



HIST 1301 Sec. 01111
United States History I
Fall 2025
Online

Instructor Information: Shane Puryear, M.A. (swest2@com.edu)

Student hours and location: MTWTh 10:00am – 3:00pm by appointment via WebEx or Zoom.

Required Textbook and Materials:

- *The American Yawp* (<https://www.americanyawp.com>)
- A good dictionary or access to one.
- Access to a reliable computer with reliable access to the internet.
- Microsoft Office
- Respondus Lockdown Browser
- Webcam (for taking quizzes and exams)

Instructor's Note on Textbook: The textbook for this course is a free web-based ebook. It can be accessed at <https://www.americanyawp.com>. If you wish to purchase a print copy of the textbook, there is a link on the website.

Instructor's Note on Computer Usage: For this course, you will need to use a computer (preferably no tablets) with either macOS or Windows. Chromebooks are not recommended in that they are notorious for not working well with D2L.

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. Credit by examination is available. Prerequisite: TSI Reading 351 or equivalent developmental course.)

Determination of Course Grade

This course is divided into four self-contained modules which contain activities that must be completed in order to be successful in this course. Each module consists of the following activities.

- Module Primary Source Assignment (25 pts, 200 points total)
- Module Discussion (50 pts each, 200 points total)
- Module Quiz Average (100 pts each module, 400 points total)
 - 10 Questions with a 15-minute time limit.
- Module Exam (100 points each, 400 points total)
 - 50 Multiple Choice Questions with a 60-minute time limit.
 - Will require the use of Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor. (Download link is provided in the course shell.)
- Total Possible Points: 1100

Letter Grade Determination

The following point totals will be used in determining your final grade. Please note that, although I am more than happy to discuss your progress in the course or issues you have in the course, under NO circumstance will I negotiate grades.

- A: 984 – 1100
- B: 874 – 983
- C: 764 – 873
- D: 654 – 763
- F: 0 – 653

Extra Credit: There will be extra credit opportunities as the course progresses. Do not ask for extra credit as these opportunities will come around as they will. I do not negotiate extra credit. Any opportunities I give for extra credit or due dates for said extra credit are at my sole discretion and aren't up for discussion.

Make-Up Policy: If you miss an exam, you will need to let me know either in class or via email. If you miss an exam you need to provide DOCUMENTED PROOF of why you missed the exam. The only situations in which a make-up exam will be allowed are GENUINE AND DOCUMENTED EMERGENCIES. Since the exams are taken on D2L, I expect this to be an EXTREMELY rare occurrence. There are no make-ups for assignments. **Simply not being prepared for an exam is not a valid excuse for not turning in an exam on the scheduled date and time.**

Attendance Policy: The nature of this course is such that one should plan to spend at least 4-6 hours per week on course related activities.

Expectations of Students:

- Students need to log into the course website at least 5 times a week
- Students need to prepare to spend at least 8-10 hours per week on the course website going through the lessons and completing assignments.
- Student need to understand that, although this is an online course, this is not a self-paced course. Modules will be open at appropriate times and there will be due dates for module activities.
- Students need to make sure that they have access to a reliable computer and internet connection.
- Students need to make that do no procrastinate and get their obligations taken care of in a timely fashion in case of technical issues.
- Students need to be active participants in this course in order to be successful.
- Students need to actively communicate with me when situations arise or when they have questions over the material.

Expectations of Your Instructor

- I will do everything I can to make sure that student emails are responded to within 24 hours during the week.
- Work will be graded as promptly as possible with feedback given.
- I will be an active participant in this course if and when necessary.
- I will be an active facilitator to ensure that students are contributing to the course and that the course itself is a safe place and conducive to learning.

Communication Policy: I need you to adhere to the following guidelines as it pertains to communication and discussion for our class. These policies cover email etiquette and netiquette as a whole. If you have any questions over these policies, please get ahold of me.

- Email is the best way of getting ahold of me. My email address is indicated in the syllabus. Please email me using your official COM email address as I will not respond to personal email addresses. This policy is set up for two reasons. Firstly, mail from personal email addresses will usually end up in my spam folder and I might not see it. Secondly, in order to adhere to FERPA, using your official email address will ensure that I am actually communicating with you.
- I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours during the school week. Please be aware, that unless something is due, I do not check or respond to emails on nights and weekends.
- As it pertains to email netiquette, I expect all correspondences to be in a professional format and tone. All emails should have a descriptive subject, use of my proper title and last name in your salutation, and be in a college level tone and format (make sure that they are proofread and without slang). Make sure to sign your emails with your name, class and section you are in, and return email address.
- As it pertains to discussion forum netiquette, please remember that an online classroom is still a classroom and we must all respect it as though this were a face to face class. Your posts need to stay on topic, demonstrate college level writing, and be well thought out. Your posts need to be well written and well thought out. If you use another source, make sure that you give that source credit. Above all else, make sure that you treat everyone on the discussion forum with respect, even if you disagree with them.

Tips For Success:

- Log on to the course website at least 5 times a week and be prepared to spend 8-10 hours a week on this course.
- Make sure to complete all activities for every module.
- Take detailed notes.
- If you are confused about a concept presented in the course, ask for clarification.
- Study, study, STUDY.
- Use the study technique that works best for you (highlighting, flashcards, study groups, etc.).

- Read the textbook and lessons carefully and for retention.
- Make use of email.
- If a situation occurs that affects your progress in the course, LET ME KNOW.
- If you are not doing well in the course, don't wait until the last week of class to contact me. The sooner we can address your issues, the better chance we have a resolving them.

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. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via D2L or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Module Discussions
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Primary Source Assignments
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Module Discussions
4. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1302-related topic through written communication.	Communication Skills (CS1)	Module Discussions and Primary Source Assignments
5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through visual communication.	Communication Skills (CS3)	Overall Course Performance
6. Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility (SR)	Module Discussions
7. Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to decision-making.	Personal Responsibility (PR)	Module Discussions

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 action.)

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. When in doubt – cite!! Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Statement on the Use of A.I.: The use of Artificial Intelligence (or A.I.) for written assignments is strictly prohibited in this class. Any use of A.I. by a student in the class will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and will be dealt with as such. Prior to being graded, all written assignments will be checked for the use of A.I. using several A.I. detectors. Any questions on this issue can always be directed to me and I will be more than happy to help out with the issue.

Syllabus Disclaimer: Policies and due dates are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

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 Dr. Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8104 or swakao@com.edu.

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://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>

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.

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:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

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 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.
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Tentative Course Schedule

All assignments and assessments are due at 10:00pm Central Time on the date listed.

Module	Assignments & Due Dates
1 8/18 – 8/28	Chapters Covered: 1 – 5 Module 1 Primary Source Assignment Due: 8/21 Census Day: 8/25 Module 1 Discussion Due: 8/27 Module 1 Quizzes and Exam Due: 8/28
2 8/29 – 9/11	Chapters Covered: 6 – 9 Module 2 Primary Source Assignment Due: 9/4 Module 2 Discussion Due: 9/10 Module 2 Quiz and Exam Due: 9/11
3 9/12 – 9/25	Chapters Covered: 10 – 12 Module 3 Primary Source Assignment Due: 9/18 Module 3 Discussion Due: 9/24 Module 3 Quiz and Exam Due: 9/25
4 9/26 – 10/9	Chapters Covered: 13 – 15 Last Day to Withdraw With a Grade of W: 10/1 Module 4 Primary Source Assignment Due: 10/2 Module 4 Discussion Due: 10/8 Module 4 Quiz and Exam Due: 10/9

Syllabus Disclaimer: Policies and due dates are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Instructor's Note: Before asking questions on policies, due dates, requirements, ect, consult your syllabus before asking me. If you ask me about something that is covered in the syllabus, I will refer you to it.