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## **HIST 1301**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2024

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Matt Brewer

Office Location: Commerce High School, Room C136

Office Hours: M-F 11:59 am to 1:03 pm; TR 7:30 am to 8:35 am, 9:28 am to 10:13 am, 2:45 pm to 3:30 pm

University Email Address: [matthew.brewer@tamuc.edu](mailto:matthew.brewer@tamuc.edu)

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

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.

#### **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

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

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 the 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**

### **Student Responsibility Sheet:**

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.

**Students are expected to turn all work in on time.**

### **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 due dates for the exams are listed in the course outline at the end of the syllabus.

### **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. The due dates for the response papers are listed in the course outline at the end of the syllabus.

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### **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 that will be provided. Components of the essay will be submitted throughout the semester. Due dates are listed in the course outline at the end of the syllabus; guidelines for the topic, bibliography, rough draft, and final draft will appear on supplementary handouts. The components of the essay will be submitted through the D2L portal.

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students will need the technical ability to navigate the D2L portal and the word processing skills needed to type up an essay.

### **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.

Students will meet during the scheduled class times to discuss the material assigned for that class day.

## **GRADING AND ASSESSMENTS**

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

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4 Exams = 30% of final grade  
4 Response Papers = 35% of final grade  
Biographical Essay = 35% of final grade  
    Topic = 10% of biographical essay grade  
    Bibliography = 10% of biographical essay grade  
    Rough Draft = 40% of biographical essay grade  
    Final Draft = 40% of biographical essay grade

**No extra credit will be given.**

## 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>

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

### **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**

Absences will not count against a student's grade. It is very important that students show up to class, or their learning will suffer.

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/rulesProcedure/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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## **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>

<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.

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## 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/rulesProcedure/s/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.

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

## Counseling Center Services

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1 (Monday, January 8 to Friday, January 12) **Unit 1 Settling the Americas**  
**Wednesday, January 10**  
**First day of class.**

Week 2 (Monday, January 15 to Friday, January 19) **Unit 1 Settling the Americas/Unit 2 English Colonization**  
**Monday, January 15**  
**Holiday/No class**

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Week 3 (Monday, January 22 to Friday, January 26) **Unit 2 English Colonization**  
**Monday, January 22**

**Topic for the Biographical Essay is due.**

Week 4 (Monday, January 29 to Friday, February 2) **Unit 3 Frontiers of Empire**  
**Monday, January 29**

**Response Paper 1 is due.**

Week 5 (Monday, February 5 to Friday, February 9) **Unit 4 The American Revolution**  
**Monday, February 5**

**Exam 1 is due.**

Week 6 (Monday, February 12 to Friday, February 16) **Unit 5 The Republican Experiment**  
**Monday, February 12**

**Bibliography for the Biographical Essay is due.**

Week 7 (Monday, February 19 to Friday, February 23) **Unit 6 Establishment of Political Parties**

**Monday, February 19**

**Response Paper 2 is due.**

Week 8 (Monday, February 26 to Friday, March 1) **Unit 7: Jeffersonian Democracy**  
**Monday, February 26**

**Exam 2 is due.**

Week 9 (Monday, March 4 to Friday, March 8) **Unit 8: Nation Building and Nationalism**  
**Monday, February 4**

**Rough Draft of the Biographical Essay is due.**

**Spring Break (Monday, March 11 to Friday, March 15)**

**There will be no classes this week because of spring break at Commerce High School.**

Week 10 (Monday, March 18 to Friday, March 22) **Unit 9: Jacksonian Democracy**  
**Monday, March 18**

**Response Paper 3 is due.**

Week 11 (Monday, March 25 to Friday, March 29) **Unit 10: The Pursuit of Perfection**  
**Monday, March 25**

**Final Draft of the Biographical Essay is due.**

**Friday, March 29**

**Bad weather day for CHS/No class unless necessary**

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Week 12 (Monday, April 1 to Friday, April 5) **Unit 11: The Age of Expansion**

Week 13 (Monday, April 8 to Friday, April 12) **Unit 12: Slavery**

**Monday, April 8**

**Teacher Day at CHS/No class**

**Exam 3 is due.**

Week 14 (Monday, April 15 to Friday, April 19) **Unit 13: Sectional Crisis**

**Monday, April 15**

**Response Paper 4 is due.**

Week 15 (Monday, April 22 to Friday, April 26) **Unit 14: Secession and Civil War**

Week 16 (Monday, April 29 to Monday, May 3) **Unit 15: Reconstruction**

**Friday, May 3**

**Last day of class.**

Week 17 (Monday, May 6 to Friday, May 10) **Finals Week**

**Monday, May 6**

**Teacher Day at CHS/No class**

**Exam 4**

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