



HIST 264 – 0CW A Nation Divided: American History

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Shaonda Gathright, M.S.
Office Location: Online
Office Hours: Online
University Email Address: Shaonda.Gathright@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: usually 24 hours, except weekends

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Readings- Each reading assignment will have specific instructions on how to access it. You do not need to acquire any physical books.

Software - Microsoft Word or other word processing software.

Course Description

The United States is a country characterized by diversity. Its history is the story of interactions between groups divided by race, ethnicity, language, income, religion, ideology, culture, and gender. This course explores the nature of encounters between social groups and the consequences such encounters had for American culture and politics.

This course's theme is American Identity: Exclusion and Inclusion.

Student Competencies

- 1) Students will be able analyze events and movements in American history with a view to identity and inclusion or exclusion.
- 2) Students will be able to explain causes and effects of important events and movements of United States History.
- 3) Students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.

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4) Students will be able to analyze and evaluate historical situations, events, and developments when given a set of data and/or texts.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Must be able to use Microsoft Word or other word processing software.

Instructional Methods

This is an online Competency Based Education (CBE) course. Learning activities include assorted reading and videos, quizzes, essays, and pre and posttests.

Pretest

The Pretest for this course assesses your knowledge of the historical development of the United States and North America to 1877. There are 100 points total (45 from multiple choice, 30 from short identification, and 25 from an essay). You will need a score of 80 to be able to move directly to the posttest.

The purpose of the pretest is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in this competency. The pretest is required for the course.

Module Tests

Each module has the following types of questions to test your knowledge: multiple choice quiz, short identification questions, and essays.

Quiz

You need to complete a multiple choice quiz in each module. It is a great opportunity to review what you learned in each module.

Short Identification Questions

The short identification questions require a written response, using complete sentences and appropriate grammar and punctuation. It should be one to two paragraphs in length.

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It should include the Who, What, Where, When, How, Why of the item in the prompt, as well as an explanation of its significance. Significance is the explanation of why it is worth knowing about, how it enhances our understanding of the past. You will be expected any quotes you use (see Student Responsibilities and Tips below).

Essays

Essays require a long-form written response, using complete sentences and appropriate grammar and punctuation. Expect to write 500 to 750 words to fully answer the prompt. You will be expected to cite any sources and quotes you use (see Student Responsibilities and Tips below), and to cite at least three reliable sources.

Assessment

Posttest

The posttest for this course assesses your knowledge of the historical development of the United States and North America to 1877. There are 100 points total (35 from multiple choice, 40 from short identification, and 25 from an essay).

The posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the competency. A score of 80 points or higher is required to demonstrate competency.

If you score less than 80 points, you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the competency posttest. You may take the posttest assessment up to three times. If you have not passed the competency in three attempts, you will work with an Academic Coach to determine another method of fulfilling the program requirements in this subject.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

To be successful in this course, the written assessments are critical. If you do not immediately pass the Post-Test, you will find everything you need to address the written assignments in the readings/videos for this course. Expect to spend 30 or more hours reading/listening (depending on your reading speed). You may use outside source material that you have access to, but be wary, not everything you find may be factual, reliable, and peer-reviewed. If you choose to use a quote, it should be short, no more than 2 lines. Regardless you must cite your sources. You may use any standard citation format you choose: APA, MLA, Chicago, or Turabian. If you are unfamiliar with any of these please utilize the sources provide by the University's Writing Center (<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiessocialsciencesarts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx>).

You will be expected to adhere to the standards of Academic Integrity of university and Department of History policy as linked below in the Academic Integrity subsection (page 6 of the syllabus).

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GRADING

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

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

F = 79% or Below

If the seven-week term ends and you do not complete all competencies, you will receive a grade of "F" and be required to complete the remaining competencies in the next term.

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

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.

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

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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

Expect responses to email within **24** hours and feedback on your final project within **48** hours.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

In order to demonstrate competency you must achieve 80% or higher on the posttest.

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>

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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>

[History Department Academic Integrity Policy](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/history/Current%20Students/academicIntegrityPolicy.aspx>

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

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

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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.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

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Module Topic	Materials to Read and Review	Suggested Assignments
PRETEST	NO REVIEW NEEDED	COMPLETE ON FIRST DAY
M1 – Pre-European Contact through the American Revolution	Reading assignments (5)	Quiz Short Identification Essay
M2 – End of the American Revolution through mid-19th century	Reading assignments (5) Watch videos (1)	Quiz Short Identification Essay
M3 – End of the Cotton Economy through Reconstruction	Reading assignments (6) Watch videos (2)	Quiz Short Identification Essay
POSTTEST	REVIEW ALL NECESSARY MODULES	COMPLETE BEFORE FINAL DAY 5:00PM (80 points or higher)

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