

**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: Fall 2020

## 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.
- b. In an attempt to encourage social distancing and protect the health of our students, while still providing a strong Face to Face (F2F) teaching component, this class will meet once per week for F2F lecture and Q&A over key components of the material. The second assigned day will be for self-study including but not limited to reading, writing (submitted through Blackboard), and video assignments. If this class has fewer than 20 students the meeting day will be Tues at our assigned time. If there are more than 20, I will contact you via email to assign you either Tuesday or Thursday, accordingly. Be aware the same amount of material will be covered as a regular twice weekly F2F class so it is imperative that you keep up with the off-day work and be on time to class on your assigned meeting day.

II. Instructor: Thomas H. Payton  
Office: Reese Center, Building #3, Room #318C  
Phone: 806-894-9611, ext. 2908  
Office hours: As posted on office door or by appointment  
E-mail: [tpayton@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:tpayton@southplainscollege.edu)  
Website: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/faculty/payton-thomas.php>

## 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.

IV. Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is very important in this course. A STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIATING THEIR OWN WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE, if that becomes necessary. If a student is administratively withdrawn from the class, the grade appearing on the transcript will be, at the instructor's discretion, an 'X' or an 'F'. **Administrative withdrawal may occur if the student has missed four or more classes or if the instructor feels that the objects of the class will not be met because of excessive absences from this class.** Note that each absence reduces your final grade potential. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor concerning absences. Each absence will count 0 or 10 points off, as discussed in class, depending upon timeliness with which the instructor is contacted and the reason for the absence. For example quarantine due to Covid exposure will NOT result in lost points for attendance, though the student will be required to

contact the instructor in a timely manner and make up any missed work. However a student who misses class for no clear or responsible reason (as determined by the instructor) and/or does not contact the instructor in a timely manner will lose the full 10 points. **Note: The instructor is generally unable to return calls to long distance phone numbers.**

Special Pandemic Note: If classes get moved online for any reason including pandemic, it will continue through a mix of email, Blackboard postings and video conferences unless otherwise directed. The extent of use of each and final implementation will be determined at the time based upon circumstances at that point. Be sure you have working SPC email!

- V. Examination Policy: There will be four (4) major tests given, of which the lowest grade will be dropped. Because one test will be dropped in any case, no makeups are allowed except in rare and extreme cases (at the discretion of the instructor) or as required due to an accommodation (see *Accommodations* below).

VI. Grading Policy:

There is a total of 550 points possible for the course. Grades will be determined as follows:

Class notes (16 @ 10 points each)	160
Exams (4, but I drop lowest, so 3 @ 100 points each)	300
Attendance (10 points off each absence, if appropriate)	50
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>510</b>

I will grade on the following scale (normal rounding rules apply):

510 - 457 (100%-90%)	<b>A</b>
426 - 406 pts (89%-80%)	<b>B</b>
405 - 355 pts (79%-70%)	<b>C</b>
354 - 304 pts (69%-60%)	<b>D</b>
303 - 0 pts (59.5%-0%)	<b>F</b>

Class outline notes will be provided to the class. Students are expected to complete these notes and add information to the outline demonstrating understanding of the reading material and in class lecture. These notes will then be submitted via TurnItIn. If they are done successfully, the student will get full credit; if they are done mostly successfully, partial credit; otherwise no credit. They will be graded primarily for successful demonstration of understanding and feedback where appropriate will be supplied via TurnItIn/Blackboard. Participation in the classroom is also expected and will contribute to the final grade.

- VII. **General Course Outline:** The following course outline is subject to change during the semester as may be necessary.

Weeks 1 – 4: Chpts. 1 – 4

Test 1

Weeks 5 – 8: Chpts. 5 – 7

Test 2

Weeks 9 – 12: Chpts. 8 – 11

Test 3

Weeks 13 – 15: Chpts. 12 – 16

Test 4 (FINAL)

Tests will generally follow the pattern of 80% multiple choice, True/False, matching; and 20% essay, short answer questions or fill in the blank (spelling and grammar WILL be graded). The final will not be comprehensive.

- VIII. **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.
- IX. **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.
- X. **Face Covering Course Syllabus Statement:** It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation

**XI. 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.

- XII. 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.**

**XIII. 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).

## Additonal Rules

1. All work must be your own
2. Outline notes are designed to ensure you are reading the material and participating in the class. They will be graded for these criteria accordingly.
3. Outline notes will not be graded in detail but in general.
4. Outline notes will be reviewed – you must demonstrate understanding of the material via your outline notes – if you do not demonstrate this understanding, you don't get points for that assignment.
5. I am not looking for extensive detail, complete sentences, etc. on the outline notes but am looking for that on essays and other written assignments, as assigned.
6. The outline notes will be due as assigned in class. Failure to note the due date or get them submitted on time will result in a 0.
7. Notes can be uploaded as pictures, pdfs, or doc files. As long as TurnItIn accepts it and I can read it, I'll accept it.
8. Any additional clarifications made in class supersede these rules.