



**U.S. HISTORY TO 1877  
Hist. 1301.02E  
Course Syllabus: Spring 2020**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Judy Ann Ford  
Office Location: SS 126  
Office Hours: Mon. 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM; 2:00 – 4:00 PM  
Wed. and Fri. 11:45 AM – 12:45 AM, or by appointment  
Office Phone: (903) 886-5546  
University Email Address: [Judy.Ford@tamuc.edu](mailto:Judy.Ford@tamuc.edu)  
Class room and time: SS150, MWF 10:00 – 10:50 AM

Email is best; I typically respond to email within 12 to 36 hours during the week; expect a longer response-time during the weekend.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

**A. BOOKS REQUIRED**

*The American Yawp*. Edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright. Accessed August 4, 2016.  
<http://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>. We will be using both the textbook and the reader. These books are free, online sources.

**B. FILM**

For the paper, each student will watch one movie from a list of twenty choices. No substitutions!

**Course Description**

History 1301 is a broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America to 1877. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
2. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
3. Students will understand and practice academic honesty.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

You must be able to use the learning management system and Microsoft Word. All materials submitted through D2L must be composed in MS Word.

### **Instructional Methods**

The course will require reading, listening to lectures, watching slides and videos in class, and participating in discussion threads in D2L.

### **Learning Activities and Assessments**

#### **1. Exams**

There will be a mid-term and a final exam. Each exam will consist entirely of multiple-choice questions.

The exams will draw upon lectures, all material presented in class, and all assigned reading material. Answers must be written in ink either in a blue book or on lined paper. No work in pencil will be accepted.

There is a review of the main ideas of each unit in the online course shell. The class prior to each exam will be a review session.

Students who miss the mid-term may make it up during the final week of classes.

## 2. Discussion Threads

Students are required to participate in five asynchronous class discussions in D2L based on assigned readings in the *American Yawp Reader*.

In a week with a discussion, the discussion thread will open on **Sunday morning at 9:00 AM**.

For full credit, students must make a substantial post a minimum of three times in each thread. Of the three minimum posts, one must be a response to the prompt and two must be responses to other students' posts. Students will not be able to see each other's posts until they make their first post.

Your response to the prompt must be made by **midnight on Wednesday**. Your responses to other students' posts can be made at any time prior to the thread's closing at **midnight on Saturday**.

Students must make substantive remarks in their three required posts. Substantive means that a student's initial answer to the prompt is lengthy enough to answer the question using evidence from the reading assignment and that the student's responses to classmates are thoughtful and engaging—that is, **more than a one- or two-sentence response**. This assignment is on-going, which means that students should log in daily, or nearly daily, to read their classmates' responses and post replies to those comments, and students should not wait until the final day of the discussion to post their comments. That delay is not conducive to accomplishing the mission of a class discussion.

In addition to the three required posts, students may post as many times as they wish.

The following rubric will be used to grade class discussions:

*46 - 50 points* = Contributions are factually accurate, prompt, timely and balanced throughout the assigned discussion period, devoid of irrelevant personal opinions; student asks questions and answers inquiries.

*40-45 points* = Posts are generally accurate but lack analysis or miss significant points; responses are brief; interacts with only a few classmates.

*30 – 39 points* = Comments reflect a lack of critical analysis and/or contain factual inaccuracies; participation is spotty; picks and chooses topics to get involved in; offers short, perfunctory postings when prompted; takes limited initiative.

*Below 30 points* = Student demonstrates very little understanding of the material; makes short, irrelevant remarks; does not participate regularly.

Do not feel pressure to agree with your classmates; you can disagree with them and use evidence—not simply your opinion—to support your conclusions. Be polite and respectful to others.

### 3. Movie Review

Each student will write a three-page review of one of the following movies using the format described below. The paper must use one-inch margins, a 12-point font, and be double spaced. Number the pages.

The review must be all your own work. **Do not quote or paraphrase the words of anyone else.**

Late papers will be accepted only in very unusual cases, such as a serious hospitalization. Requests for extensions will be considered, if made by email prior to the due date.

All papers must be submitted through D2L.

Many movies use the same title. Make sure you have the right movie by checking its release date. No substitutions.

*1492: Conquest of Paradise* (1992) PG-13

*The New World* (2005) PG-13

*The Mission* (1986) PG

*Black Robe* (1991) R

*The Scarlet Letter* (1995) R

*The Last of the Mohicans* (1992) R

*1776* (1972) [G, Musical]

*The Crossing* (2000) TV

*Jefferson in Paris* (1995) PG-13

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* (2007) TV-14

*The Alamo* (2004) PG-13

*12 Years a Slave* (2013) R

*Amistad* (1997) R

*Ride with the Devil* (1999) R

*Glory* (1989) R

*Lincoln* (2012) PG-13

*Cold Mountain* (2003) R

*Dances with Wolves* (1990) PG-13

*Free State of Jones* (2016) R

*Little Women* (1994) PG

### Format for Movie Review

#### PAGE ONE

1. HEADING: The heading should be centered and in the following format:

Your Name  
*Movie Title* (movie date)  
History 1301  
The date of submission

2.BACKGROUND/SUBJECT: Describe the major event or development associated with the film. State the time period (year, decades, etc.), the event or situation the movie is based on or used as a background, the location of the movie. This part should be one paragraph.

4. MAJOR CHARACTERS: Identify the major characters/participants. These should include the main protagonist, the main antagonist, and the major supporting characters

who are significant to development of the story. Provide a brief description of each as in name, purpose, and role. This part should be one paragraph.

5. SUMMARY: Provide a one-paragraph summary of the story. This part should be one paragraph.

## **PAGE TWO**

**HISTORICAL ACCURACY:** Were the movie characters based on actual people? If so, who were they? Were they portrayed treated accurately? Were there any real events (battles, protests, laws, etc.)? If so, were they historically accurate? If there were fictional characters or events, it was probably a conscious decision on the part of the writers and director. Try to analyze why fictional characters or events were depicted. Organize this page into at least two paragraphs

## **PAGE THREE**

**EVALUATION:** Provide an evaluation of the film. Don't say "I liked it because it was a good movie" or "I hated it because it was boring." Examine the strengths and weaknesses of the movie. Which actors did a good job and which were inadequate? Were there places where the plot was weak? If the film was made many years ago, would it be done differently now? Why? What would have made the film better? Would you recommend the film to another student? Use examples from the film to support your points. Organize this page into at least two paragraphs.

The following rubric will be used to grade paper:

A = Follows all instructions; follows the format; accurate; insightful; well-organized paragraphs; generally correct mechanics.

B = Follows all instructions; follows the format; few errors regarding accuracy; well-expressed; some organizational weaknesses; generally correct mechanics.

C = Follows all instructions; some mistakes in following format; few errors regarding accuracy; some organizational weaknesses; some errors in mechanics.

D = Does not follow all instructions; several errors in regard to format; or is weak regarding accuracy, organization, or mechanics.

F = Does not follow all instructions; several errors in regard to format; not required length; errors in accuracy; poor organization; several errors in mechanics; quotes or paraphrases

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Please read the syllabus and adhere to the schedule. Attend class. Regularly logging into the course website is highly recommended. Students should read all assigned material. Professional and polite interactions with everyone in the class is expected.

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

900-1000	=	A
800-899.9	=	B
700-799.9	=	C
600-699.9	=	D
599.9 or less	=	F

### THIS COURSE USES A POINT-BASED SYSTEM

Mid-term	250
Final	250
Discussion threads 5 @ 50 points each	250
Paper	<u>250</u>

Total: 1000 points

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

I hold five office hours each week on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. Office hours are the best time to see me.

Please do not try to discuss your work or your circumstances with me as I am walking in or out of class, setting up the computer equipment, or packing up.

If you need to reach me outside of class or office hours, please use email. I typically respond to email within 12 to 36 hours during the week. Expect a longer response-time during the weekend.

If you need to see me in person and you cannot see me during office hours, please send me an email so that we can make an appointment.

When sending an email always do the following:

- 1) Use a subject line. This tells me what the topic is and prevents your message from ending up in my junk mail.
- 2) Include your class and section (or class time). I need to know exactly which of my courses you are in.
- 3) End the email with your name, that is “sign” your message. I also need to know who you are.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

#### **Late Work:**

Unless something really catastrophic has happened that prevents all access to computers, including those on campus and in public libraries, late work will not be accepted in the discussion threads. Papers, on the other hand, as they don't detract from the quality of the class experience for the other students, are more likely to be granted extensions. Please email me to let me know what is going on and request an extension **before the due date**. Without an extension, late papers will not be accepted except in the event of a major catastrophe.

#### **Plagiarism Policy:**

In all courses, I expect that all work that you turn in is your own. It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and me that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Academic dishonesty may result in a grade of zero for the assignment or in a failing grade for the entire course. Plagiarism is defined as taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is the selling or sharing of academic products with the intention that they be submitted to satisfy an academic requirement.

#### **Extra Credit:**

The extra credit in this course is a quiz in D2L. There is no other extra credit.

#### **Attendance Policy:**

As the instructor of this section, I allow students to attend class at their own discretion, but students should keep in mind that if you miss a class it is your responsibility to gather class notes from a classmate. There is no grade for attendance and excuses for absences are not required.

#### **Laptop and Other Electronics Policy:**

I prefer for electronic devices to be used solely for note taking. If I feel you are using a device for something other than taking notes you may be asked to power the device down.



**Student Behavior:**

Behavior which may result in your being asked to leave the room includes, but is not limited to: talking during lectures, movies or clips; text messaging, gaming, playing with your phone; and using electronic devices other than for specified activities.

**Instructions for in-class exams:**

Bring an ink pen and lined paper. Bring as few belongings to class as possible on exam days and arrive on time. All cell phones and other electronics (including smart watches) must be off and stored away from your desk.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:**

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance with drafting their papers. The Writing Center is a resource for you. The tutors will not write your paper; they will help you improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, please plan ahead. They can only help you if you see them in advance and have time to incorporate their suggestions into the final paper.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced as soon as possible.

## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

#### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

### WEEK ONE January 13 - 17

- Monday: review syllabus, discuss course
- Begin Unit One: *The American Yawp*, chs. 1- 3

### WEEK TWO January 20 - 24

- **No class meetings on January 20th**
- Continue Unit One
- First discussion thread. Read “Bartolomé de Las Casas describes the exploitation of indigenous peoples, 1542” in *The American Yawp Reader*, ch. 1 “The New World,” then participate in the D2L discussion. Remember you need to post three times.

### WEEK THREE January 27 - 31

- Complete Unit One
- Begin Unit Two: *The American Yawp*, chs. 4 – 6

### WEEK FOUR February 3 - 7

- Continue Unit Two

### WEEK FIVE February 10 - 14

- Complete Unit Two
- Second discussion thread. Read “Extracts from Gibson Clough’s war journal, 1759” in *The American Yawp Reader*, ch. 4 “Colonial Society,” then participate in the D2L discussion. Remember you need to post three times.

### WEEK SIX February 17 - 21

- Review Day is Wednesday, Feb. 19
- **Mid-term on Friday, Feb. 21, chapters 1-6**

### WEEK SEVEN February 24 - 28

- Begin Unit Three: *The American Yawp*, chs. 7 – 9

### WEEK EIGHT March 2 - 6

- Continue Unit Three
- Third discussion thread. Read “George Washington, ‘Farewell Address,’ 1796” in *The American Yawp Reader*, ch. 6 “A New Nation,” then participate in the D2L discussion. Remember you need to post three times.

### WEEK NINE March 9 - 13

- **SPRING BREAK**

### WEEK TEN March 16 - 20

- Complete Unit Three
- Begin Unit Four: *The American Yawp*, chs. 10 -12

- Fourth discussion thread. Read “Alexis de Toqueville, ‘How Americans Understand the Equality of the Sexes,’ 1840” in *The American Yawp Reader*, ch. 8 “The Market Revolution,” then participate in the D2L discussion. Remember you need to post three times.

**WEEK ELEVEN**     March 23 - 27

- Continue Unit Four

**WEEK TWELVE**     March 30 – April 3

- Continue Unit Four
- Fifth discussion thread. Read “Solomon Northrup describes a slave market, 1841” in *The American Yawp Reader*, ch. 11 “The Cotton Revolution,” then participate in the D2L discussion. Remember you need to post three times.

**WEEK THIRTEEN**     April 6 - 10

- Complete Unit Four
- Begin Unit Five: The American Yawp, chs. 13 – 15
- **Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>: paper due in the online course shell by 11:50 PM**

**WEEK FOURTEEN**     April 13 - 17

- Continue Unit Five

**WEEK FIFTEEN**     April 20 - 24

- Complete Unit Five

**WEEK SIXTEEN**     April 27 – May 1

- Review Day is Wednesday, April 27
- **Missed midterm makeups during class hours, Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**FINAL EXAM WEEK**

- **The final exam is Monday, May 4th, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM, on chapters 7-15**