

**Common Course Syllabus  
History 1301  
Department of History**

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Discipline:** History

**Course Number:** HISTORY 1301

**Course Title:** United States History I

**Credit:** 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

**Satisfies a core curriculum requirement?** Yes, American History

**Prerequisites:** TSI compliance in Reading

**Available Formats:** Conventional, INET, ITV

**Campus:** Levelland, Reese, Lubbock Center, Plainview

**Textbook:** Varies according to instructor.

**Course Specific Instructions:** Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

**Course Description:** A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

**Course Objectives addressed:**

1. **critical thinking:** demonstrates creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **communication:** demonstrates effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **social responsibility:** demonstrates intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **personal responsibility:** demonstrates the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**Course Purpose:** To acquaint students with the diversity of American history and to promote critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. Fundamentally, the course promotes

general understanding of a body of knowledge any literate person should possess about the history of his own country.

**Course Requirements:** To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

**Attendance Policy:** Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be familiar with the evolution of American political, social, and economic institutions and traditions from the arrival of Europeans to the mid-nineteenth century. This would include the ability to:

- Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

## History 1301.001, U.S. History to 1876

Instructor: Angela Roberts Spring: 2021  
Office Hrs: MW: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. (LL) Office: AD 146A (Levelland)  
MW: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (LL) RC 302B (Reese)  
TT: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (RC)  
TT: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (virtual)  
<https://us.bbcollab.com/quest/34153178bfd74b59b152c218dc2beee8>  
Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (LL)  
e-mail: [aroberts@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:aroberts@southplainscollege.edu) Phone: 716-2456

**Course Overview:** History 1301 constitutes a general survey of United States history from 1492, when Columbus "discovered" America, to 1877, the end of the Civil War. Given the time constraints of a one semester survey, and the broad range of subjects available for study, we will only be able to focus on a few major topics. Some of these include: motives for colonization; perceptions of race; the American Revolution; framing of the Constitution; political struggles of the early national period; changing gender roles; economic transformations; reform; the evolution of a class society; westward expansion and the sectional differences that eventually split the union and hindered reconciliation after the Civil War. The central theme of this course, one that is related to each of the topics, is the ever-changing ideology of Republicanism: i.e., what it meant to be an American from the perspectives of men and women of different ethnicities, classes, and regions, and how that meaning changed over time.

We will experience the years 1492-1877 through visual media such as documentaries, primary sources written by people who lived and made the history of the period as well as secondary sources written by historians who have interpreted it. After reading, viewing, and discussing these materials over the course of a semester, you will be able to judge whose arguments you most closely agree with and develop interpretations and questions of your own.

**Course Objectives:** My goals for the course include, but are not limited to, the following:

- You will increase your knowledge of events in U.S. history and the reasons why they occurred.
- You will be introduced to the art of historical interpretation through the reading, analysis and application of primary sources.
- You will develop critical writing skills through essay writing.
- We will exchange our interpretations and ideas through class discussions.
- We will gain a deeper understanding of the importance of the relationship between past events and the historical context in which they occurred.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board of Texas has also identified the following as objectives for core classes in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. To examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.
3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

5. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study.
6. To comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.
7. To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world.
8. To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view.
9. To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research.
10. To analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems.
11. To recognize and assume one's responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy.
12. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

**Required Readings:** History is a reading and writing intensive subject. It is imperative that you cover the assigned readings prior to class so that you can derive the full value from the lecture and to participate effectively in the discussions. There is one required text on order in the South Plains College bookstore. Additional readings may be handed out in class or made available on Blackboard.

1. David Emory Shi, *America: A Narrative History, Vol. I*, Brief 11th Ed., ISBN 978-0-393-66896-4

### **Grading:**

Grades will be determined as follows:

Chapter Quizzes (11 @ 10 points each)	110
Constitution Quiz	20
Film Papers (2 @ 20 points each)	40
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Exam 4	100
Final Writing Assignment	100
Personal Responsibility	20
	<b>690 total points</b>

I will grade on the following scale:

690-621 pts (100%-90%)	=	A
620-552 pts (89.9%-80%)	=	B
551-483 pts (79.9%-70%)	=	C
482-414 pts (69.9%-60%)	=	D
413-0 pts (59.9%-0%)	=	F

### **Examinations:**

I will allow students to take **ONE** make-up exam during the semester. **The make-up exam will consist of 5 essay questions worth 20 points each.** The make-up exam will be given as arranged between instructor and student. You are allowed to take **ONE** make-up exam during the semester. If you miss two scheduled exams, you **must** provide documentation of your emergency for the second missed exam.

You will receive a study guide approximately one week before each exam. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions and essay questions.

If you arrive late for an exam, you will only be allowed to work on your exam until the last student who arrived **on time** completes his/her exam.

### **Quizzes:**

There will be eleven announced quizzes. All quizzes will be taken from the textbook and will be available through Blackboard. Quiz deadlines are found in the Schedule of Assignments at the end of the syllabus.

### **Academic Writing:**

South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.

### **Writing Assignment:**

Students will be required to complete one writing assignment this semester. I will announce details of the writing assignment in class.

Formatting of your writing assignment must be as follows:

Writing assignments will be graded on proper grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc. The font must either be Times New Roman 12 or Arial 11. All margins must be 1." The text of your assignment must be double-spaced. There will be a 5 point deduction for each formatting instruction not followed. Assignments are due by **11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2.** No late work will be accepted.

Papers will be uploaded as an attachment through the writing assignment submission link in Blackboard.

**Late Assignment Policy:**

Late work is not allowed unless there is a documented emergency or illness. The student **must** contact the instructor prior to the deadline about the emergency or illness in order to submit the assignment late.

**Student Privacy:**

South Plains College is bound by the Texas Open Records Law and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information regarding these topics can be found in the South Plains College Catalog. As far as this class is concerned, I will **NOT** release or discuss your class performance, grades, averages, or attendance with anyone but you. This means that your parents, class counselors, principals, or any other interested party will not gain this information from me – if they need this sort of information they must ask you for it.

**Civility/Academic Dishonesty:**

Most students have a good sense of proper classroom behavior and seek to earn grades through their own efforts. Unfortunately, I occasionally encounter students who treat both myself and their peers disrespectfully, and who attempt to get through my courses through dubious means. Let me state my policy on these issues clearly:

**A. Classroom Civility:**

1. I expect you to show up on time and to pay attention while you are here.
2. I expect you to treat your instructor and peers with respect—and you should expect, and will receive, the same from me.
3. I expect you to stay awake in class. If you fall asleep, it is as if you are not in class and points will be deducted from your class participation grade.
4. Types of in-class behavior I will not tolerate: repeated lateness to class, carrying on conversations with your neighbors, reading your cell phone, **ringing/answering cell phones, text-messaging**, wearing earbuds, or any other activity I view as disruptive or disrespectful to either me or your peers.

Students who choose to act in a disruptive manner will be asked to leave, and their grades will be lowered significantly.

- B. Academic Dishonesty:** I have zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism, and will deal with these circumstances in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the South Plains College Policy & Procedures Manual, Section FF. **This will mean a failing grade on the exam/quiz/assignment in question at the minimum, and can entail failure of the course and/or expulsion from the college.** I take this stuff seriously. So should you.

Plagiarism is included, but not limited to, copying answers from another student's exam, submitting a paper written by someone other than you, writing an exam essay outside of class, and/or essays and writing assignments copied (in whole or in part) directly from a website, book, journal, etc.

### **Diversity Statement**

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

### **Disabilities Statement**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

### **Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Chris Straface, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cstraface@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cstraface@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

### **SPC COVID-19 Policy**

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in

dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation.

### **Campus Concealed Carry**

South Plains College permits the lawful carry of concealed handguns in accordance with Texas state law, and Texas Senate Bill 11. Individuals possessing a valid License to Carry permit, or the formerly issued Concealed Handgun License, may carry a concealed handgun at all campus locations except for the following.

- Natatorium

For a complete list of campus carry exclusions zones by event, please

visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 911.

### **Personal Responsibility:**

Due to COVID-19, I will not include an attendance grade as part of your final grade in this course. There are, however, 20 points available for you to earn by coming to class prepared (i.e. wearing an appropriate mask as required by South Plains College) and communicating with the instructor in the event you are unable to make it to your designated class day. If you do not remember your mask or fail to communicate with me about missed classes, points will be deducted from your personal responsibility score.

**Syllabus subject to change at instructor's discretion.**



## Schedule of Exams and Assignments

Week of January 19:	Introduction Chapter 1: The Collision of Cultures
<b>January 24:</b>	<b>Chapter 1 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of January 25:	Chapter 2: England's Colonies
<b>January 31:</b>	<b>Chapter 2 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b> <b>Portrait of Colonial Life paper due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of February 1:	Chapter 3: Colonial Ways of Life Chapter 4: From Colonies to States
<b>February 7:</b>	<b>Chapter 3 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of February 8:	Chapter 5: The American Revolution
<b>February 14:</b>	<b>Chapter 5 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Week of February 15:</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>
Week of February 22:	Chapter 6: Strengthening the New Nation <b>Constitution Film Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>February 28:</b>	<b>Chapter 6 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of March 1:	Chapter 7: The Early Republic
<b>March 7:</b>	<b>Chapter 7 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Week of March 8:</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>
<b>March 15-19:</b>	<b>Spring Break!</b>
Week of March 22:	Chapter 8: The Emergence of a Market Economy Chapter 9: Nationalism and Sectionalism
<b>March 28:</b>	<b>Chapter 8 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b> <b>Bill of Rights Paper due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of March 29:	Chapter 10: The Jacksonian Era Chapter 11: The South, Slavery, and King Cotton
<b>April 4:</b>	<b>Chapter 11 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of April 5:	Chapter 12: Religion, Romanticism, and Reform Chapter 13: Western Expansion Chapter 14: The Gathering Storm

<b>April 11:</b>	<b>Chapter 12 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Week of April 12:</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>
Week of April 19:	Chapter 15: The War of the Union
<b>April 25:</b>	<b>Chapter 15 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
Week of April 26:	Chapter 16: The Era of Reconstruction
<b>May 2:</b>	<b>Chapter 16 Quiz due at 11:59 p.m.</b>
<b>Week of May 3:</b>	<b>Exam 4</b>
<b>May 10:</b>	<b>Final Paper due at 11:59 p.m.</b>

## Statement of Personal Responsibility (Student Copy)

Successful completion of this course depends on the student accepting personal responsibility for:

- following the guidelines of the syllabus,
- attending class (arriving on time) with an attitude to actively participate in the classroom learning experience and intellectually acquire the material presented, without texting or messaging during class,
- setting aside adequate study time to read and prepare for classes,
- budgeting sufficient time in advance of exams and the research paper due dates to successfully accomplish each course requirement,
- evaluating personal performance as reflected in each individual grade received and the cumulative effect of those grades on the successful completion of this course,
- taking responsibility for strategies and tasks which will improve study skills and habits during this semester,
- and accepting personal responsibility for the choices, actions, and consequences made as a student of this history course.

I, \_\_\_\_\_(printed name), have read the entire syllabus for Mrs. Roberts' history course, and understand the contents, requirements and obligations. I agree to accept personal responsibility for my performance as a student in this course and the consequences for my decisions and actions.

(Signature)\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Course, Section \_\_\_\_\_

*This signed Statement of Personal Responsibility must be returned to the instructor by the end of class on January 27, 2021. Failure to return the signed Statement may result in the student being dropped from the class with an "X" on or about the Official 4<sup>th</sup> Class Day. If you have any questions regarding the syllabus and course requirements, please contact **Mrs. Roberts** to resolve your concerns. Examine the syllabus thoroughly to ensure you will have no conflicts which may prevent successful completion all of the requirements.*

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