



HIST 1301.97E U.S. History to 1877

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2019

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Christopher M. Rowback

Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences, Room 130

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10AM – 12PM, or by appointment

Office Phone Number: (903) 886-5226

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Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

The two texts used in this class are available online at no cost to the student. They are:

The American Yawp, edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright,

<http://www.americanyawp.com/>

This is the primary text for the course. All readings listed in the schedule below refer to *The American Yawp*, unless otherwise noted.

Digital History, edited by Steven Mintz and Sara McNeil,

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/index.cfm>

Primary sources, which will be utilized for writing assignments and class discussion will be assigned in class as needed from this text.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Additional readings may be distributed via email or MyLeo Online as needed

Course Description

This course introduces the field of history by developing the students' skills at critical analysis of both reading and writing assignments and class participation. Students will explore the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the United States from the age of European exploration and conquest through the Civil War. Through readings, assignments, discussion, and lectures students will examine major themes in American history, such as colonization, the founding of a new nation, the forging of an American culture, the entrenchment of slavery, and the coming of the Civil War.

Student Learning Outcomes (Should be measurable; observable)

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 an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods

Participation

As this is a university level course, discussion is also an expected part of the class. You are encouraged to ask questions and answer those questions asked to the class. There will also be opportunities to voice your informed opinions and debate certain issues. I do not grade on your opinion but rather on your engagement, participation, and ability to support your arguments.

Assignments

Exams:

There will be two in-class exams over the course of the semester. See Schedule for dates. All exams are non-comprehensive. For exams, students will be provided with one or more essay questions approximately one week prior to the exam due date. Students will draft an essay response in class on designated exam dates. Essays **CAN NOT BE DRAFTED IN ADVANCE**, however, student may bring a prepared sheet of fifty terms (each date, person, or event will be counted as a single term, as will individual words in

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a sentence). This sheet can be used for definitions, to prepare an essay outline, or for any other notes you might find helpful. These term sheets must be turned in with your exam, and any sheets exceeding fifty words will incur a 5-point penalty on the exam grade for every word in excess of fifty. For example, if a term sheet contains fifty-three words, the maximum grade possible on the exam will be 85.

Response Papers:

Students will complete one brief response papers (2 – 3 pages) that is designed to integrate a specific moment or event into a broader historical significance. There will be two response paper assignments, but students are only required to complete and submit one response paper. For each assignment, students will be given a prompt, a statement, or a series of questions. Students will type a response that places a document from the assigned reading into a historical context.

These short papers enable students to integrate specific content into broader historical trends. Response papers are due one week after the assignment is given. Response papers will be 2–3 pages in length (including text and notes). The paper must be double-spaced, the pages must be numbered, all margins must be set to 1 inch and the paper should be written in Times New Roman 12pt font or its equivalent. The paper may not be submitted in more than one class. The paper must be submitted in the appropriate MyLeo Online drop box folder.

Group Project

At the beginning of the semester, students will be presented with a list of three to five presentation topics. Students will form groups and give an informative presentation to the class about their assigned topic. Presentations will be given periodically throughout the semester, to correspond with lecture materials. Students will also submit a short paper at the time of presentation, which details the student's contribution to the project, as well as an evaluation of other members of the group. When grades for the presentation are assigned, half of the grade will be shared by the group for the quality of the presentation, and half of the grade will be assigned to each student based on the group peer evaluation responses. This is to ensure that all members actively contribute to the group's efforts. Topics and dates for presentations will be assigned and discussed in the first week of the semester.

Simulation

Students will participate in a mercantilism simulation. Each student/ group will be assigned to play the role of an empire or a colony, and over a number of class periods, students will participate in a simulated mercantile economy, following rules discussed in class. At the end of the simulation, students will give a brief presentation to the class, explaining their understanding of mercantilism, and how their position in the simulation affected their ability to meet their win conditions.

Discussions

Participation will be evaluated through in-class group discussions, as well as eight to ten short writing assignments at the beginning of class throughout the semester. These

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assignments will not be announced in-class ahead of time, and students must be in attendance in order to receive credit. For these assignments, I will present a question relating to material covered in previous lectures, and students will be given ten to fifteen minutes to draft a short response. These assignments will be helpful to me in understanding how well students are following the course material and will be helpful for you in exam preparation.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Complete all reading assignments before attending class and be prepared to discuss materials in class. The reading assignments listed in the course calendar below should be completed prior to class by the date listed.
- Written assignments must be submitted on the assigned due date. Ten percent of the assignment grade will be deducted for each day it is late. Students will receive ample warning about assignment due dates—computer/printer/technology malfunctions or meltdowns or any other last-minute difficulties are not acceptable excuses.
- All assignments and activities may be discussed with the instructor by email or in-person during office hours.

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

The following assignments will comprise the final course grade:

Exams (2 @ 20%)	40%
Group Project	20%
Response Papers	15%
Simulation	15%
Participation	10%

Assessments

The general grading criteria for all written assignments in this class is based on the following:

A = Mastery of content and reading material; factual accuracy; thoughtful interpretation or argument that synthesizes original thoughts and ideas with content; technically clean

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B = Good-to-excellent command of the majority of content and reading material; competent factual accuracy; a generally solid historical argument backed with adequate evidence

C = Fair command of content material; reasonable factual accuracy; ability to articulate a specific thesis or argument even if it is not original or is poorly supported by the evidence

D = Poor command of content; factual errors; no real argument driving the essay

F = Even worse than above; completely off topic; no work submission

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 |
- This is a working document. The syllabus and schedule are subject to change.
- | 5 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:
 - o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred

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Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions 8 Mbps is required. Additional system requirements found here: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic->

System Requirements

- You must have a:
 - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - o Speakers or headphones.
 - o *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> This is a working document. The syllabus and schedule are subject to change. 6
- 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:
 - o Adobe Reader <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - o Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - o Adobe Shockwave Player <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - o Apple Quick Time <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 If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor. This is a working document. The syllabus and schedule are subject to change. 7 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

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the words “click here” to submit an issue via email. System Maintenance D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Students should make use of the Instructor’s office hours or use the email function in eCollege to email the Instructor. Students must provide a valid return email address for replies. Unless otherwise announced, students can expect replies within 24 hours, Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm. Replies at other times are at the Instructor’s discretion. Please come to talk to me about any concerns you might have and about any problems or issues that arise during the semester. The more you let me know what is going on with you, the better I can help you out when necessary.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance/Lateness

This course moves at a fast pace and focuses on a variety of complex events and ideas, sometimes spending only one day on a particular large topic. For this reason, your attendance is just as important as keeping up with the readings and writing assignments and will be recorded. University policy does allow excused absences in certain situations such as school sponsored events, jury duty, and military service. These excuses require proper documentation. While I expect you to attend class, as regular attendance is necessary for success in the class, I will not award or subtract points from the semester grade based on attendance.

Late Work

Ample time is given for the completion of all assignments and there are no ‘surprise’ due dates. Any work submitted past the due date will receive 1 letter grade deduction per day. For example, a paper due on Friday but not submitted until Sunday can only receive a maximum letter grade of C. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.**

Missed Exams

Exams must be completed on the scheduled due date, unless the student provides a valid, documented excuse. Absence on exam days will only be excused with appropriate documentation (e.g., medical documentation). **If a student must miss an exam, the instructor must be notified of the absence prior to the exam and a make-up exam must be rescheduled within one week’s time. Absences without a valid excuse or exams that are not made-up per these guidelines will result in a “0” grade for the exam.**

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Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities will be available throughout the course of the semester, at the discretion of the instructor.

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](#)

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<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

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.

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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 / CALENDAR

I reserve the right to modify the class schedule if necessary but will give students ample notice on eCollege. All assignments are due Friday @ 11:59pm unless otherwise noted.

Week 1: Class Introduction/The First Americans and First Contacts

Readings: Chapter 1, "The New World"
Assignment: None

Week 2: The First Americans and First Contacts, cont.

Readings: Chapter 2, "Colliding Cultures"
Assignment: None

Week 3: Colonial America

Readings: Chapter 3, "British North America"
Assignment: Begin Mercantilism Simulation

Week 4: Colonial America, cont.

Readings: Chapter 4, "Colonial Society"
Assignment: Simulation

Week 5: American Revolution

Readings: Chapter 5, "American Revolution"
Assignment: None

Week 6: American Revolution, cont.

Readings: Chapter 5, "American Revolution"
Assignment: None

Week 7: Early National Period

Readings: Chapter 6, "The New Nation" and Chapter 7, "The Early Republic"

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Assignment: Response Paper 1 due

Week 8: Early National Period, cont.

Readings: Chapter 8 “The Market Revolution, and Chapter 9, “Democracy in America”
Assignment: Exam 1

Week 9: Slavery

Readings: Chapter 11, “The Cotton Revolution”
Assignment: None

Week 10: Spring Break!

Week 11: Pre-Civil War Era

Readings: Chapter 12, “Manifest Destiny”
Assignment: Exam 2

Week 12: Pre-Civil War Era, cont.

Readings: Chapter 13, “The Sectional Crisis”
Assignment: None

Week 13: The Civil War

Readings: Chapter 14, “The Civil War”
Assignment: None

Week 14: Civil War, cont.

Readings: Continued from the Previous Week
Assignment: Response Paper 2 due

Week 15: Reconstruction

Readings: Chapter 15, “Reconstruction”
Assignment: None

Week 16: Catch up and Wrap up

Readings and Assignments to be determined

Finals Week

Exam 2

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