



**History 1301.105CL**  
**United States History I**  
**Spring 2022**  
**COM Main Campus, Room 258**  
**Tuesday/Thursday 1:30 – 2:50 PM**

**Instructor Information:** Debra Ramsey  
[Dramsey1@com.edu](mailto:Dramsey1@com.edu)  
409-933-8307

**Student hours and location:** M-Thur 6:45 – 7:05 AM – League City Campus Room 210  
M/W 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM – COM LRC Suite A, 223

**Required Textbook/Materials:** We will utilize OpenStax free online textbook. The link has been provided. You can view this textbook on the web or download a PDF format. You have the option to purchase a hard copy if you wish. <https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history>

**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 and 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 requirements:**

**Exams:** There will be **four exams** during the semester with a value of **100** points each, 70 points for a Multiple-Choice portion, 30 points for the Essay portion. Exam material will be drawn from quizzes, assigned readings, blackboard assignments and all class activities Students should pay particular attention to terms in the study guides, which will be available on Blackboard at the beginning of the module. Each exam may consist of multiple-choice questions, short answer, and map questions

**Core Objective: Critical Thinking**

**Essay Exams:** There will be **four essay exams** during the semester, these are in addition to the multiple choice exams you will take in class. Essay Exams will be available from the beginning of a Module, so you will have several weeks to work on these essays. The instructions for the essays will be in Blackboard. Utilizing the COM Tutoring Center is for your benefit, but for these exams it will be 10 points extra credit.

**Assessment Quizzes:** In addition to the four exams, there will be **10** quizzes in Blackboard to assess your progress between major exams. Quizzes will count for a total of 100 points (10 points for each quiz). **Like exams, quizzes cannot be made up.** Missed quizzes receive a grade of zero. **Quizzes address the following Core Objective: Critical Thinking.**

**Textbook Readings, Videos, Podcasts and Lessons will all include information that will be on quizzes and exams. These will open each week with the appropriate material.**

**Discussion Board:** There will be 5 Discussion Board entries. Initial posts need to be at least 100 words and a thorough discussion of the topic question presented. Students must respond to at least two other posters for full credit. Each discussion board post is worth 20 points. Please review the discussion board etiquette in Blackboard.

**Movie Critique:** I have a list of suggested movies in Blackboard. Choose a film appropriate for our class. After watching the movie, you will write a two-page typed paper about the film. You will address the question of how this movie/documentary fits into the class discussions we have had. Is this an accurate representation of what we have been studying? **See course schedule for due date.** Upload your finished paper to Blackboard.

#### Movie Critique (50 points)

- You need to look for movies on the approved movie list posted in Blackboard. If you want to do a movie on the list, you must get approval from your instructor or you risk receiving a zero.
- After watching the movie, you will write a 2-page typed paper about the movie. You will address the question of how this movie fits into the class discussions or your knowledge of the time-period/event. Is this an accurate representation of what we have been studying? Why or why not
- You need to go into detail about this film.
- First give a summary of the film.
- Then, discuss in detail how it fits into the class discussions or your knowledge of the time-period or event.
- Is it an accurate representation of what we have been studying? Why or Why not, give details.
- This is not just a summary of the movie you need to analyze the movie.  
**DO NOT USE OTHER SOURCES FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT. ONLY USE THE MOVIE ITSELF.**

- I don't want to know what the critics think. I don't want to know how much it made. You need to use only the movie itself.
- You may go longer than 2 pages, but your paper needs to be detailed. Do not imply and expect me to know what you mean.

### **Requirements:**

- Spelling and capitalization need to be correct
- All papers must have a title page, be typed, double spaced with a 12 pt font
- All pages must have appropriately sized margins.
- All papers must contain information detailed in the procedure section of these guidelines

**Research Paper:** Each student will write a 5-page research paper over a topic in US History from 1492-1877, this paper should be in a research paper format and **NO LESS** than 5 pages, a works cited page should be included. Follow MLA formatting guidelines, including citations and a works cited page. Paper must be double spaced Times New Roman font, 12 point. Please review rubric for grading criteria. Before you write your paper, post your topic in the appropriate discussion board. This is to make sure you choose a topic that falls into the scope of this class. If you do not post in the discussion board and get your topic approved, you risk receiving a zero for the paper. You must use at least 3 sources (no textbooks of any kind). You will also be required to use the COM Tutoring center to receive feedback for your paper. This will be 15 points of your paper grade. Your paper is 50 points and tutoring is 15 points for a total of 75 points

**Oral Presentations:** Each student will create an oral presentation over the topic that you wrote your research paper over. You will not read the paper but give a presentation telling us what you learned about the subject. Students must present in class for all presentation days to receive full credit for their presentation. Sign up for presentations days will be available in class on the first couple of days of class. The presentations should be 3-5 minutes long.

**Responsibility Paper:** Students will pick a person or movement that fits into the time period of HIST 1301 – U.S. History to 1877. Students will write a two-page typed paper on the Social and Personal Responsibility of the subject. The student must include a paragraph in their paper discussing the social and personal responsibility of the individuals involved. Students will use **primary and secondary** sources for their paper. You must include a works cited page. Before you write your paper, post your topic in the appropriate discussion board. This is to make sure you choose a topic that falls into the scope of this class. If you do not post in the discussion board and get your topic approved, you risk receiving a zero for the paper. You will also be required to use the COM Tutoring center to receive feedback for your paper. This will be 15 points of your paper grade. Your paper is 50 points and tutoring is 15 points for a total of 75 points

**Covers: Critical Thinking, Social Responsibility, Personal Responsibility, Communication**

Example Topic: Harriet Tubman’s decision to help runaway slaves, what are the consequences of her actions? What personal responsibility does she have and how does it influence those around her? What social responsibility does she have and how does it influence those around her?

Paper format: 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:  
Total points for the semester will be 975 points.**

**Course grades** will be calculated as follows:

Syllabus Quiz.....	20 points
Attendance .....	50 points
Quizzes.....	100 points
Discussions .....	100 points
Responsibility Paper Topic.....	25 points
Responsibility paper.....	65 points
Movie Critique .....	50 points
Research Paper/Oral Presentation Topic.....	25 points
Research Paper Proposal .....	25 points
Research paper .....	65 points
Oral Presentation.....	50 points
First Exam .....	70 points
First Essay Exam .....	30 points
Second Exam .....	70 points
Second Essay Exam.....	30 points
Third Exam .....	70 points
Third Essay Exam .....	30 points
Final Exam.....	70 points
Final Essay Exam .....	<u>30 points</u>

**Total Points .....****975 points**

**Grade Scale:**

A (90 – 100% average)	877.5 - 975 points
B (80 -89% average)	780 – 876.5 points
C (70 – 79% average)	682.5 - 779 points
D (60 – 69% average)	585- 681.5 points
F (59% or below)	below 585 points

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Late work is not accepted. There is no Make-up work, you have a window of several days and in some cases several weeks to complete assignments. I do not go back and open assignments up. Please do not email me missed assignments, all assignments must be uploaded to blackboard. I will substitute your lowest exam grade for one missed exam (this **DOES NOT** mean I drop a grade). If you miss more than one exam those grades will be a zero.

**Make-Up Policy:** There will be **NO** makeup tests or quizzes given. You are given dates for exams in advance. Please make every effort to be in class on that day as I will not give make ups. Essays and other papers are available for several weeks, you should be working on them and not wait until the last minute. I will not give extensions on any papers as they are available for weeks.

**Late work will not be accepted.**

**If you have issues with an assignment you need to see me BEFORE the assignment is due. I cannot help you if you contact me after the assignment is due.**

**If you have issues with the grade on an assignment DO NOT wait until the end of the semester to say something. I will not go all the way back to look at those assignments**

**Computers, cell phones and ear buds** are not allowed to be used in class. For note taking please bring something to write in. Power point notes will be provided in Blackboard. Please turn your cell phone to vibrate and put it in your backpack or purse.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. Instructor will reply to email within 24 hours, weekend emails will be answered on Monday. Please include your course name and number in the subject line, **HIST 1301-102**

**Attendance:** Attendance is very important. If you cannot attend class, please email your instructor. Attendance is 50 points.

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>
1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.	Critical Thinking Skills	Paper
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.	Critical Thinking Skills	Paper
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.	Critical Thinking Skills	Quizzes and Exams
4. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through oral communication.	Communication Skills	Oral Presentation Assignment
5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through visual communication.	Communication Skills	Oral Presentation Assignment
6. Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Paper
7. Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own and relate consequences to decision-making.	Personal Responsibility	Progress Assessment and Paper

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be

referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline actions. Using a previously written paper, even if it is your own, can be considered plagiarism. Contact your instructor before submitting a paper that you have previously written.

**Plagiarism:**

The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. It is a serious offense of academic dishonesty and legally, could be construed as infringement of intellectual property. Plagiarism of an assignment will result in a **grade of zero** on the assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. Please do not turn in papers you have previously turned in for another class. You will receive a zero.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Shinya Wakao at [swakao@com.edu](mailto:swakao@com.edu) 409-933-8107.

Course Outline: **Subject to change**

History 1301  
United States History I

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 – Module 1 January 17 – January 23	Syllabus Video Quiz Expectations Assignments Introductions Writing	<b>Syllabus Quiz</b>
Week 2 – Module 1 January 24 – January 30	Early Exploration	<b>Read Chapters 1 &amp; 2 before class. Research Paper/Oral Presentation topic opens due 1/30 Quiz 1 (Chapter 1&amp;2)</b>
Week 3– Module 1 January 31 – February 6	Early Colonization	<b>Reach Chapter 3 before class. Quiz 2 (Chapter 3)</b>
Week 4- Module 1 February 7 – February 13	English Empire	<b>Read Chapter 4 before class Discussion: Roanoke opens 1/17 due 2/3 Responsibility paper topic due 2/7 Quiz 3 (Chapter 4)</b>
Week 5- Module 1 February 14 – February 20	American Revolution	<b>Read Chapters 5 &amp; 6 before class. Quiz 4 (Chapter 5 &amp; 6)</b>
Week 6 – Module 2 February 21 – February 27	Republican Governments	<b>Exam 1 Multiple choice in class 2/22 Exam 1 Essay due 2/22 Read Chapter 7 for 2/24 class Quiz 5 (Chapter 7)</b>
Week 7 – Module 2	New Republic	<b>Read Chapter 8 before class.</b>



February 28 – March 6		<b>Discussion: <i>Marbury v. Madison</i></b> <b>opens 2/14 due 3/6</b> <b>Responsibility Paper opens 1/17</b> <b>due 3/1</b> <b>Quiz 6 (Chapter 8)</b>
Week 8 – Module 2 March 6 – March 13	Industrial Transformation	<b>Read Chapter 9 before class</b> <b>Quiz 7 (Chapter 9)</b>
Week 9 – Module 2 March 21 – March 27	Jacksonian Democracy	<b>Discussion: Indian Removal</b> <b>opens 3/6 closes 3/20</b> <b>Quiz 8 (Chapter 10)</b> <b>Exam 2 Multiple Choice 3/23</b> <b>Exam 2 Essay due 3/24</b>
Week 10 – Module 3 March 28 – April 3	Westward Expansion,	<b>Read Chapter 11 before class.</b> <b>Research paper opens 1/17 due</b> <b>3/31</b> <b>Quiz 9 (Chapter 11)</b>
Week 11 – Module 3 April 4 – April 10	Antebellum South	<b>Read Chapter 12</b> <b>Quiz 10 (Chapter 12)</b>
Week 12 – Module 3 April 11 – April 17	Antebellum Idealism and Reform Impulses,	<b>Read Chapter 13 before class.</b> <b>Quiz 11</b> <b>Discussion: Kansas Nebraska Act</b> <b>opens 4/4 closes 4/18</b> <b>Exam 3 Multiple Choice 4/13</b> <b>Exam 3 Essay opens 3/28 due</b> <b>4/18</b>
Week 13 – Module 4 April 18 – April 24	Troubled Times, the Tumultuous 1860s	<b>Read Chapter 14 before class.</b> <b>Quiz 12 (Chapter 14)</b> <b>Movie Critique opens 1/17 due</b> <b>4/20.</b>
Week 14 – Module 4 April 25 – May 1	Civil War	<b>Read Chapter 15 before class.</b> <b>Quiz 13 (Chapter 15)</b> <b>Discussion: Johnson</b> <b>Impeachment opens 4/19 due 5/1</b>
Week 15 – Module 4 May 2 – May 5	Reconstruction	<b>Read Chapter 16 before class</b> <b>Quiz 14 (Chapter 16)</b> <b>Presentations 5/5</b>

Week 16 - May 8 – May 11	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Presentations 5/9</b> <b>Final Exam 5/12</b> <b>Final Exam Essay opens 4/19 due 5/8</b>

## Institutional Policies and Guidelines

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <[https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* [https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf)

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

**Counseling Statement:** Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email [counseling@com.edu](mailto:counseling@com.edu) to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is March 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 25. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is May 4.

**F<sub>N</sub> Grading:** The F<sub>N</sub> grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F<sub>N</sub> grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F<sub>N</sub> grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F<sub>N</sub> grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**COVID-19 Statement:** All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at [www.com.edu/coronavirus](http://www.com.edu/coronavirus). In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit [com.edu/coronavirus](http://com.edu/coronavirus) for future updates.