

HIST 1301: US History to 1877
Spring 2021

Instructor: Matt Brewer
Class Time: Section CFE (Pride Prep) will **meet virtually via Zoom** and in person on MWF 7:30 am to 8:20 am.
Section 92E will meet in person on MWF during the time scheduled by Commerce High School.
The virtual meetings will be recorded and posted in D2L for students unable to attend.
Class Location: Commerce High School, Room C123
Office Location: Commerce High School, Room C123
Office Hours: TR 7:30 am to 8:00 am; MTWRF Lunch; MTWRF 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm
Please notify me if you would like to schedule a meeting during office hours, and I will set up the meeting via Zoom.
Instructor e-mail: matthew.brewer@tamuc.edu

Email is my preferred method of communication. I will respond within 24 hours.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials

Locke, Joseph and Ben Wright, eds. *The American Yawp*. <http://www.americanyawp.com/>
Additional, free sources will be assigned from the internet.

Course Description:

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. Prerequisites: ENG 1301 or concurrent enrollment or ENG 1302 or concurrent enrollment.

Student Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.

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.

Students will understand and practice academic honesty.

Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.

Course Objectives:

1. Analyze how the pursuit of economic, social, and religious liberty led to the colonization of the Americas and the impact it had on the liberty of American Indians and Africans;

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

2. Contrast the concepts of liberty in the colonial societies of New England and the Chesapeake;
3. Analyze how a lack of political and economic liberty led to the American Revolution, the creation of the Constitution, and an evolving democracy that expanded liberty to more Americans;
4. Contrast how westward expansion expanded economic liberty for white Americans, while empowering the expansion of slavery.
5. Contrast the arguments for and against slavery and the expansion of slavery through the Civil War and Reconstruction

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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. It will be assigned through the D2L portal.

Absence Policy:

Absences will not count against student grades. However, attendance, whether in-person or online, is expected in order to do well in the course.

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>

Instructional Methods:

Students must log into their [MyLeo](#) account and access the class through the D2L portal using their CWID. The CWID is the student's campus-wide identification number that they should have received when they were accepted to the university. If students have trouble logging in, they should contact the tech support listed on the login page. The instructor is not tech support.

In the D2L portal, students will find materials posted for each class session. Students will use the lecture notes to answer the assigned lecture questions. Students will read primary sources, read news articles, and/or watch news clips and compare them to the lecture notes.

The class will meet virtually in Zoom or in person during the scheduled class times to discuss the material assigned for that class day.

Exams:

Students will complete four multiple choice exams during the semester. The exam questions will come from the lecture questions provided for each class session. The exams are not cumulative. The exams will be completed in the D2L portal. The exams will have 50 questions each. Students will have up to 60 minutes to complete Exams 1-3. Students will have 120 minutes for Exam 4, since it occurs during finals week. The due dates for the exams are listed in the course outline at the end of the syllabus. No late exams will be accepted.

Response Papers:

Students will complete four 300 word response papers that connect the primary source readings, news readings, and news videos to the lecture notes. The response papers will be submitted through the D2L portal as a PDF file. The due dates for the response papers are listed in the course outline at the end of the syllabus. No late submissions will be accepted.

Biographical Essay:

One biographical essay will be assigned for this course. Students will choose one historical figure from the time frame of the course and write a three to five page essay that argues why that person is important in studying 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. All components of the essay, except the topic, will be submitted through D2L as a PDF file. Submission dates are listed in the course outline. Guidelines for the topic, bibliography, rough draft, and final draft will appear on supplementary handouts. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Grade Breakdown:

4 Exams = 30% of total grade

4 Response Papers = 35% of total grade

Biographical Essay = 35% of total grade

 Topic = 10% of essay grade

 Bibliography = 10% of essay grade

 Rough Draft = 40% of essay grade

 Final Draft = 40% of essay grade

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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 point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point 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

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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 \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](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.

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

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Students should visit the instructor during office hours if there are any issues. Students can also contact the instructor through e-mail and can expect a 24 hour turnaround in reply.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism (passing someone else’s work off as your own), cheating, or other academic dishonest behavior will lead to disciplinary action. Do not do it. 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>

The Writing Center: The Writing Center assists students with their written assignments. The staff at the Writing Center will not do your work for you, but they can offer great assistance in giving students direction and suggestions to form a well-crafted response to the class writing assignments. The Writing Center can be reached at 903-886-5280 and is located in the Hall of Language, room 103.

The Americans with Disabilities Act:

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 132 Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148 StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu.

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.

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/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

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

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.

However, on the Commerce High School campus, firearms are prohibited, with the exception of law enforcement officers.

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

Tentative Course Outline (The instructor reserves the right to amend the course outline as circumstances warrant.):

Week 1 (Monday, January 11, 2021 to Friday, January 15, 2021): Unit 1: Settling the Americas
Monday, January 11, 2021

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

There will be no class this day because of professional development at the high school.

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

First class day

Syllabus

Student Responsibility Sheet

Week 2 (Monday, January 18, 2021 to Friday, January 22, 2021): Unit 2: English Colonization

Monday, January 18, 2021

There will be no class because the university is closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and there is professional development at the high school.

Friday, January 22, 2021

Topic for the biographical essay is due.

Week 3 (Monday, January 25, 2021 to Friday, January 29, 2021): Unit 3: Colonial Societies/Unit 4: Frontiers of Empire

Week 4 (Monday, February 1, 2021 to Friday, February 5, 2021): Unit 5: The American Revolution

Monday, February 1, 2021

Response Paper 1 is due.

Week 5 (Monday, February 8, 2021 to Friday, February 12, 2021): Unit 6: The Republican Experiment

Monday, February 8, 2021

Exam 1 is due.

Week 6 (Monday, February 15, 2021 to Friday, February 19, 2021): Unit 7: Establishment of Political Parties

Monday, February 15, 2021

All classes will be online this day because of a bad weather day.

Bibliography for biographical essay is due.

Week 7 (Monday, February 22, 2021 to Friday, February 26, 2021): Unit 8: Jeffersonian Democracy

Monday, February 22, 2021

Response Paper 2 is due.

Week 8 (Monday, March 1, 2021 to Friday, March 5, 2021): Unit 9: Nation Building and Nationalism

Monday, March 1, 2021

Exam 2 is due

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 9 (Monday, March 8, 2021 to Friday, March 12, 2021): Unit 10: Jacksonian Democracy
There will be no classes this week because of spring break at the high school.

Week 10 (Monday, March 15, 2021 to Friday, March 19, 2021): Unit 11: The Pursuit of Perfection

Monday, March 15, 2021

Rough Draft of the biographical essay is due.

Week 11 (Monday, March 22, 2021 to Friday, March 26, 2021): Unit 12: The Age of Expansion
Monday, March 22, 2021

Response Paper 3 is due.

Week 12 (Monday, March 29, 2021 to Friday, April 2, 2021): Unit 13: Slavery/Unit 14: Sectional Crisis

Monday, March 29, 2021

Exam 3 is due.

Friday, April 2, 2021

All students will be online this day because of a bad weather day at the high school.

Week 13 (Monday April 5, 2021 to Friday, April 9, 2021): Unit 14: Sectional Crisis
Friday, April 9, 2021

Final draft of the biographical essay is due.

Week 14 (Monday, April 12, 2021 to Friday, April 16, 2021): Unit 15: Secession and Civil War
All students will be online this week because classes are not held at the high school.

Week 15 (Monday, April 19, 2021 to Friday, April 23, 2021): Unit 16: Reconstruction
Monday, April 19, 2021

Response Paper 4 is due.

Friday, April 23, 2021

Last day of class

Week 16 (Monday, April 26, 2021 to Friday, April 30, 2021): Finals Week
Monday, April 26, 2021

Exam 4 is due.