



History 1301.103CL
United States History I
Spring 2024
COM Main Campus, LRC Room 255
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30 – 10:50 AM

Instructor Information: Debra Ramsey
Dramsey1@com.edu
409-933-8307

Student hours and location: M-W 6 :30 – 7:00 AM, League City, Room 117
M/W 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. LRC. Suite A.
T/Th 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM LRC, Suite A.

Required Textbook/Materials: We will utilize American Yawp 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 the COM Bookstore has the HIST 1301 for \$33.95 plus tax. American Yawp <https://www.americanyawp.com/>

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:

Homework: Students are expected to read each assigned chapter each week. Generally, in college: A student spends 3 hours for every hour in class. For a three-hour course (such as History), most students spend about 7-9 hours per week studying and preparing for class. Students are expected to read and prepare prior to coming to class. This will lead to class discussions and a better understanding of the chapters.

Discussion Participation: You will be required to participate in class discussions. Material for discussions will come from the textbook. You should read your textbook chapter before coming to class so you may participate in the discussions and earn your grade.

Exams: There will be **four exams** during the semester with a value of **100** points each, 50 points for a Multiple-Choice portion, 40 points for the Essay portion. Exam material will be drawn from

quizzes, assigned readings, D2L/Brightspace assignments and all class activities. Students should pay particular attention to terms in the study guides and quizzes, which will be available on D2L at the beginning of the module. Each exam may consist of multiple-choice questions, short answers, and map questions

Core Objective: Critical Thinking

Writing Portion Exams: There will be **four writing portion exams** during the semester, these are in addition to the multiple-choice exams you will take in class. Writing Portion 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 writing portion will be on D2L. Writing Portions are 50 points.

Assessment Quizzes: In addition to the four exams, there will be at least **10** quizzes in given in class to assess your progress between major exams. We will have more than 10 quizzes, for example, if we have 15 quizzes, we will drop the lowest 5 quizzes at the end of the semester. 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.**

Research Paper Proposal: After your topic is approved in the Discussion Board you must submit your Proposal and Thesis statement. You also need to submit an initial Works Cited Page. Sources that you will use for your paper. Please submit those sources in MLA format.

Step 1: Write a thesis statement that replies to the question prompted for the paper. Remember that this thesis statement will guide the development and support of your paper. For assistance in writing a thesis, please check the following link:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/the_writing_process/thesis_statement_tips.html

Step 2: Give me the main idea of the source. Main idea and summary are two different things. What is the author trying to tell us with his book/article.

Step 3: After each source, include a detailed summary. Then reflect on the information you have gathered from the source and explain how the source fits into your overall research for this paper.

You must view all feedback on the proposal before you can submit your Research Paper.

Thesis Statement	25%
Sources	25%
Source Summary	25%
Source Main Idea	15%
How well does the source fit into the overall	10%
Research Paper	100%

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 pt. Please review rubric for grading criteria. Before you write your paper, post your topic on 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 5 sources (**no textbooks of any kind**). You will also be **required** to use the COM Tutoring center to receive feedback for your paper. Students will be required to turn in a Paper proposal which will include the thesis statement and sources you plan to use.

The Research Paper Assignment will be graded using the following formula:

Analyze sources	-25%
Create an argument through the use of historical evidence	- 25%
Effective use of Critical Thinking Skills	- 25%
Effective use of Communication Skills (written)	-15%
Length of Paper	-10%
	100%

Oral Presentations: Each student will create an oral presentation over the topic that you wrote your research paper on. 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. 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 on 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.

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?

Effective use of Critical Thinking Skills - 25 points

Effective use of Communication Skills (grammar & work usage)	- 25 points
Analysis of the Social Responsibility component of the topic	- 25 points
Analysis of the Personal Responsibility component the topic	- 25 points
	100 points

All Paper Requirements: Points will be taken off for incorrect formats

- 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
- Do not submit a paper you have used for another class.
- All Papers require a works cited page with sources that were used

Turnitin: All papers will be submitted to Turnitin. Please check your similarity report, this flags plagiarism. Also, Turnitin now checks to see if your paper was written by Artificial Intelligence, you will not see this percentage, but your instructor will. Any percentage of Artificial Intelligence usage will result in a zero for your paper. Do not use Grammarly or any other online helpers to help you write your paper, it will show up as Artificial Intelligence. If you need help with papers use the COM Tutoring Center.

No “Recycled Assignments for Course Credit: You may not re-submit an essay or discussion post (or portions thereof) that you did in another course for credit in this course, including material from one of my classes in an earlier semester. Therefore, even if you have done an assignment before in another class, you have to do the assignment from scratch this semester.

Grades: Students should be reviewing their grades and feedback frequently.

Feedback: In order to improve your writing, you should be reviewing feedback. When you upload your paper, you should review your similarity percentage and fix your papers. There are no redo’s on assignments.

Course grades will be calculated as follows:

Assignment	Points
Attendance	100
Quizzes	100
Class Discussion Participation	100
Responsibility Paper	70

Responsibility Paper Tutoring	20
Research Paper Topic	20
Research Paper Proposal	20
Research Paper	80
Research Paper Tutoring	20
Oral Presentation	70
First Multiple-Choice Exam	50
Writing Portion 1	50
Second Multiple-Choice Exam	50
Writing Portion 2	50
Third Multiple-Choice Exam	50
Writing Portion 3	50
Fourth (Final Exam) Multiple-Choice	50
Writing Portion 4	50
Total Points	1000

Grade Scale:

A (90-100% average)	900	to	1000
B (80-89% average)	800	to	899.9
C (70-79% average)	700	to	799.9
D (60-69% average)	600	to	699.9
F (59% or below)	Below 600		

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-up exams or quizzes. 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. 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

Late work will not be accepted. Please do not ask for alternate assignments. 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. . **Please do not email me missed assignments, all assignments must be uploaded to D2L.** 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. I do not give extensions on papers as they are available for several weeks

Please be aware going on a trip/vacation does not warrant getting extra time to complete assignments.

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.

Internet Access: You are responsible for obtaining access to the Internet to get your assignments done on time. "My computer broke," "My Internet was down," or "I forgot I was in a different time zone" are not excuses for failing to complete an assignment on time. Therefore, make a back-up plan in case you experience computer or internet problems. Do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments and remember that the college library and public libraries are available for you to use.

Submission of Assignments: It is your responsibility to submit assignments such as discussion postings and essays in the proper format as specified in the instructions for the assignment. I will not grade assignments not submitted in the correct format. Access to exams and other assignments ends after the deadlines have passed. Always save an extra copy of assignments to a place other than your computer hard drive, such as a flash drive or to cloud storage. Another good idea is to e-mail assignments to yourself as file attachments so you can access them from other computers.

Technology/Assignment issues: The instructor is not required to give consideration for lost/missing/unacceptable work stemming from technical non-compliance and/or end-user technical issues. Failure to maintain Internet or computer access shall not constitute a valid excuse for missed work. Any student who cannot keep up with the coursework owing to a lack of computer or Internet access or functionality should refer to the Library Computer Lab hours of operation (<https://www.com.edu/computer-labs/library-computer-lab>) and plan to complete any and all coursework during posted hours

If you fail to complete an assignment or exam because your computer crashes or loses internet access, forget to attach a file, attach a wrong/blank/empty file to an assignment, did not verify submission of the correct file/information/link/etc., or did not use the appropriate browser or operating system to access and complete course work, then you are not entitled to make up the course work. If the assignment, discussion, project, or exam was not completed or submitted in a timely manner due to your error or due to end-user technological issues of any kind, it cannot be made up.

Computers, cell phones and ear buds are not allowed to be used in class. For note taking please bring something to write in. 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 1301-103**

Attendance: Attendance is very important. If you cannot attend class, please email your instructor. Attendance is 100 points.

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
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. Plagiarism is 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 409-933-8107

Course Outline: **Subject to change**

History 1301

United States History I

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1 January 15 – January 21	Syllabus Video Quiz Expectations Assignments Introduction Writing Indigenous America (Chapter 1)	Syllabus Quiz Read Chapter 1 before class Read Leif Erikson before Thursday’s class
Week 2 January 22 – January 28	Finish Indigenous America Colliding Cultures (Chapter 2)	Read Chapter 2 before class. Read Roanoke and be prepared to discuss this week
Week 3 January 29 – February 4	British North America (Chapter 3) Colonial Society (Chapter 4)	Read Chapters 3 & 4 before class. Discussion Board Post: Research Paper/Oral Presentation Topic Read Jamestown and be prepared to discuss this week
Week 4 February 5 – February 11	American Revolution (Chapter 5) Exam 1 in class	Read Chapter 5 before class. Read American Revolution and be prepared to discuss. Exam 1 in class on Thursday 2/8 Writing Portion Due 2/8
Week 5 February 12 – February 18	A New Nation (Chapter 6)	Take Home Constitution Quiz due in class 2/13 Read Chapter 6 before class Read Marbury V. Madison and be prepared to discuss this week
Week 6 February 19 - February 25	Early Republic (Chapter 7)	Read Chapter 7 before class. Read War of 1812 and be prepared to discuss
Week 7 February 26 – March 3	Market Revolution (Chapter 8) Democracy in America (Chapter 9)	Read Chapter 8 before class. Read 1824 Election prepared to discuss Responsibility Paper and Tutoring
Week 8 March 4 – March 10	Democracy in America (Chapter 9) Exam 2	Read Chapter 9 before class Read Indian Removal Act be prepared to discuss Exam 2 in class 3/7

		Writing Portion due 3/7
Week 9 March 18-March 24	Religion and Reform (Chapter 10)	Read Chapter 10 before class Read The Great Awakening and be prepared to discuss Research Paper proposal
Week 10 March 25 – March 31	Cotton Revolution (Chapter 11)	Read Chapter 11 before class Read Slavery and Religion and be prepared to discuss
Week 11 April 1 – April 7	Manifest Destiny (Chapter 12)	Read Texas Revolution and be prepared to discuss in class
Week 12 April 8 – April 14	Exam 3 in Class The Sectional Crisis (Chapter 13)	Exam 3 in class 4/9 Writing Portion due 4/9 Read Chapter 13 before class Read Compromise of 1850 and be prepared to discuss
Week 13 April 15 – April 21	The Sectional Crisis (Chapter 13) The Civil War (Chapter 14)	Read Chapter 14 before Class Read Secession of Southern States and be prepared to discuss Research paper and tutoring due
Week 14 April 22 – April 28	The Civil War (Chapter 14) Reconstruction (Chapter 15)	Read Sherman’s March to the Sea and be prepared to discuss Extra Credit Life of Fredrick Douglass Read Reconstruction be prepared to discuss Oral presentation powerpoint due
Week 15 April 29 – May 5	Presentations begin Tuesday	Presentations begin April 30 Extra Credit Movie Critique due Evaluations
Week 16 May 6 – May 9	Final Exam	Final Exam 5/7 Writing portion 4 due 5/7

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/docs/Student_Handbook_2023-2024_v2.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.

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 at 409-933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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 February 28. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 22. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is May 1. The last date to withdraw for spring mini session is May 29.

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](https://www.com.edu/communityresources@com.edu).