

# **HIST-1301 United States History to 1877**

Course Syllabus: Spring 2020

## **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Jason Thomason

Class Meetings: MWF

Office Location: Rm 111

Office Hours: M-F 7:15 - 7:45, 10:30a-11:15a

Office Phone: (903) 527-3164

Office Fax: (903) 527-4772

University Email Address: Jason.Thomason@tamuc.edu

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials - Spiral Notebook, Pen/Pencil, Pocket Folder for Supplementary Readings, Highlighter

Hewitt, Nancy A. and Steven F. Lawson. Exploring American Histories, Combined Volume: A Brief Survey with Sources. Boston: Bedford Books, 2012. ISBN 978-0-312-40998-2

Additional primary sources will be assigned from Opposing Viewpoints in American History Volume 1

## **Course Description**

HIST-1301 is a survey of American history from Pre-Columbian contact to Post-Civil War Reconstruction. The course will focus on the major characteristics of the following historical eras: Pre-Columbian American Indian and African societal development; European societal and economical development and colonization; American

independence; development of the Constitution; Jeffersonian Democracy; expansion of territory; Jacksonian Democracy; slavery; and Civil War and Reconstruction.

## **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 awareness of societal and/or civic issues.

## **Course Requirements**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students need to be able to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs.

### **Instructional Methods**

The student will be exposed to various forms of learning in the form of teacher-led, student-led, peer-to-peer, supplementary readings.

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

To ensure success in this class students need to regularly log into the course website, stay disciplined with the daily readings and research paper checkpoints, as well as participate in the class discussions.

## **Grading**

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

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

## **Grade Breakdown**

Midterm - 20%

Quizzes - 25%

Research Paper - 30%

Semester Final - 25%

## **Assessments**

Students will take a midterm and a final exam with the midterm being worth 20% and the Final Exam worth 25%.

3/2/20 - Midterm Exam

5/1/20 - Final Exam

**Student Responsibility Sheet:** The Student Responsibility Sheet will be issued and returned during the first week of class. The purpose of the Student Responsibility Sheet is to assess the student's role in their education. Failure to return the Student Responsibility Sheet by the end of the first week will result in a failure for the class, regardless of other completed work. Late submissions will not be accepted.

**Absence Policy:** Absences will not count against student grades. However, attendance is expected in order to do well in the course. Attendance policies will mirror those expected for Caddo Mills High School students. Assignments missed because of school-related or medical absences can be submitted the next school day. Assignments missed for other reasons will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor.

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>

**Reading Assignments:** Students will be given weekly reading selections that are to be completed at the end of each week. Students need to be prepared to read each night as this class is a fast-paced course. Students will be given a quiz on the first day of each week over the previous week's readings.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given on the first school day of each week in order to make

sure that the student is staying up on their reading assignments and staying engaged in the content. Quizzes will be over the previous week's readings. Quizzes will be performed online and will be due by 11:59 pm.

**Exams and Final:** Will be 5 short essay questions.

**Biographical Essay:** One biographical essay will be assigned for this course. Students will choose one historical figure from U.S. History to 1877 and write a three to five page paper that argues why that person is important to our study of American history. The essay must focus on the impact of the individual and contain valid arguments backed up by research cited according to the Works Cited handout. Submission dates and guidelines for the topics, bibliography, rough draft, and final draft will appear on supplementary handouts. All elements of the biographical essay must be submitted on time, in hard copy form. If a student knows that he/she will not be present to turn in the essay on time, they must submit it before the due date. Late submissions due to unforeseen emergencies will be at the discretion of the instructor.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

## Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest

Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or <b>point</b> release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.  Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection.

The minimum computer requirements are:

- 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
    - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
    - Speakers or headphones.
    - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
  - Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
  - Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing.

Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:

- [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (*version 17 or later*) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
- [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
- [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **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**

## **Brightspace Support**

### **Need Help?**

### **Student 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 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.

### **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Students will be able to receive feedback on quizzes/projects/discussions through MyLeo Online and also by email [jason.thomason@tamuc.edu](mailto:jason.thomason@tamuc.edu).

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

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

Attendance will be taken everyday and late work will not be accepted except for extenuating circumstances.

### **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: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

## 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>

## **ADA Statement**

### **Students with Disabilities**

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**

- Week 1: New World Orders
- Week 2: English Colonization and Colonial Societies
- Week 3: Frontiers of Empire
- Week 4: The American Revolution
- Week 5: The Republican Experiment
- Week 6: Establishment of Political Parties
- Week 7-8: Jeffersonian Democracy
- Week 9: SPRING BREAK
- Week 10: Nation Building and Nationalism
- Week 11: Jacksonian Democracy/The Pursuit of Perfection
- Week 12: Age of Expansion/Slavery
- Week 13: Sectional Crisis
- Week 14: Secession and Civil War
- Week 15: Reconstruction
- Week 16: FINALS WEEK