).

Course Organization: Weekly Modules

Course materials are presented in four weekly modules. In each module students will find links to readings, videos, blogs, quizzes and assignments. With the exception of the digital history project, all assignments presented within the module are due over the course of the associated week after which time incomplete assignments can no longer be submitted. Each module includes a link for a blog submission that is due by Saturday night, and a link for a quiz that is due by Sunday night. For more information on blogs and quizzes, see the Assignment Schedule below.

Grading Information

Final Grade will be determined by points earned in the following areas

4 Quizzes (75 points each)	300 points
4 Blog posts (75 points each)	300 points
1 digital history group project	200 points
<u>1 final exam</u>	<u>200 points</u>
Total Points	1000 points

Grading Scale (final points earned)

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

Quizzes (30% of grade): There are four quizzes, each worth 75 points for a total of 300 points. Quizzes consist of 25 multiple-choice questions. Quizzes will be accessible by Wednesday and will be due by Sunday night. Quizzes can be taken twice with only the highest score being counted.

Blog Posts (30% of grade): Weekly Blog Posts serve as a means for students to contemplate and discuss weekly themes. To prepare for your responses, you will need to complete the required reading and watch the required videos. Then click on the Blog Post link in the appropriate module. There you will find a discussion prompt which you will respond to with a minimum of 150 words. In addition to your initial response, full credit for blog posts require that you also comment on posts from at least two of your classmates. These secondary posts must be at least 50 words in length. All posts – the initial post and your responses to posts by classmates – are due every week midnight on Saturday. If you do not provide all three entries by the deadline you will not receive credit for the assignment. The weekly blog posts are worth 75 points each and will be graded on the thoughtfulness and thoroughness of your response to the prompt.

Digital History Group Project (20% of grade): In the third week of class, students will form three-person groups in order to create an interactive digital story map 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 to conduct research using primary and secondary resources. In this exercise students will also learn how to properly cite sources using the Chicago Manual of Style format. More detailed instructions will be provided at the beginning of week three.

Final Exam (20% of grade): Final exam will a cumulative, multiple-choice test but will draw heavily on textbook chapters 13 and 14.

Extra Credit Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis. Occasionally, however, the instructor may opt to give an extra credit quiz or some other activity in order to raise the class average as a whole.

Online 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, blogs 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.

Using Library Services

Extensive Library resources, including Library research databases covering a wide variety of subject areas with thousands of full text articles and other materials as well as extensive ebooks collections, and services are available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <https://www.utep.edu/library/>.

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/>.

Student Services: Blackboard Support

To successfully navigate the online classroom new students are encouraged to view the “Blackboard Help” links, which are located on the Blackboard Institution Page. Those requiring technical assistance can access “UTEP’s Technology Support Helpdesk” under the same “UTEP Blackboard” header. Technical support is available seven days a week via the Help Desk link or via phone at +1.915.747.4357.

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.

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 listed above. You are responsible for dropping the class. There will be no faculty-initiated drops, except under special circumstances.

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.

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 1	06/10	<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course syllabus • Textbook Chapters 1 and 2 • PDF file: “Divine Right to Occupy Land”
	06/11	<p>View</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerpoint: Week One Introduction • Video Screencast: “Significance of Black Legend and Columbian Exchange” • Video: Saints and Strangers, <i>The Unfinished Nation</i>
	06/13	<p>Submit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blog Post #1, comments
	06/14	<p>Submit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 1
Module 2	6/17	<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook Chapters 3, 4, 5
	6/18	<p>View</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: Strained Relations, <i>The Unfinished Nation</i> • Powerpoint: Slavery • Powerpoint: Salutary Neglect, French and Indian War and the American Revolution
	6/20	<p>Submit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blog Post #2, comments
	6/21	<p>Submit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 2

Module 3	6/23	Enroll in groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find link in module, enroll in groups of three persons
	6/24	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook Chapters 6, 7, 8
	6/25	View <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: War of 1812 • Powerpoint: New Nation • Powerpoints: Market Revolution and Erie Canal • Screencast example for Story Map
	6/27	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blog Post #3, comments
	6/28	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 3
Module 4	7/01	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbook Chapter 9, 11, 12 (note that we are skipping 10)
	7/01	View <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerpoint: Cotton Revolution • Powerpoint: Manifest Destiny
	7/04	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blog Post #4
	7/05	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 4
	7/05	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Story Map Group Assignment
Final Exam	7/06	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final exam is multiple choice and comprehensive but will draw heavily on chapters 13 and 14. Due Monday July 6 by midnight.

