

Course Syllabus
Lamar State College-Port Arthur
Fall 2020
History of the United States, to 1877
History 1301

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00-9:30 / 10:45-1:15 Wednesday: 9:00-1:00

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.

Learning Outcomes - Students will be able to:

Relate the events that led to the exploration and colonization of early America

Summarize reasons for colonial discontent and actions that led to revolution and independence

Demonstrate an understanding of our documents of democracy

Describe our foreign policy as it developed in the 19th century

Analyze stages of economic development as the United States became an industrialized nation

Realize the causes of sectionalism as they moved us toward civil war

Discuss the major features of Reconstruction and their political impact

Required Materials:

Textbook: The American Yawp is an online textbook that you can access here: <http://www.americanyawp.com/>

If you would like a printable PDF version of the textbook, you can access it here:

http://www.americanyawp.com/text/wp-content/uploads/Locke_American-Yawp_V1.pdf

Reader: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs. Free, online access is provided here:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm>

Access to these materials is also available within Blackboard in each module.

Masks in the classroom:

As per LSCPA Covid -19 guidelines, masks must be worn in the classroom. For more information see the campus guidelines: <https://www.lamarpa.edu/General/Alerts/COVID-19/Face-Covering-Requirement>

Class Attendance:

Research continually indicates that regular attendance in class leads to better grades. Given the Covid-19 crisis we are experiencing, it is imperative that you do not come to class if you are sick. My attendance policy this semester is that you should attend class unless you are sick or have been told to stay home. The more class you miss, the more challenging the class will be. Assignments are still due in Blackboard on the due date, even if you are not in class. Please note that attendance will be taken everyday and a failure to attend can have consequences if you receive financial aid or other benefits. Students are expected to arrive on

time. If late arrivals become problematic, grade deductions will be incurred at a rate of 3 late arrivals = 1 point off final grade. 6 late arrivals = 2 points of final grade, etc.

If it is necessary, due to Covid-19, for our class to pivot top online, then it will be required that you log into Blackboard to complete your readings, submit quizzes, assignments, and exams. Students will be provided with an updated syllabus for the online class. If you do not log into Blackboard on a weekly basis, I will have to assume that you are no longer participating in the class and do retain the right to have you administratively dropped from the class.

Time Requirements for this Course:

The standard expectation for a college level class is approximately 10-12 hours a week. A class that is a 3-hour credit class will require 3 hours outside study time **for each hour in class**. Our class is considered a 3 hour credit class and therefore the additional study/working on assignments time is applicable. Please make sure to adjust your schedule accordingly.

Technology Responsibility:

It is assumed that students are proficient with the technological/computer requirements and the Blackboard system. If not, there are numerous resources within the Student Resources tab in Blackboard to assist you. A lack of computer proficiency is not an excuse for the failure to submit assignments, etc. It is your responsibility to understand how to navigate Blackboard, upload files, view video, etc.

Grading:

Two (2) Major Written Exams: (35%)	Each exam is worth 17.5 % each
Four (4) Quizzes: (20%)	There are 5 assigned quizzes. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you miss a quiz and receive a 0, that will be the dropped grade.
Six (6) Assignments: (30%)	There are 7 assigned module assignments. The lowest assignment grade will be dropped. If you miss an assignment, that will be the dropped grade.
One (1) Writing Assignment with outline: (15%)	Both the outline assignment and the writing assignment must be submitted to receive credit for the entire assignment.

Final Grading Scale: A 100-90 B 89-80 C 79-70 D 69-60 F 59-0

Please keep up with your grades. Students should keep all copies of graded and ungraded work until course grades have been submitted at the end of the semester. A current running average is always available to you in the 'Current Class Average' of Blackboard. Your grade will be based solely on your performance on the above listed grades. Additionally, all grades will be posted in Blackboard in a timely manner. Please make sure to read the comments sections included with your grade and, additionally, read the comments on your submitted assignments as I make comments in both places. It is your responsibility to read comments and assessment notes and to make the suggested changes on future assignments/exams.

Exams:

Exams will consist of discussion/essay questions and multiple choice/short answer questions. Exams will cover material from your textbook, articles and video presentations/lectures. I will not contact you to find out why you missed an exam. Make up exams will only be allowed if the student is absent due to an unforeseen medical emergency and will be given at my discretion. Make up exams will not be the same exam give to the class and may be

If you will be absent for a school approved activity – LSCPA athletics or student government, etc, you must make sure your assignments are turned in on time and take quizzes or examinations before you leave. It is your responsibility to make arrangements with me to take quizzes or examinations.

Exam Reviews:

Exam Reviews are posted about 3 weeks before the Mid-term and 3 weeks before the Final exam.

Quizzes:

Students will complete six (6) assigned module quizzes. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you miss a quiz and receive a 0, that will be the dropped grade. Each quiz will cover two chapters and the additional material included in the module and contain anywhere from 20 to 30 questions which may be multiple choice, short answer or a combination of the two. Quizzes will be taken on Thursdays in class. If we must transition to online, quizzes will be due in Blackboard by 11:59 pm Thursday evenings.

Assignments:

There are 7 assigned module assignments. The lowest assignment grade will be dropped. If you miss an assignment, that will be the dropped grade. Each 2-week module includes an assignment. Assignments will vary with each module, so it is very important that you read the directions for each assignment carefully. Within each Module you will see a folder “Complete: Assignment #_”. Click on that folder and read the instructions.

You will need to view and read the listed selections and then the assignments are in the Assignment folder within each module. **Late assignments are not accepted.**

Extra Credit:

There is one extra credit assignment offered. It is listed in Blackboard. You may choose to complete it or not. It must be completed by the due date. To receive the extra credit, you must meet the standards set out in the assignment and rubric to a level that illustrates diligence and excellence. A sub-par submission will not receive credit.

Email:

Students must put LSCPA 1301 and your section number in the subject line of any email. This is not optional. If the class and section number are not listed, it makes it difficult for me to give you a prompt response. I will not stop what I am doing to log in and sort through multiple class rolls to determine what class you are in. An email that says only, “This is Sarah from your history class. I have a question about the paper” is problematic. Which Sarah? What history class - 1301 or 1302? Online student or in-class student? What paper? Including the required LSCPA 1301 and section number makes it much easier for me to provide you with a prompt and accurate response. Moreover, please make sure to include your full name in the email. **I do not use Blackboard email. Please note that most questions can be answered by reading the class syllabus, assignment sheet or other directions available to you in Blackboard.**

Since we will communicate extensively through email, it is important that students are aware of the tone and structure of their correspondence. **All emails should include a greeting, a clear statement of the question or inquiry, your name and include proper spelling and grammar. 'Texting' abbreviations, lack of punctuation and 'i' are not acceptable.** I enjoy getting to know my students through email so please do not hesitate to contact me. **All email must come from the student's assigned Lamarpa.edu email address.** I am available during normal business hours – Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Emails received in the evening will not get a response until the next day. I do strive to reply to email promptly and within 24 hours. **Additionally, I do not check email on weekends. Should you have any questions, please make sure to email me before 4 pm on Friday.**

Article and Videos:

Please make sure to note: If a film notes 'view in class' that means we will view the selection in class. If it does not say 'in class' then you need to view the selections at home and be prepared to discuss the material on Thursday in class.

The article and video links included in each Module are an integral part of the course. They provide students with a resource to gain a deeper understanding of the material. I have chosen selections that I feel will aid in deepening your understanding related to a person, era, event, experience, etc. Some are documentaries or films, some standard lectures from other universities, and others - book discussion by authors - address the subject they have written about but also help you to understand the 'historian's craft.' You should take notes while viewing/reading just as if you were sitting in a classroom listening to a presentation.

Currently, all video links are 'working' but sometimes they may, without notice, get moved to a new server, expire or an organization may decide to take down a link. If you notice a broken link during the semester, please let me know and I will look into it and update the selection with a new link or a replacement selection.

Students should make sure that they view and read the material on schedule and take notes just as if you were in a lecture class. Material from the provided videos and articles will be included on examinations.

Suggestions for the course:

This class moves very quickly and there is very little time to catch up if you get behind. Deadlines are firm. Make it a priority to read daily and to stay on schedule with the readings, videos, quizzes, and assignments. These take time. Additionally, remember that you not only have to read the material, but you also must make time to study the material. I recommend that students print out the assignment schedule and refer to it daily and plan their schedules accordingly.

Classroom expectations:

It is expected that students come to class prepared and are ready to participate. Students are also expected to arrive to class on time, conduct themselves appropriately, and respect their classmate's opinions. Students are not to sleep in class or leave class early. If you need to leave class early, please discuss the matter with me beforehand.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to online learning and I take it very seriously. Academic dishonesty will not be accepted in this class. Students are to submit their own work – not the work of others. If you submit other's work as your own or use resources not allowed during examinations, quizzes or assignment, not only are you jeopardizing your academic future but you are paying for an education you are not receiving and, moreover, you are wasting your own time and energy in an effort not to learn. **Additionally, all student submissions are checked for plagiarism and use of any materials not authorized for use during an exam, quiz, or assignment is prohibited** Should it come to light that you are, you will receive a 0 on the assignment, quiz or exam and, possibly an F in the class. **Assigning an F for the course for plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty is at my discretion if the offence is flagrant or repeated. Please note that I decide if an offence is flagrant or repeated – not the student. You are better off not doing an assignment - as missing a few individual assignments will not cause you to fail - than submitting a questionable assignment, exam por quiz and failing the class.**

Lamar State College – Port Arthur Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Lamar State College-Port Arthur considers academic dishonesty, including collusion, cheating, and plagiarism as defined in the Student Handbook, to be a serious academic offence. Students guilty of such behavior will be subject to the following penalties:

First offence: Student will receive a failing grade on the exam or assignment with no possibility for a make-up. If the offence is flagrant, the student may receive an 'F' in the course. The student's name and documented offence will be forwarded to the proper college officials.

Second offence: Student will receive an 'F' in the course with no possibility for make-up. The student's name and documented offence will be forwarded to the proper university officials. All accused students will be given a written notice of the offence, the penalty assessed, and the right of appeal to the department chair/advisory committee.

Disability Accommodations:

It is the policy of Lamar State College-Port Arthur to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to state and federal law and the College's commitment to equal educational opportunities. Any student with a disability, who needs accommodation, for example, in seating placement or arrangement for examinations, notes, etc., should inform the instructor with a copy of the letter from the Office of Student Disability at the beginning of the course.

Blackboard System:

Students are responsible for their Blackboard access. The instructor cannot troubleshoot Blackboard issues for individual students.

For Technical Support with passwords and mylamarpa access please contact:

Mr. Kenneth Lisby

Office: Gates Memorial Library Open Computer Lab

Email: helpdesk@lamarpa.edu

Office: (409) 984-6150 https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_SP_12_and_SP_13/Student

Class Assignment and Reading Schedule:

This schedule is posted in Blackboard and within each Module

All assignments are due by 11:59 pm on Thursday – except for the week of Thanksgiving which will have a Sunday evening due date.

MODULE 1		All assignments are due on Thursdays by 11:59 pm.
Please note that the class is set up in 2-week modules.		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 1 8/24- 8/30	Read: AY: Chapter 1 - The New World http://www.americanyawp.com/text/01-the-new-world/ Read: The American Holocaust: Columbus and the Conquest of the New World View: New World Encounters: A Biography of America	Blackboard Introduction Post Pre-test Assignment #1 Quiz #1 Course Policy Agreement Due Thursday August 27th by 11:59 pm: Blackboard Introduction Post Pre-test Course Policy Agreement
Week 2 8/31- 9/6	Read: AY: Chapter 2 - Colliding Cultures http://www.americanyawp.com/text/02-colliding-cultures/ View: English Settlement: A Biography of America Read: John Winthrop Dreams of a City Upon A Hill	Due Thursday, September 3rd by 11:59 pm: Assignment #1 Quiz #1: Take in class. Thursday, September 3rd.
MODULE 2		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 3 9/7- 9/13	Read: AY: Chapter 3 - British North America http://www.americanyawp.com/text/03-british-north-america/ View In class: The Black Atlantic	Assignment #2
Week 4 9/14- 9/20	Read: AY: Chapter 4 - Colonial Society http://www.americanyawp.com/text/04-colonial-society/ Read: Courtship, Sex, and the Single Colonist View: French and Indian War Changes the Fate of America View In Class: Liberty: The Reluctant Revolutionaries Begin reading: <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i> : http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm	Due Thursday, September 17th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #2 Quiz #2: Take in Class. Thursday, September 17th.

MODULE 3		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 5 9/21- 9/27	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 5-The American Revolution http://www.americanyawp.com/text/05-the-american-revolution/</p> <p>Read: The Magnificent Fraud</p> <p>View: These are the Times That Try Men’s Souls</p>	<p>Assignment #3</p> <p>Quiz #3</p>
Week 6 9/28- 10/4	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 6-A New Nation http://www.americanyawp.com/text/06-a-new-nation/</p> <p>Read: George Washington’s Farewell Address</p> <p>View: A New Form of Government: A Biography of America</p> <p>View in class: Hamilton’s America</p> <p>Continue reading: <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>: http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm</p>	<p>Due Thursday, October 1st by 11:59 pm: Assignment #3</p> <p>Quiz #3: Take in Class. Thursday, October 1st.</p>
MODULE 4		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 7 10/5- 10/11	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 7-The Early Republic http://www.americanyawp.com/text/07-the-early-republic/</p> <p>View: Westward Expansion: A Biography of America</p> <p>View: Securing the Republic</p> <p>View in class: The Duality of Thomas Jefferson</p> <p>Read: Jefferson and Slavery, Re-assessed</p>	<p>Assignment #4</p>
Week 8 10/12- 10/18	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 8-The Market Revolution http://www.americanyawp.com/text/08-the-market-revolution/</p> <p>View: The Rise of Capitalism: A Biography of America</p> <p>View in class: The Telegraph</p> <p>Read: The Lowell Mill Girls</p> <p>Continue reading: <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>: http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm</p>	<p>Due Thursday, October 15th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #4</p> <p>Mid-term exam: Thursday, October 15th</p>

MODULE 5		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 9 10/19- 10/25	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 9-Democracy in America http://www.americanyawp.com/text/09-democracy-in-america/</p> <p>View: The Legacy of an Autocratic Ruler</p> <p>Read: What to the Slave is the 4th of July-Frederick Douglass</p>	Assignment #5
Week 10 10/26- 11/1	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 10-Religion and Reform http://www.americanyawp.com/text/10-religion-and-reform/</p> <p>Read: AY: Chapter 11-The Cotton Revolution http://www.americanyawp.com/text/11-the-cotton-revolution/</p> <p>View: The Reform Movement: A Biography of America</p> <p>View in class: The Age of Slavery. Note outline included with film.</p> <p>Read: The Everyday Life of Enslaved People</p> <p>Continue reading: <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>: http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm</p>	<p>Due Thursday, October 29th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #5</p> <p>Quiz #4: Take in class: Thursday, October 9th.</p> <p>Extra Credit Assignment Due: Thursday, October 29th by 11:59 pm. See Extra Credit tab in Blackboard.</p>
MODULE 6		
	What to Read and view	What to do
Week 11 11/2- 11/8	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 12-Manifest Destiny http://www.americanyawp.com/text/12-manifest-destiny/</p> <p>Read: A Soldier Recalls the Trail of Tears</p> <p>Read: Diary of a Woman Migrating to Oregon</p>	<p>Assignment #6</p> <p>Assessment Outline</p> <p>Assessment Outline Due: Thursday, November 5th by 11:59 pm:</p>
Week 12 11/9- 11/15	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 13-The Sectional Crisis http://www.americanyawp.com/text/13-the-sectional-crisis/</p> <p>Read: Beaumont and the Coming of the Civil War; as Seen in the Beaumont Banner.</p> <p>View in class: The Civil War: The Cause</p>	<p>Due Thursday, November 12th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #6</p> <p>Quiz #5: Take in Class. Thursday, November 12th</p>

	MODULE 7	
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 13 11/16-11/22	Read: AY: Chapter 14-The Civil War http://www.americanyawp.com/text/14-the-civil-war/ View: The Civil War: A Biography of America Read: The Civil War: Why They Fought	Assignment #7 Assessment Paper Post-test
Week 14 11/23-11/29	Read: AY: Chapter 15-Reconstruction http://www.americanyawp.com/text/15-reconstruction/ Thursday, Nov 26 th : Thanksgiving View in class: Slavery by Another Name Read: Why Reconstruction Matters	Due to Thanksgiving: Assignment #7 is Due by 11:59 pm on Sunday, November 29th. Assessment Paper is Due by 11:59 pm on Sunday, November 29th.
Week 15 11/30-12/6	Study for Final Exam. Tuesday, Dec 1 st : Last class day	Post-test is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, December 3rd.
Week 16 12/7-12/9	Final Exam: Tuesday, December 8 th 8:00-10:30 am	

This syllabus may be changed and / or updated as needed. Students will be notified both in class and in Blackboard.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Do I need the book?

Yes, we are using a free, open access text and reader this semester that you can access through Blackboard.

2. I can't get into Blackboard. What do I do?

Call Technical Support. Remember that you might need to turn off your pop-up blocker on each computer you will use to access the LSCPA Blackboard system. Students are responsible for their Blackboard access. The instructor cannot troubleshoot blackboard issues for individual students. Not being able to get into Blackboard due to being dropped for non-payment, failure to turn off pop-up blockers or registering late is not a valid excuse for failing to turn in assignments on time.

3. I don't know my Blackboard username / password or it has expired. What do I do?

Call Technical Support - see above. Additionally, an expired password is not a valid excuse for not submitting assignments on time.

4. My computer is broken / was stolen / has a virus / crashed. What do I do?

Find another computer to use.

5. I don't have internet 'access'. What do I do?

Visit the computer lab on campus, the local library, a coffee shop, your parents' house, etc.

6. What's my grade so far? How do I average my grades? What do I do?

See the 'Grading' section of the syllabus. Your grades will also be posted in Blackboard and a running weighted total is always viewable. Exams and papers will be returned in a timely manner with comments and your grade. Additionally, your current grade is viewable throughout the semester under the 'Current Class Average' tab in Blackboard.

7. I lost my syllabus. What do I do?

See Blackboard. Print out another one.

8. I didn't know there was a quiz/test/ paper due today. What do I do?

Read your syllabus.

9. I missed a deadline. What do I do?

Submit your future assignments on time.

10. I want to know my grade. Will you email it to me? What do I do?

No. Grades are posted on Blackboard - not emailed.

11. You didn't grade my assignment that I submitted. What do I do?

Please allow at least one week for any grades to be posted. Additionally, check to make sure that you submitted your paper/assignment/etc. as required in the syllabus. If you submitted your assignment in any other form other than the required format, then it will not be graded and you will receive a 0.

12. I need to drop the class. What do I do?

I would suggest coming by my office to visit or calling me first. If you are not doing as well in the class as you would like, perhaps we can find a solution to get you back on track. But if you need to drop the class, please see your advisor as they will assist you with the paperwork.

13. Is this going to be on the test? What do I do?

Yes. All material covered in this class - may be considered for the exam.

14. My internet is 'down.' What do I do?

Find another internet connection. It is suggested that students use a wired internet connection to prevent wi-fi fluctuations that may occur while taking online quizzes or submitting assignments.

15. I need to speak with my instructor in person. Where is your office? What do I do?

Please come and visit with me. My office is located on the 4th floor of the the Student Center - 409.

16. I don't know the requirements for the paper / assignment? How long should it be? Double space, etc.?

Read the syllabus or other applicable document in Blackboard.

18. Should I email you to ask for an extension?

No. The only reason you should ask for an extension is if you are hospitalized or experiencing a major emergency. I do understand that we are in extraordinary times with now Covid-19 but any major extension due to Covid-19 will need documentation.

19. May I call you?

Yes. My office number is 409-984-6394. Please leave a message. Please clearly say your name, phone number, what class you are in and what is a good time for me to return your call. The best way to get hold of me is by email at wilburca@lamarpa.edu.

20. May I text you?

No.

21. Does spelling, grammar, and punctuation 'count'?

Yes. This is college.