



**History 1301.131CL/310CL
US History 1 to 1877
Fall 2022
Mon-Wed 7.30-8.50 am**

Instructor Information

Name Dr. Gilchrist White
Email gwhite@com.edu
Office Phone 409.933.8212 (Social and Behavioral Sciences Office; the Administrative Assistant can get a message to me.)

Office Hours and Location

Office Hours Mon-Wed, 9-10; or, by Appointment
Office Location LRC, Suite A (Social and Behavioral Sciences) or Suite B (Humanities)

My Teaching Philosophy

Learning is best achieved when students become engaged with the material and discover information on their own. Students also need interaction with other learners through discussions, debates, collaboration, and evaluation. Individual learners also need to reflect on their learning—to evaluate his/her past experiences and how they relate to his/her present situation, and to plan for future learning and growth. A teacher's job is to help learners with this on-going process.

This philosophy places students at the center of their own learning and in charge of it.

Required Textbooks

P. Scott Corbett, et al, *U.S. History*. Published by OpenStax. Updated May 20, 2022. (*This is a free, downloadable textbook.*)

Instructions to access the book:

1. Open your browser and search for Openstax. It is provided by Rice University.
2. Click on subject and search for the book *US History*. There are instructions to download the app, download the PDF, read online, or order a print copy.

You may also Click on this link if you are reading this syllabus online in Desire2Learn: [US History \(Openstax\)](#) to access the book. This link is a direct link to our textbook.

Other Requirements

You must use Microsoft Office Word for your essays and other written assignments. You may download a free copy of Office 365 through the College web site. Go to COM's Home Page. Click on the College Operations tab and scroll down to the Information Technology button. Click on it. At the top of IT's page is a button "Office 365." Click on it and follow the instructions on the page.

Desire2Learn (D2L)

There is a course in D2L for our class. The syllabus, assignments and other materials will be online for your use and reference. You will also need to submit your essays through an assignment link. *I'll talk about this and show you in class.*

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 1 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 1 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.

Prerequisite: TSI Reading 351 or equivalent developmental course.

History 1301 is an academic transfer course satisfying COM's American History Core Curriculum requirement.

Course Requirements

1. Exams

Each exam may have an objective section such as identification, short answer, and multiple choice and an essay section. The objective section may be given in class or online in Desire2Learn. The essay section may be written outside of class or in class. Exam material will be drawn from both the PowerPoint lectures and assigned readings and any other material in the unit and oral presentations. Exams will not be cumulative. (4 @100 points each; 400 points total)

2. Interpreting Primary Documents

For each exam period, you will be given a choice of documents to read and interpret using questions. The documents and questions are in our textbook. Your responses to the questions are to be typed and turned in at the beginning of class. A handout with the list of readings and due dates for each exam period will be provided. (4 @25 points each; 100 points total)

3. Historical Argument Paper

This paper will require you to write an argument essay about an event in American history. The basis will be one or two of the primary documents (see #2 above). You will do research about the topic and include secondary sources (articles from research) as well as the primary source. A list of topics and specific instructions for writing the paper will be provided. (100 points)

4. Personal/Social Responsibility Paper

This paper will cover an issue in American history in which you will analyze individual choices in a social and ethical setting. A handout with detailed instructions will be provided. (100 points)

5. Oral Presentation

You will have a choice of topics from a list I will provide; each presentation will be 3-5 minutes in length and must include a visual aid (this includes PowerPoint, posters, photographs, etc.). A detailed handout will be provided. (50 points)

6. Miscellaneous Assignments

This category covers a group of assignments that don't fit anywhere else. Points will vary.

Note: There may be other assignments that I have not listed, but generally, these are the kinds of work we will do this term.

Grading Formula

A cumulative point system for grading is used in this course:

Exams (4 @ 100 points each)	400 points
Primary Documents (4 @ 25 points each)	100 points
Historical Argument (100 points)	100 points
Personal/Social Responsibility Paper	100 points
Oral Presentation	<u>50 points</u>
Total	750 points*

** Your grade will be based on the number of points you have earned divided by the total points available. The D2L Grade book keeps a running total of points so that you can always see how you are doing.*

Grading Scale:

A	675 - 750
B	600 - 674
C	525 - 599
D	450 - 524
F	449 and below

I have been as accurate as I can with the number of points available, but assignments can be dropped or added as needed to insure your comprehension of content. Therefore, the point total, and therefore the grading scale, may change. I will keep you informed of any changes.

Late Work: I do not like to accept late work. However, I understand that occasionally a student may have an unexpected problem getting an assignment in on time – for whatever reason. If you find yourself in that situation, you need to talk with me in class or email me ASAP.

If I agree to accept your late assignment, you will have **2 (two) weeks** to submit it, and I will deduct the equivalent of **one letter grade** from the score as penalty. *After 2 (two) weeks, the assignment earns a "0" – unless you and I have agreed on different terms.*

If you are having trouble with an assignment, let me know BEFORE it is due. I will work with you as much as I can.

Make-up Policy

Because of the Late Work policy above, the only work you are allowed to Make-up is the in-class sections of an exam. If you miss an in-class exam, you have **2 weeks** to take the make-up. *After 2 (two) weeks, the in-class section of the exam earns a "0" – unless you and I have agreed on different terms.*

Extra Credit

The only extra credit offered is to complete the Course Evaluation, available toward the end of the semester. If you complete the evaluation, I will award 5 points to your course point total.

NOTE: As with all course evaluations, I will not see the results until after grades are in and they are not identified by name so the results are completely anonymous. I receive a list of students who completed the evaluation, but not what students said.

Additional extra credit may be available but is not guaranteed.

Attendance Policy

COM recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law: religious holy days and military service (see the current *Student Handbook*).

In accordance with that policy, I recommend that you miss no more than 4 classes, for whatever reason. Missing classes will affect your grade. Please do not schedule doctor's appointments or other events during class time.

Tardiness Policy

If you must be late, come in and take the nearest vacant seat. See me after class.

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.

If you have questions outside of class, email me through D2L Course Email or Messages. If you have computer problems and CANNOT access D2L or the Internet, leave a message with the Administrative Assistant, Kerry Kloesel (409-933-8212), and I will call you as soon as I can.

Table Mapping SLOs, Core Objectives, and Assignments

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

Academic Dishonesty

Any incident of academic dishonesty 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 or paper and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Plagiarism is a common form of academic dishonesty. To plagiarize is to steal the words or ideas of another and pass them off as one's own. Two forms of plagiarism are common. In the first form, the writer incorporates published or otherwise recorded material without properly acknowledging its sources. In the second form, the writer submits work actually done by someone else. (The student who allows his/her work to be used by others is also guilty.)

Links to Resources about Avoiding Plagiarism

[Purdue University OWL](#)

[The Tutoring Center at COM](#)

Concerns/Questions Statement

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact your instructor using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with your instructor, you continue to have questions, please contact the Department Chair, Shinya Wakao at 409.933.8107 or swakao@com.edu.

General Course Outline (See more detailed Calendar for specific due dates; schedule subject to change)

Weeks 1-4: Beginnings, Exploration, Early Colonization

- Chapters 1-4 in *US History*
- Primary documents from the period; short writing assignment
- Exam 1

Weeks 5-8: British Colonies and Empire, the American Revolution, the New Nation

- Chapters 5-8 in *US History*
- Primary documents from the period; short writing assignment
- Exam 2

Weeks 9-12: Industrial Revolution, Jacksonian Democracy, Manifest Destiny, The South, 1800-1860

- Chapters 9-12 in *US History*
- Primary documents from the period; short writing assignment
- Historical Argument Paper due
- Exam 3

Weeks 13-16: Reform, 1820-1860, Politics Leading to Civil War, the Civil War, Reconstruction

- Chapters 13-16 in *US History*
- Primary documents from the period; short writing assignment
- Personal and Social Responsibility Paper
- Exam 4

Oral Presentations will occur throughout the semester. Schedule will be provided.

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>. *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 career. 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 Michelle Brezina at 409-933-8124 or mvaldes1@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 October 5. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 18. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 1.

Fn Grade

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 will be submitted for an Fn grade (for an online class, the last date an assignment is submitted will be considered the last date of attendance.)

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 visit the Community Resource Center in the Student Center or 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 in the Student Center or at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Tentative Calendar

This schedule is subject to change at my discretion.

Day/Date	Homework/Readings due for Class	Class Activities/Due Dates
Week 1 Mon Aug 22		Introduction to course
Wed Aug 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 1, pgs. 7-29 	Oral Presentation Assignment Native Americans, Western Europeans, West and Central Africans, before 1492
Week 2 Mon Aug 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 2, pgs. 31-53 Topic for oral presentation 	Exploration and Conquest, 1492-1650 Choose topic for oral presentation
Wed Aug 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 3, pgs. 57-82 (begin reading) 	Exploration and Conquest First colonies, 1500-1700
Week 3 Mon Sept 5	Labor Day	Holiday – No Class
Wed Sept 7	<i>US History</i> , Chapter 3, pgs. 57-82	First colonies, 1500-1700
Week 4 Mon Sept 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 4, pgs. 85-107 	British Colonies and Empire, 1660-1763 Due: Questions on Primary Documents 1
Wed Sept 14	Prepare for Exam 1	Exam 1 in-class section; covers Chapters 1-4 in <i>US History</i>, lectures, and other related materials
Week 5 Mon Sept 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 5, pgs. 111-134 	Imperial Reforms and Colonial Protests, 1763-1774
Wed Sept 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 5 	Imperial Reforms and Colonial Protests, 1763-1774
Week 6 Mon Sept 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 6, pgs. 139-161 	America's War for Independence, 1775-1783
Wed Sept 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 6 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 7, pgs. 165-188 (begin reading) 	America's War for Independence;
Week 7 Mon Oct 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 7, pgs. 165-188 	Creating Republican Governments, 1776-1790
Wed Oct 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 7 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 8, pgs. 191-214 (begin reading) 	Creating Republican Governments Essay for Exam 2 assigned
Week 8 Mon Oct 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 8, pgs. 191-214 	The New Republic, 1790-1820 Due: Questions on Primary Documents 2

Day/Date	Homework/Readings due for Class	Class Activities/Due Dates
Wed Oct 12	Prepare for Exam 2 Complete Essay for Exam 2 and bring signature page to class	Essay for Exam 2 due Exam 2: in-class section; covers Chapters 5-8 in <i>US History</i>, lectures, and other related materials; oral presentations
Week 9 Mon Oct 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 9, pgs. 217-240 	Industrialization of the North, 1800-1850
Wed Oct 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 9 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 10, pgs. 243-265 (begin reading) 	Industrialization
Week 10 Mon Oct 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 10, pgs. 243-265 	Jacksonian Democracy, 1820-1840
Wed Oct 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 10 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 11, pgs. 269-293 (begin reading) 	Jacksonian Democracy Westward Expansion, 1800-1860
Week 11 Mon Oct 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 11, pgs. 269-293 	Westward Expansion, 1800-1860 Essay for Exam 3 assigned
Wed Nov 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 11 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 12, pgs. 297-322 (begin reading) 	Westward Expansion The Antebellum South, 1800-1860
Week 12 Mon Nov 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 12, pgs. 297-322 	The Antebellum South Due: Questions on Primary Documents 3
Wed Nov 9	Prepare for Exam 3	Essay for Exam 3 due Exam 3: in-class section; covers Chapters 9-12 in <i>US History</i>, lectures, and other related materials; oral presentations
Week 13 Mon Nov 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 13, pgs. 325-348 	Reform Impulses, 1820-1860
Wed Nov 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 13 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 14, pgs. 353-375 (begin reading) 	Reform Impulses Sectional Conflict and Political Crisis, the 1850s
Week 14 Mon Nov 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 14, pgs. 353-375 Finish Historical Argument Essay	Conflict: The 1850s Due: Historical Argument Essay <i>Course evaluation begins today. Check your COM email for instructions.</i>
Wed Nov 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 15, pgs. 379-404 	The Civil War
Week 15 Mon Nov 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>US History</i>, Chapter 15 <i>US History</i>, Chapter 16, pgs. 407-431 	Civil War Reconstruction

Day/Date	Homework/Readings due for Class	Class Activities/Due Dates
Wed Nov 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>US History</i>, Chapter 16 Finish Social and Personal Responsibility paper	Reconstruction Due Social and Personal Responsibility paper
Week 16 Mon Dec 5	<i>Course Evaluation ends at 11.59 pm on Sunday, Dec 4</i>	Finish Reconstruction Due: Primary Documents 4
Wed Dec 7	Prepare for Final Exam Complete Essay for Exam 4	Essay for Exam 4 due Exam 4: covers chapters 13, 14, 15 & 16; and all material covered in class including any oral presentations

When the oral presentations have been chosen and I have assigned dates, I will provide an additional calendar with presenters and topics.