

**Common Course Syllabus**  
**History 1301**  
Department of History

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Discipline:** History

**Course Number:** HISTORY 1301

**Course Title:** United States History I

**Credit:** 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

**Foundational Component Area of Core Curriculum:** American

**Prerequisites:** TSI compliance in Reading

**Available Formats:** Conventional, INET, ITV

**Campus:** Levelland, Reese, ATC, Plainview

**Textbook:** Varies according to instructor.

**Course Specific Instructions:** Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

**Course Description:** A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

**Course Objectives:**

1. **critical thinking:** demonstrates creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **communication:** demonstrates effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **social responsibility:** demonstrates intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **personal responsibility:** demonstrates the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**Course Purpose:** To acquaint students with the diversity of American history and to promote critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. Fundamentally, the course promotes general understanding of a body of knowledge any student know.

**Course Requirements:** To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

**Attendance Policy:** Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should demonstrate familiarity with the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. This would include the following themes:

- American settlement and diversity
- American culture
- religion
- civil and human rights
- technological change
- economic change
- immigration and migration
- creation of the federal government

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

## Classroom Syllabus

Term: Spring 2021

## I. Course: HIST 1301: United States History I

- a. Description: This course is a survey of United States history up to 1876. The course may examine such topics as the major cultural, economic, diplomatic, political, and social trends in the United States. The overall emphasis will be on understanding and interpreting history more than just the memorization of dates.

- II. Instructor: Thomas H. Payton  
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Website: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/faculty/payton-thomas.php>  
Technical Support: Email: [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu)  
Phone: 806-716-2180 (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

## III. General Course Requirements:

Textbook: America: A Narrative History, Vol. I, Brief 11<sup>th</sup> Edition. George Tindall and David Shi, ISBN # 978-0-393-66896-4. Any additional readings will either be posted within Blackboard or will come from websites I have linked to the units and will be free.

- IV. Attendance Policy: This is an online course, so there is no attendance as such. However it is expected that students will access the class at a minimum of at least once per week, excluding holidays. A STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIATING THEIR OWN WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE, if that becomes necessary. Any student who consistently misses deadlines, fails to maintain contact within the course, and/or if the instructor feels the objectives of the class will not be met due to lack of online participation within the class will be considered to have quit and may be dropped from the course. If you miss a total of **four** assignments (this includes writing assignments, discussions, and quizzes), you may be dropped from the class. Translation: stay in touch and get the work done. **One other note: failure to complete the Syllabus Quiz and Syllabus Contract on time will be taken as non-attendance in the class and you will be dropped.**

## V. Grading and Related Information, Definitions, Etc:

There is a total of 290 points possible for the course. Grades will be determined as follows:

Syllabus Quiz	20
Syllabus Contract	10
Individual Writing Assignments (7 @ 10 points each)	70
Discussion Questions (6 @ 10 points each)	60
Quizzes (13 @ 10 points each)	130
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>290</b>

I will grade on the following scale:

290 - 261 (100%-90%)	<b>A</b>
260 - 232 pts (89.9%-80%)	<b>B</b>
231 - 203 pts (79.9%-70%)	<b>C</b>
202 - 174 pts (69.9%-60%)	<b>D</b>
173 - 0 pts (59.9%-0%)	<b>F</b>

Instructor's Prerogative:

I also reserve the right to adjust quiz grades if I find that misleading questions have appeared on the test. For example, let's say that after you take the quiz, I find that 90% of you have missed a particular question. I'll review the questions and if, in my opinion, it is vague or misleading, I'll throw it out and add one point to everyone's score (all test questions are worth one point).

### Plagiarism:

For purposes of this class, plagiarism can mean several people turning in the same or closely related papers for the short written assignments or weekly discussions, including copying work from a student who took this course a previous semester. **Discussion responses that are copied directly from the book and/or website (in whole or in part) and Individual Writing Assignments and Extra Credit Assignments without citations or copied (in whole or in part) directly from a website will also fall under this category.**

Additionally, I know it may be tempting to download papers from the Internet. However, please remember that there are many powerful software programs designed to detect plagiarism available to me and I know how to use them. I also have a pretty good idea of what student writing looks like. Finally, I have read the textbook and it's pretty easy for me to look up and see whether someone has merely copied from the text and turned it in as their answer. I take this stuff seriously. So should you.

**Plagiarism of an assignment may result in a zero (0) for that assignment.**

**Quizzes:**

There will be thirteen multiple choice quizzes this semester. Each quiz is worth 10 points and can only be taken once.

**Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions over the material covered in the textbook. You will have 10 minutes in which to take the quizzes. For purposes of this class, this means 10 consecutive minutes. To access the quizzes for this course, click on the appropriate unit link found on the course homepage and then click on the unit quiz link found in the Table of Contents of each unit.**

If you have computer problems while taking your quiz, please send me a course message immediately. It is your responsibility to let me know that you have a problem as soon as the problem occurs. If you do not let me know about the problem until after the quiz closes, you will not be able to take the quiz.

You may use your books and notes on these quizzes. You may **not** use past exams or any type of answer key on these quizzes.

**Academic Writing:**

**SPC Policy regarding “standard English”:** All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.

**Individual Writing Assignments:**

Required:

There will be a total of 7 short writing assignments posted this semester. These short papers (2-3 paragraphs maximum) will be worth ten points each. You will write a brief analysis of assigned images, documents, and websites. Specific instructions for each assignment will be included in each weekly unit. **All individual written assignments must be submitted via the writing assignment link contained within each unit. I will not accept any assignments submitted by any other means.**

Each short writing assignment should be in essay format and will receive a score from one to ten. **Points will be deducted if essays are not free of spelling, grammar, and structural errors and should be written in paragraph form.**

**Submission of Writing Assignments:** Assignments **must** be submitted by uploading your assignment into TurnItIn. Your file **must** be saved as a doc, docx, or rtf file. A grade of zero will be given to any assignment saved as a different file type.

**Unit Discussions:**

**Required:**

I will post one question to the course discussion forum for each of six units this semester. In order to receive full credit for the weekly discussions, you must actually carry on a discussion about the question with your peers. **One posting does not constitute a discussion and will not receive full credit. You must also post at least two thoughtful discussion responses in order to earn full credit in addition to your initial response.** ("I agree with your response" does not qualify as a discussion posting.) You must first post a response to my question and then you must post responses to other student's response(s). To be clear: you are to post one (1) initial response to my question and then you must post at least two (2) responses to your classmate's postings or responses, so at least 3 postings total are expected, each at least a paragraph long.

When responding to another student, **do not** give a critique of their submission. You should be carrying on a discussion about the question rather than telling them whether or not they did a good job or what they should have done. I will grade the discussions. The student needs to discuss the question.

**In order to allow your peers time to respond to your discussion postings, you must post your initial response to the discussion question by the first discussion deadline for that unit in order to receive full credit. You must then post a response to the other student's discussion submissions by the second discussion deadline for that unit in order to receive full credit.** You will only receive half credit if you fail to submit your first discussion response (your response to my discussion question) by the first discussion deadline or fail to respond to another student's discussion submission. For example, if your initial response for the Unit 2 discussion were due by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11. Your final responses (responses to other student's postings) would be due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, September 14. If you do not post your responses by then, you will have missed your chance to get credit for the Unit 2 discussion.

Additionally, each response should be at least one paragraph in length (**at least 5 sentences**) to receive credit. This does not mean that five sentences will automatically receive full credit. You must adequately discuss the question and fully respond to another student in order to receive full credit. This often cannot be done in five sentences.

**You must post your responses within the threads I start for each question. To do this, click on the question and then hit "reply" found below the question I have posted. I will not grade responses outside of the original thread of my question and will also not grade replies posted to another unit's discussion question.**

Your comments should reflect careful thinking and should be phrased in proper English (you know – capitalization, correct spelling, punctuation, complete sentences, etc.). Your comments should be normally between a paragraph and a page in length. **I expect you to cite page numbers when quoting the textbook, and you should enclose the direct quote in quotation marks.** Here is how you do that:

"In the short run the horse brought prosperity and mobility to the Plains Indians." (20)

If you cite sources outside the textbook, be sure to do so in standard MLA or Turabian citation format.

**Students who turn in discussion responses that include direct quotes from the text not enclosed in quotation marks and that do not cite a page number from the text will receive a grade of zero for that assignment.**

**These discussions will be closely monitored and no foul language, personal insults, or meandering off topic will be tolerated. Students who break the rules will be warned once; if they continue to violate the rules, they will receive a zero for the Weekly Discussion grade for the entire semester.**

#### **Grading Time Frame:**

I will post grades for your assignments approximately one week after the assignments are due.

#### **Late Assignment Policy:**

As a rule, work will not be accepted late for any reason other than a documented and verified extended problem with the Blackboard server. In rare cases, primarily associated with events like a lengthy medical event such as hospitalization, an exception may be granted. But this would be a rare exception and determined on a case by case basis by the instructor. In other words, get it done early so that there is no reason for it not to be done.

If you plan to be out of town or involved in any extracurricular activity that interferes with a deadline, it is your responsibility to submit the work prior to the deadline. **As a rule, (except as noted for extended Blackboard issues) late work is NOT accepted. Period.**

#### **Submission of Assignments:**

It is your responsibility to double-check the submission of your work. If your work is not submitted (even though you may have attempted to submit it), I will not accept the assignment late.

#### **Computer Problems:**

**If your computer and/or internet has a tendency to freeze or crash right before an assignment is due, you will need to plan ahead and allow sufficient time in which to submit your work. Computer problems are not a valid excuse for submitting late work. If you do have computer problems when submitting an assignment, you will need to find another computer to use in order to submit your work. (Family members, friends, and libraries are excellent sources for locating another working computer.)**

**Always, always, always back up your work on your computer. I recommend saving a copy to your hard drive and also saving a copy to a flash drive (or even email it to yourself). Losing your work because you have computer problems and do not have a back-up copy is not a valid excuse to submit late work.**

- VI. **Student Privacy:** South Plains College is bound by the Texas Open Records Law and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information regarding these topics can be found in the South Plains College Catalog. As far as this class is concerned, I will NOT release or discuss your class performance, grades, averages, or attendance with anyone but

you. This means that your parents, class counselors, principals, or any other interested party will not gain this information from me – if they need this sort of information they must ask you for it.

## VII. ACCOMMODATIONS:

**DIVERSITY STATEMENT:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:** South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age.

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529.

**PREGNANCY:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Chris Straface, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cstraface@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cstraface@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

## VIII. **Campus Concealed Carry syllabus statement: Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College 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 South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: ([http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.**

**IX. Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as their own work any work which they have not honestly performed, is regarded as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, up to and including possible suspension. Students should refer to the SPC General Catalog policy regarding consequences for cheating and plagiarism (see “Academic Integrity” and “Student Conduct” sections). This will also mean a failing grade on the exam/assignment in question at the minimum, and can entail failure of the course and/or expulsion from the college.**

X. Schedule of Assignments for History 1301 Spring 2021

Online courses are designed to give students flexibility – and they do to some extent. However, some structure is also necessary in order to fit the course into a one-semester format. Please note the dates and times, as well as governing rules, for your assignments and quizzes below. If you miss an assignment or quiz, you are out of luck except as noted under the Late Assignment Policy. Remember, if you miss 4 or more assignments, you may be dropped as well.

Jan. 19 (Tue.) – First class day. All students must log into online classes. **Please read and print out the syllabus. Also, please read and complete all assignments in the Course Introduction learning module found on the Course Content page.**

- **Introductory Unit opens**—note: there are no writing assignments or weekly discussions due for the Introductory Unit.

Jan. 22 (Fri.)

- Syllabus Quiz and Syllabus Contract must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST on due date. Failure to complete this on time will be taken as non-attendance in the class and you will be dropped. **You must take the Syllabus Quiz until you earn full credit (20 points). This is the only quiz you may take more than once.**

Jan. 29 (Fri.)

- Unit 1 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 1 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 2 (Tues.)

- Unit 2 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 5 (Fri.)

- Unit 2 final discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 2 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 12 (Fri.)

- Unit 3 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 3 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 16 (Tues.)

- Unit 4 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 19 (Fri.)

- Unit 4 final discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 4 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Feb. 26 (Fri.)

- Unit 5 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 5 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Mar. 2 (Tues.)

- Unit 6 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Mar. 5 (Fri.)

- Unit 6 final discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 6 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Mar. 12 (Fri.)

- Unit 7 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 7 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

March 15 – 19 Spring Break

Mar. 23 (Tues.)

- Unit 8 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Mar. 26 (Fri.)

- Unit 8 final discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 8 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

April 2 (Fri.)

- Unit 9 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 9 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Apr. 6 (Tues.)

- Unit 10 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Apr. 9 (Fri.)

- Unit 10 final discussions responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 10 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Apr. 16 (Fri.)

- Unit 11 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 11 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Apr. 20 (Tues.)

- Unit 12 initial discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Apr. 23 (Fri.)

- Unit 12 final discussion responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 12 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

**Apr. 29 (Thurs.)**

- **Last day to drop a course.**

Apr. 30 (Fri.)

- Unit 13 writing assignments must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.
- Unit 13 quizzes must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST.

**Syllabus Quiz and Syllabus Contract:** Now that you have read the syllabus, it is time to complete your first assignments of the semester for credit. These assignments are **due by Friday, January 22, by 11:59 p.m.** The Syllabus Quiz is worth 20 points and the Syllabus Contract is worth 10 points. **You must take the Syllabus Quiz until you earn full credit (20 points).**

Please access the Syllabus Contract and Syllabus Quiz through the Course Introduction folder found on the Course Content page in Blackboard for this class.