



History 1301.315CL
United States History I
Fall 2021
M-F

Instructor Information: Preston Mack, email, (409)916-0800 EXT-1926

Student hours and location: Tuesday and Thursday 3:00- 3:30 pm Room E104

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/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:

Quizzes- These will be based on vocabulary and big ideas from lectures. They will contain five multiple choice vocabulary questions and one short response question. The multiple-choice question will be worth 5 points and the short response worth 5 points for a total of 10 points possible for each quiz.

Discussion Posts- Students will write short response of at least 100 words to a question based on a secondary source reading. The students will also respond to another students post, politely and constructively, in a value-added post of at least 30 words. Each discussion posts is worth 5 points and will be graded on analysis of the source, use of lecture or reading concepts, and their value-added response. Initial posts will be due by midnight of the day assigned and the response due by midnight of the following Sunday.

Argument Research Paper- Each student will be responsible for a five-page typed (double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman) paper over an approved historical topic. You will use at least THREE primary source documents, ONE scholarly article, and ONE book. Citations will follow the Chicago style. The finished paper is due Nov 19th. It is worth 50 points and will be graded based on clarity of writing and the argument in addition to the above requirements. A one paragraph proposal, worth 5 points of the 50 total, is due by Oct 1st. Approvals will be given by Oct 4th. Any changes due to instructor feedback are due by Oct 8th.

QEP Oral Presentation- Each student will present a 3 – 5-minute presentation of their research topic to the class. This is worth 25 points and will be graded based on clarity of the argument, use of sources, and demonstrated knowledge of the topic.

Primary Source Analysis Exercise- Students will be presented with a primary source they have not seen before but is related to a concept from lectures. The student will be asked to identify key parts of the document, describe its main ideas, and how it relates to course lectures. Each exercise is worth 25 points.

Midterm/Final Exam- This course will contain two exams. Each exam will consist of a bank of ten lecture terms of which the student will choose four to write a short response to. These responses will be graded based on the student’s ability to clearly demonstrate knowledge of the term and connect it to concepts from the course lectures and readings. Each exam is worth 100 points.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Quizzes (10 worth 10 points each)-.....	100 points
Discussion Posts (5 worth 5 points each)-	25 points
Argument Research Paper (1)-.....	50 points
QEP Oral Presentation (1)-.....	25 points
Primary Source Analysis Exercises (2 worth 25 points each)-.....	50 points
Midterm Exam (1)-	100 points
Final Exam (1)-	100 points
 Total Possible Points-.....	 450 points

- A: 402 – 450
- B: 357 – 401
- C: 312 – 356
- D: 267 – 311
- F: 0 – 266

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: Late work is not accepted. There is no Makeup 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. The only situations in which a make-up exam will be allowed are GENUINE AND DOCUMENTED EMERGENCIES. Any extra credit opportunities will be posted in Blackboard.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend class regularly. There is a clear and direct correlation between attendance and success in the classroom. In the event of an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to acquire lecture notes from a classmate. If an absence falls on a due date for an assignment, it is the student’s responsibility to turn in all assignments before the deadline.

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 Blackboard or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Create an argument using historical evidence.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Presentation and Primary Document Assignments
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	Primary Document 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)	Exams and Presentation
4. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through oral communication.	Communication Skills (CS2)	Presentation
5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through visual communication	Communication Skills (CS2)	Overall Course Performance

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.

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 [insert name and title of direct supervisor] at [phone number/email address].

Course outline: This schedule is tentative and subject to change – regular attendance will assure you keep up with any alterations in the schedule.

Aug 18th- Intro
 Aug 20th- Quiz 1
 Aug 27th- Quiz 2/Discussion 1
 Sept 3rd- PSA Exercise 1
 Sept 6th- Labor Day, no class
 Sept 10th- Quiz 3
 Sept 17th- Quiz 4/ Discussion 2
 Oct 1st- Quiz 5/ ARP Topic due

Oct 8th- Quiz 6/ Discussion 3
Oct 11th- Holiday, no class
Oct 14th- Midterm
Oct 22nd- Quiz 7/ Discussion 4
Oct 24- PSA Exercise 2
Nov 5th- Quiz 8/ Discussion 5
Nov 12th- Quiz 9
Nov 19th- Quiz 10/ ARP due/ Last day to drop
Dec 2nd- Final Exam
Dec 6th-9th- QEP
Dec 10th- Grades due

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.* 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. 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. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email 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 1st 8-week session is October 6. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 19. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is December 2.

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