

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

Instructor: Christina A. Wilbur, MA, M.Ed

Office: Student Center 409

Email: wilburca@lamarpa.edu

Tel. (409) 984-6394

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.

Class Attendance:

Students are required to log-on to Blackboard daily in order to stay current regarding class announcements, assignment and exam dates, and to complete readings, etc. If a student fails to log in on a regular basis, I will assume you are no longer participating in the class and may administratively drop you from the class. Additionally, failure to log in will affect attendance requirements for financial aid, if applicable.

Time Requirements for this Course:

An online class is not an 'easier' class. The time requirements for an online class are similar to a face-to-face class. 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 registered for an online class are proficient with the technological/computer requirements and the Blackboard system. 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. Additionally, students should be aware that much of the responsibility in mastering the material falls to the student. Should you believe that these aspects of the course will be problematic, then it is suggested that you register for an in-class section of the course.

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:

Exams will consist of discussion/essay questions and multiple choice/short answer questions. Students are allowed two hours to complete the exam. 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 and late submissions are not accepted.

If you try to take an examination having neither read the material/taken notes on the video lectures nor studied the material thoroughly – you will not be successful. Additionally, please plan accordingly when allowing time to complete your exams. Generally, exams consist of essay questions with short answer and multiple choice sections. **Students are expected to follow the directions given for the exam regarding submission, formatting, length, etc.**

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 are timed based on the type of questions included in the quiz. Quizzes will be completed in Blackboard. All quizzes are due by 11:59 pm on Thursday. Late submissions are not accepted. **I do not like to re-open or re-set quizzes.** This should be a very rare occurrence. Make sure you have a stable internet connection before you begin.

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:

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.

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 or 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](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		
Please note that the class is set up in 2-week modules.		All assignments, quizzes, and exams are due on Thursdays by 11:59 pm.
What to read and view		What to do
Week 1 8/24- 8/30	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 1 - The New World http://www.americanyawp.com/text/01-the-new-world/</p> <p>Read: The American Holocaust: Columbus and the Conquest of the New World</p> <p>View: New World Encounters: A Biography of America</p>	<p>Blackboard Introduction Post Pre-test Assignment #1 Quiz #1 Course Policy Agreement</p> <p>Due Thursday August 27th by 11:59 pm: Blackboard Introduction Post Pre-test Course Policy Agreement</p>
Week 2 8/31- 9/6	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 2 - Colliding Cultures http://www.americanyawp.com/text/02-colliding-cultures/</p> <p>View: English Settlement: A Biography of America</p> <p>Read: John Winthrop Dreams of a City Upon A Hill</p> <p>View: We Shall Remain: After the Mayflower</p>	<p>Due Thursday, September 3rd by 11:59 pm: Assignment #1 Quiz #1</p>
MODULE 2		
What to read and view		What to do
Week 3 9/7- 9/13	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 3 - British North America http://www.americanyawp.com/text/03-british-north-america/</p> <p>View: The Black Atlantic: Note outline included with film.</p> <p>View: Being a British Colonist</p>	<p>Assignment #2 Quiz #2</p>
Week 4 9/14- 9/20	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 4 - Colonial Society http://www.americanyawp.com/text/04-colonial-society/</p> <p>Read: Courtship, Sex, and the Single Colonist</p>	<p>Due Thursday, September 17th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #2 Quiz #2</p>

	<p>View: Being a British American</p> <p>View: French and Indian War Changes the Fate of America</p> <p>View: Liberty: The Reluctant Revolutionaries</p> <p>Begin reading: <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>: http://www.gutenberg.org/files/11030/11030-h/11030-h.htm</p>	
	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>Read: Revolutionary Food</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: 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:</p> <p>Assignment #3</p> <p>Quiz #3</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: The Duality of Thomas Jefferson</p> <p>Read: Jefferson and Slavery, Re-assessed</p>	<p>Assignment #4</p> <p>Exam #1</p> <p>Your mid-term exam will be posted on Monday, October 12th at 8:00 am. It will be due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, October 15th.</p>

<p>Week 8 10/12-10/18</p>	<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: 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>Please note: Your mid-term exam will be due on Thursday, October 15th by 11:59 pm.</p>
	<p>MODULE 5</p>	
	<p>What to read and view</p>	<p>What to do</p>
<p>Week 9 10/19-10/25</p>	<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>	<p>Assignment #5 Quiz #4</p>
<p>Week 10 10/26-11/1</p>	<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: 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 Due Quiz #4</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>View: We Shall Remain: The Trail of Tears</p> <p>Read: A Soldier Recalls the Trail of Tears</p> <p>Read: Diary of a Woman Migrating to Oregon</p>	<p>Assignment #6 Quiz #5 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: The Civil War: The Cause</p>	<p>Due Thursday, November 12th by 11:59 pm: Assignment #6 Due Quiz #5</p>
MODULE 7		
	What to read and view	What to do
Week 13 11/16-11/22	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 14-The Civil War http://www.americanyawp.com/text/14-the-civil-war/</p> <p>View: The Civil War: A Biography of America</p> <p>View: The Better Angels of Our Nature</p> <p>Read: The Civil War: Why They Fought</p>	<p>Assignment #7 Assessment Paper Post-test</p>
Week 14 11/23-11/29	<p>Read: AY: Chapter 15-Reconstruction http://www.americanyawp.com/text/15-reconstruction/ Thursday, Nov 26th: Thanksgiving</p> <p>View: Slavery by Another Name</p> <p>Read: Why Reconstruction Matters</p>	<p>Due to Thanksgiving: Assignment #7 is Due by 11:59 pm on Sunday, November 29th.</p> <p>Assessment Paper is Due by 11:59 pm on Sunday, November 29th.</p>
Week 15 11/30-12/6	<p>Study for Final Exam. Final Exam will be posted on Monday, November 30th at 8:00 am. Final Exam is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, December 3rd.</p>	<p>The Final Exam is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, December 3rd.</p> <p>Post-test is due by 11:59 pm on Thursday, December 3rd.</p>
Week 16 12/7-12/9		

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 am going to be out of town on vacation. Do I need to email you and let you know?

No. Just make sure you have internet wherever you travel.

3. 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.

4. 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.

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

Find another computer to use.

6. 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.

7. 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.

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

See Blackboard. Print out another one.

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

Read your syllabus.

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

Submit your future assignments on time.

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

No. Grades are posted on Blackboard - not emailed.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. 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.