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## **HIST 1301 07B US History to 1877**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Lydia Towns

Office Location: NA

Office Hours: 9-9:30 am TTR or by appointment, preferably on Tuesdays/Thursdays

Office Phone: NA

Office Fax: NA

University Email Address:

Preferred Form of Communication: **Email**

Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Supplementary Readings

Textbook Required: *American Yawp*, vol. 1 <https://www.americanyawp.com/>  
(this is an Open Educational Resource available online.)

Supplemental Material: Provided in weekly folders online by the instructor. This will include short primary documents and articles.

Software Required: Microsoft Word or compatible program

### **Course Description**

**Student Learning Outcomes** (Should be measurable; observable; use action verbs)

1. Students will be able to form substantive and evidence-driven arguments to propose solutions to problems or explain phenomena.

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2. Students will be able to identify and evaluate social, cultural, political and reform movements in American history.
3. Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose and message.
4. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.
5. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.
6. Students will learn how to engage other perspectives and opinions in a respectful, analytical manner.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

You must have access to strong, reliable internet for this course. We will be meeting virtually and will complete in class assignments daily. This requires reliable internet. Our textbook is an online resource and you will need to be able to access it on a regular basis.

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

- Ability to navigate D2L Brightspace and complete assignments online
- Ability to use Microsoft Word, or similar programs, to complete the midterm and final essay assignments.

### **Instructional Methods**

This class is lecture based. All assignments will be online and will be based on lecture materials, the textbook, and assigned supplementary readings such as short primary source documents and articles.

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

It is the student's responsibility to complete all readings and assignments by the stated due dates. Students are responsible for attending class every class session and actively participating with the class by completing the Participation assignments and Historical Engagement assignments in class. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor if they are experiencing a technical issue when submitting a major assignment, or if they can not make it to class for a university approved reason.

## **GRADING**

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

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A = 90%-100%  
B = 80%-89%  
C = 70%-79%  
D = 60%-69%  
F = 59% or Below

Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade.

Quizzes	20%
Participation	10%
Critical Thinking	10%
Historical Engagement	20%
Exams	40%
TOTAL	100%

### **Assessments**

As you move through the course materials (the history under study), you will have several ways to interact with the materials, instructor, and your fellow students through a variety of assignments. (The Instructor reserves the right to adjust the number of assignments as the semester progresses) There are five categories of assignments:

- Quizzes- 20%
  - Quizzes will be mostly multiple choice and will be scattered throughout the semester. All quizzes will be online and are marked on the course schedule. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
- Participation Assignments-10%
  - There will be a variety of daily “participation assignments.” These will include; short answer and multiple-choice questions, as well as surveys and active class participation. These are all in-class assignments that are used to help measure attendance and active participation with the lectures. These assignments cannot be made up if missed. The lowest three grades for this section will be dropped.
- Critical Thinking- 10%
  - These assignments are designed to prepare you to think historically and critically, as well as to help you understand the historical process. These assignments are critical to your preparation for later writing assignments.
- Historical Engagement Exercises- 20%
  - Each week there will be an online folder with supplemental reading assignments for the week, historical engagement assignments will be based on this material. These will include; primary source activities, reaction papers, discussion boards, and other activities. These assignments are designed to actively engage the students with the material, enhance analytical and critical thinking, and encourage class participation and attendance.

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- Exams- 40%
  - The Mid-Term Essay is an open-book, open-note essay. It is worth 20% of your final grade. This essay will require both secondary and primary sources and the use of proper Chicago/Turabian style footnote citations.
  - The **Final Comprehensive Essay** is the open-book, open-note essay. It is worth 20% of your semester grade. This essay will require both secondary and primary sources and the use of proper Chicago/Turabian style footnote citations.
  - **Both exams are to be turned in via Turnitin. Emailed submissions will not be accepted.**

## 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.

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## 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

Students are encouraged to interact with the instructor as much as possible. This includes setting up virtual meetings with the instructor, asking relevant questions during class lectures, or emailing the instructor. Regular communication is key to a healthy learning environment.

I am more than willing to set up virtual meetings with you. I will check my email on a regular basis and do my best to respond to your inquiry within 24-48 hours. (this might take longer on the weekend).

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

**Respectful Learning Environment-** The study of history requires us to learn how to interact with cultures, perspectives and opinions that differ from our own. It is a goal of this class to help you, the student, learn to do this in a respectful manner. As such, students are expected to interact with other students and their instructor in a respectful, reasonable manner. Disrespectful, belligerent behavior will not be tolerated in this class. Such behavior will result in deduction of points for the assignment and can result in a grade of 0 for the assignment.

**Late Work Policy-** All assignments will be submitted online. Quizzes and major assignments will remain open for 24 hours after the due date, late submissions will be deducted one letter grade. Once the online link closes it will not reopen. NO late work accepted for Participation assignments. You must be in class the day of to complete these assignments.

**Plagiarism-** Acts of plagiarism result in an automatic 0 for the assignment and can result in an F for the semester grade. Plagiarism on the Final exam automatically results in an F for the course.

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## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## **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](#)  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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.

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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.

## Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

### COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

#### Tentative Schedule of Assignments:

(Note: This schedule does not show folder readings, each week there will be a folder with assigned primary source readings)

Week 1- January 12, 14	Introduction to History,	Read material in the Critical Thinking modules <b>Icebreaker, Critical Thinking Exercises 1 &amp; 2 due before class Thursday</b> <b>Syllabus Quiz &amp; Critical Thinking Exercises 3 &amp; 4 due Friday by midnight.</b>
Week 2- January 19, 21	Exploration	Ch. 1 <b>Online Quiz due Friday</b>
Week 3- January 26, 28	Colonization	Ch. 2
Week 4, February 2, 4	Colonial Slave trade and 18 <sup>th</sup> cent. Culture	Ch. 3.I-II & Ch. 4.I-IV <b>Online Quiz due Friday</b>
Week 5, February 9, 11	Century at War	Ch. 3.III, V, Ch. 4.V- Conclusion, Ch. 5.I-IV <b>Online Quiz due Friday</b>

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Week 6, February 16, 18	American Revolution	Ch. 5.V-Conclusion
Week 7, February 23, 25	The Great Experiment in Government	Ch. 6.I-VI
Week 8, March 2, 4	The Young Nation	Ch. 6.VII-Conclusion <b>Midterm due Friday by midnight</b>
Week 9, March 9, 11	Jefferson's Presidency and the War of 1812	Ch. 7
Week 10, March 16, 18	Rise of Nationalism and the Market Revolution	Ch. 8 <b>Quiz due Friday</b>
Week 11, March 23, 25	Mass Democracy	Ch. 9 & Ch. 12.II
Week 12, March 30, April 1	Age of Reforms & "That Peculiar Institution"	Ch. 10 & 11 <b>Quiz due Friday</b>
Week 13, April 6, 8	Manifest Destiny & The Sectional Crisis	Ch. 12 & Ch. 13
Week 14, April 13, 15	The Final Straw-Civil War	Ch. 14 <b>Quiz due Friday</b>
Week 15, April 20, 22	Reconstruction	Ch. 15
Week 16, FINALS WEEK	FINALS WEEK	<b>FINAL DUE April 29</b>

*I reserve the right to modify this schedule should it be in the best interest of the class.  
-Dr. Towns*

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