

**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 2019

- 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  
 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 10<sup>th</sup> Edition. George Tindall and David Shi, ISBN 978-0-393-26597-2.
- 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 1 to 3 points off, as discussed in class, depending upon timeliness with which the instructor is contacted and the reason for the absence. **Note: The instructor is generally unable to return calls to long distance phone numbers.**
- V. Examination Policy: There will be four (4) major tests given, of which the lowest grade will be dropped. If a major test is missed because of an unavoidable absence, contact your instructor as soon as possible and arrange to make up the test. You have one week after your return to class to arrange a make-up with the instructor, after which time your test grade will be entered as zero. It will be at the discretion of the instructor whether or not to allow a make-up exam.
- VI. Grading Policy:
- |   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| Major Tests .....   | 22% each, 4 tests, lowest dropped..... | 66% |
| Class participation and attendance (up to 3 points off for each absence)..... |  | 34% |

Participation points will be assigned in class based upon discussion postings submitted by the start of each chapter. Each student will be required to submit a minimum of 8 postings (at least 1 each for 8 different chapters) during the semester based upon the reading. Further requirements and clarifications will be provided in class (see also rules on last page of syllabus). Any posting not meeting these requirements will NOT count towards the 8 needed to successfully complete this assignment. These 8 postings will be worth 24 of the 34 points assigned for class participation/attendance. 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. 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.

- XI. 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.**

- XII. 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).

## Additional Rules

1. All postings must be original – if you duplicate a question, comment, etc already posted by someone else in the class, your posting MAY NOT COUNT.
2. All postings must be original – if you plagiarize from the book or another source, your posting WILL NOT COUNT (you can quote another source, just don't use their questions as your question).
3. All postings must be posted prior to the start time of the related class.
4. Be sure to note page numbers related to your question/comment if applicable.
5. Be sure to note sources (external or otherwise), if you are answering a previous posting (you do not need to do formal notation, simple references will be satisfactory).
6. The 8 postings must be from 8 different chapters. You may post more than 8 but not fewer.
7. Each posting must be relevant to the chapter and the course.
8. Each posting should be limited to 100 words or less.
9. Each posting should help to further the understanding of the material (please, no “please define this word” type questions – that’s what a dictionary is for ☺).
10. Failure to meet these requirements may result in the posting being disqualified (that means it won't count).
11. Any additional clarifications made in class supersede these rules.