

Fall 2015
MWF 11:30-12:20

History 1301

Manuel B. Ramírez, Ph.D.
Office: GRAH 302
Office Hours: TR 10:30-12:00
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US History to 1865

Assistant Instructor: _____
Office: _____
Office Hours: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Course Description:

The course examines US history to 1865. Numerous subjects will be examined throughout the semester beginning with pre-Columbian civilizations and concluding with the Civil War. Emphasis is placed on the political, social, economic, cultural, and diplomatic developments. The course will also explore the ways in which these trends impacted everyday Americans and how these Americans helped shape the country. This approach to history enables us to understand the rich complexity of the past. It also allows us to appreciate how everyday Americans lived in different manners from traditional figures from the past.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

They are available at the UTEP Bookstore.

James W. Fraser, *By the People: A History of the United States* (Vol. 1), loose leaf.

John Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive*.

Melton A. McLaurin, *Celia, A Slave: A True Story*.

Course Policies:

1. Students are expected to attend class lectures. Attendance will be taken.
2. The assigned readings should be read prior to coming to class.
3. When discussing issues in class, you should be respectful of others. Personal attacks are not permitted. This applies whether the person is a student, a visitor, teaching assistants, or the instructor. I look forward to hearing your opinions and ideas.
4. Students are expected to attend and take exams on assigned dates.
5. Do not leave class early unless you have spoken to me. Otherwise, you will be noted absent.
6. Do not carry a conversation, read the newspaper, or study materials for your other classes. Please turn off or set to mute your cell phones. I will not hesitate to point out that your behavior is unacceptable. If the disruptive behavior continues, you will be told to leave class.

If you are having any difficulty in the class, please talk to the assistant instructor or me. We are here to help you. Please do not miss class for several days. The overwhelming majority of students who do this never catch-up. Instead it is better to communicate any difficulty you are having with the assistant instructor or me.

Evaluation:

Exams: Four exams will be administered, each worth 100 points. You are responsible for material covered in class and the texts. The format is multiple choice and essay. No one will be allowed to leave the room during exams. **Students will also be required to bring their UTEP ID cards. If you do not have one, please obtain one immediately.** Students missing an exam must contact the assistant

instructors within 48 hours. Make-up exams are given only in cases of documented emergencies. The instructor or assistant instructor will decide whether the student has a legitimate excuse to take a make-up exam.

Book exams: These exams test students' knowledge of the supplementary readings *The Unredeemed Captive* and *Celia, A Slave*. These exams will be in essay format. Each exam is worth 40 points for a total of 80 points. **UTEP ID cards are also required for these exams.**

In-class assignments: Throughout the semester students are expected to complete assignments in class. There will be five written assignments to be completed during the class period, each worth 4 points for a total of 20 points. Students who receive at least 16 total points for all the assignments will be credited with an additional 15 points. **No make-ups will be given. You should bring your books and notes to class. Failure to bring class materials will result in a zero for the assignment.**

Grade Scale: A= 500-450; B=449-400; C= 399-350; D=349-300; F=299-0.

Attendance Policy:

You are urged strongly to attend class. Part of being a successful student in any class is regular attendance. Students will be allowed five absences. I make no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. Any absence over five will result in a twenty point deduction for each absence from the student's total points (see grade scale above). For example, a student with eight absences will have his/her final grade lowered by 60 points. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Under no circumstance should you sign-in for another student. You risk serious penalties.

The last day to drop with an automatic "W" is October 30. You are responsible for dropping the course if you no longer plan to attend. If you are considering dropping the course, please discuss the matter with the instructor or assistant instructor. Things may not be as bad as you think. I do, however, reserve the right to drop students for excessive absences.

Students are required to obtain a UTEP email address. To obtain an e-mail address log on to: newaccount.utep.edu. I strongly encourage students to communicate to me any question or problem using UTEP's email service. Please include class information in your email. In addition, students are urged strongly to consult Blackboard for announcements, grades, test study guides, and other class materials.

History Tutoring Center: If you are having any concerns or trouble with the course, you may also contact the history tutoring center located at LART 327, 747.7058, htc@utep.edu.

Laptop Use:

Laptops are permitted in class. Students, however, must abide by the following:

1. Set your laptop volume control to mute or off before coming to class.
2. Keep your laptop closed during presentations and other specific in-class activities. Under no circumstances should you have your laptop open during video presentations.
3. Students using laptops are not permitted to sit in the back of the classroom.
4. Do not engage in unauthorized communication or entertainment (web surfing, instant messaging, chat room chatting, DVD viewing, music playing, game playing, etc.) during class unless it is part of the lesson. Since these activities are extremely disruptive to your classmates and the instructor, violating this policy will result in the student forfeiting the privilege of using a laptop in class

Cell Phones:

1. As previously mentioned, set your phone to mute or silent mode before coming to class.

2. Do not answer incoming calls or make outgoing calls in class.
3. Do not use text messaging or web browser features while in class.
4. **Never text during an exam or answer cell phones. You will receive a zero for the exam and appropriate action will be taken by the instructor. See policy on academic dishonesty.**

Other Wireless Devices

1. Shut off the device or set it to mute before coming to class.
2. Do not use text messaging or web browser features while in class.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP). It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as one's own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Please consult the Handbook of Operating Procedures at <http://hoop.utep.edu> for the complete University policy on academic dishonesty. You may also consult with the Assistant Dean of Students at the Student Union Building West, Room 102, or by calling 747-5648.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). It is located in the Student Union Building East, Room 203, 747-5148, cass@utep.edu. If you have a condition that may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or that may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of CASS.

Calendar (subject to change with reasonable notice to students):

Week 1: August 24-28

Introduction and Pre-Columbian Societies and the Spanish Conquest
Readings: Fraser, chapter 1.

Week 2: August 31- September 4

Africa, Europe, and the Settlement of North America
Readings: Fraser, chapter 2. In-class assignment: September 4.

Week 3: September 7-11

Society and Culture in Provincial America
Readings: Fraser, chapter 3.
September 7: No Class (Labor Day)

Week 4: September 14-18

Colonial Expansion and the Struggle for a Continent
Readings: Fraser, chapter 4

Week 5: September 21-25

The Empire under Strain

Readings: Fraser, chapter 4 (con't). In-class assignment: September 23

Exam 1: September 25.

Week 6: September 28- October 2

The War for Independence

Readings: Fraser, chapter 5.

October 2: Exam on Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive*

Week 7: October 5- 9

Writing the Constitution

Readings: Fraser, chapter 6. In-class assignment: October 9.

Week 8: October 12- 16

The Age of Jefferson

Readings: Fraser, chapters 7 and 8.

Exam 2: October 16.

Week 9: October 19-23

Republican America and the Second Great Awakening

Readings: Fraser, chapter 8 (con't).

Week 10: October 26-30

Cotton, Slavery, and the Old South

Readings: Fraser, chapter 9.

Week 11: November 2-6

The Economic Revolution.

Readings: Fraser, chapter 9 (con't) . In-class assignment: November 6.

Week 12: November 9-13

The Age of Jackson

Readings: Fraser, chapter 10.

Week 13: November 16- 20

Exam 3: November 16

Antebellum Culture and Reform, American Expansion

Readings: Fraser, chapters 10 (partly) 11, 12.

Week 14: November 23-27

The Upcoming Tempest: The Road to the Civil War

Readings: Fraser, chapter 13.

November 25: Test on McLaurin, *Celia*

November 26-27: No Classes (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Week 15: November 30- December 4

The Civil War

Readings: Fraser, chapter 14. In-class assignment: December 2.
December 4: Dead Day (No Class)

Final Exam: December 9 @ 1. The final will be in our regular classroom.

Please note: Students will not be allowed to take the final at any other time than the UTEP approved schedule, unless they have a documented university approved excuse.

Classmate Contacts:

Name: _____ **Name:** _____

Email: _____ **Email:** _____

Phone: _____ **Phone:** _____

Notes: _____ **Notes:** _____

Name: _____ **Name:** _____

Email: _____ **Email:** _____

Phone: _____ **Phone:** _____

Notes: _____ **Notes:** _____

