



HIST 1301-311C3
United States History I
Fall 2025
M-F – 9:30 – 10:20 AM

Instructor Information

Name: Ona M. Mull, M.A.

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Phone: 281-229-6400 ext 7820

Location: N 117

Office Hours: I am available 2:30 - 3:15 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and by appointment.

Course Communication – 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.

Course Information

Required Textbook: Online textbook - American Yawp <https://www.americanyawp.com/>. A hard copy print edition can be purchased in the COM bookstore.

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.

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, creation of the federal government. You will have a variety of resources to help you stay informed.

Determination of Grade

Course Requirements: This is a course that requires the student to attend lectures. Each lecture contains important material that is not available in the textbook but that the student is responsible for and will be tested upon. Rigorous note taking and studying of lecture notes is expected if the student is to succeed. Students are also expected to read all textbook assignments and will complete key terms for each chapter that must be turned in regularly in class. Students will write an argument paper.

Professionalism and Attendance: Regular attendance is critical to being successful. All students are expected to actively engage in class activities and discussions. Students are to attend each class, be on time, and stay in the classroom during the entire class session. Students are to communicate with the instructor if the need arises to miss a class. Attendance points will only be awarded if the student is present for the entire class, remains on-task, and is actively and positively participating.

An extra component includes researching a topic in history and presenting their findings to the class (oral presentation). There will be various primary source readings that are assigned to be evaluated.

Determination of Course Grade/ Detailed Grading Formula:

Assignment	Max Points
Quizzes 1 & 2 (50 points each)	100
Quizzes 3 & 4	100
Quizzes 5 & 6	100
Argument Paper	100
In Class Activities	100
Homework	100
Presentation	60
Annotated Bibliography	20
Process Paper	20
Professionalism	200
Final Exam	100

Total Points:	1000
Extra Credit - Course Survey	25

GRADING SCALE	
Grade	Points Earned
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	599 OR BELOW

DUAL CREDIT: Letter grades are submitted to COM for your college credit grades. DHS transfers those numbers into numerical grades. An A is a 95, B is an 85, C is a 75, D is a 65, and F becomes a 55.

Argument Paper – Each student will be responsible for a 3-4 page, typed, double spaced, 12 font, Times New Roman, cited paper. You must use THREE primary documents. After completing a Structured Academic Controversy, students will write a well-structured argument paper. Students may utilize the Speaking, Reading, and Writing Center for assistance in citations, avoiding plagiarism, organization, and thesis.

Oral Presentation: An oral presentation is part of College of the Mainland's Quality Enhancement Plan. Each student will give a 3–5-minute presentation of their research topic to the class. Students will create a “movie poster” which will be used to compliment the presentation that will consist of visual imagery and be limited to 10 words. Two note cards may be used during presentation. Process paper will be turned in with presentation.

Each student will be graded with 25% weight on each of the following:

- Verbal Communication - The speaker demonstrates the ability to express their ideas verbally using expressive, accurate, and appropriate language.
- Nonverbal Communication - The speaker uses appropriate presentation techniques including maintain eye contact, modulate voice, demonstrate appropriate pacing, use of gestures, etc.).
- Content - The speaker demonstrates understanding of the topic by utilizing properly cited facts, examples, and other forms of support - shows research!
- Poster - The poster is visually neat and well organized. It aids a well-organized and logical oral presentation.

Oral Presentation and the Process Paper - Student Learner Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to express their ideas verbally using expressive, accurate and appropriate language.

2. Students will use appropriate presentation techniques (i.e., maintain eye contact, modulate voice, demonstrate appropriate pacing, use appropriate gestures, etc.).
3. Students will demonstrate understanding of the topic by utilizing properly cited facts, examples and other forms of support.
4. Students will plan, prepare and deliver a well-organized, logical oral presentation.
5. Students will demonstrate a statistically significant decrease in their communication apprehension on a measure of communication apprehension.

Paper guidelines: Think of this as an explanation of how you prepared for your project. You may write in the first person and this is actually encouraged.

Paragraph 1 – Why did you choose your topic? Why is the topic important to you?

Paragraphs 2 and 3 – Explain your process – Where did you go to research? What sources were the most helpful? Remember you need **at least THREE primary sources**, and one scholarly article. Did you have any difficulties in researching? How did you overcome them?

Paragraph 4 – How did you decide to present your research? Why? Problems encountered?

Paragraph 5 – What did you really learn? Why is your topic important? Did you learn anything about yourself?

Annotated bibliography is required and needs to be attached to your paper

Include a citation for all sources used and include 3-4 sentences explaining sources significance. Separate primary and secondary. Identify it as a song, article, video etc. Include why the source is relevant to your topic. Format should be Chicago Manual Style. The following website can be helpful.

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html .

Student Learner Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course students will:

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this assignment
Create an argument through the use of historical evidence	Critical Thinking Skills	Argument paper
Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources	Critical Thinking Skills	Primary readings and paper
Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural and global forces on this period of US history	Critical Thinking Written communication	Exams, quizzes and essays
Develop, interpret and express ideas on a History 1301 related topic	Written, Oral and Visual Communication	process paper and presentation
Demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities	Social responsibility	Primary readings and written evaluations
Evaluate personal choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to decision making	Personal responsibility	Assignment

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to maintain high levels of ethical behavior. Academic dishonesty, such as cheating on exams, is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that exam. Then the student will be referred to the office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

Concerns & Questions Statement: 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 Department Chair, Shinya Wakao at 409-933-8107 or swakao@com.edu.

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

Tentative Course Outline (students are responsible for instructor revisions):

Dates	Topic	Important Details
Week 1 August 18 – August 22	Chapter 1 – The New World Syllabus, D2L Overview, Log in to D2L	
Week 2 August 25 – August 29	Chapter 2 – Colliding Cultures	
Week 3 Sept 2 – Sept 5	Chapter 3 – British North America	Quiz 1 – Ch. 1 & 2
Week 4 Sept 8 – Sept 12	Chapter 4 – Colonial Society	
Week 5 Sept 15 – Sept 19	Chapter 5 – The American Revolution	Quiz 2 – Ch. 3 & 4
Week 6 Sept 22 – Sept 26	Chapter 6 – A New Nation	Argument Paper due Friday
Week 7 Sep 29 – Oct 3	Chapter 7 – The Early Republic	Quiz 3 – Ch. 5 & 6
Week 8 Oct 6 – Oct 9	Chapter 8 – The Market Revolution	
Week 9 Oct 14 – Oct 17	Chapter 9 – Democracy in America	Quiz 4 – Ch. 7 & 8
10Week 10 Oct 20 – Oct 24	Chapter 10 – Religion and Reform	Annotated Bibliography due Wednesday, 10/22
Week 11 Oct 27 – Oct 31	Chapter 11 – The Cotton revolution	Quiz 5 – Ch. 9 & 10
Week 12 Nov 3 – Nov 7	Chapter 12 – Manifest Destiny	
Week 13 Nov 10 – Nov 14	Chapter 13 – The Sectional Crisis	Quiz 6 – Ch. 11 & 12 Nov. 14 – Last Day to Withdraw
Week 14 Nov 17 – Nov 21	Chapter 14 – The Civil War Presentations Thursday & Friday	
Week 15 Nov 24 – Nov 26	Chapter 15 - Reconstruction	
Week 16 Dec 1 – Dec 5	Presentations Monday & Tuesday	Final Exam

Make-Up Work: The course outline is very important. You can keep a picture of it easily accessible on your phone. Quizzes are on Mondays unless a holiday necessitates Tuesday. If you know in advance that you must miss a quiz due to a school event or other conflict, you can discuss options **before the quiz** is taken by the class.

Late Work: Assignments are due when listed on the syllabus or discussed in class. An assignment must be turned on time (or early) for full credit. If you miss class when an assignment is due, email a picture and then turn in your hard copy when you return to class. **An assignment is considered on time if turned in at the beginning of class.** It may be turned in late for up to one half credit and will be accepted for 10 days only.

Course Policies & Guidelines

Attendance and Tardies: 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.

Tardiness: This class begins promptly at the scheduled time. Being late to class not only disrupts the class, it has a detrimental impact on the student's performance, as they miss lecture material and professionalism points will not be earned. Please strive to be punctual!

Withdrawal: After students have registered and paid for courses, they are considered enrolled until the Records Office has received an official withdrawal. Continued non-attendance does not automatically terminate enrollment in the course and will result in a failing grade. Last day to drop the course is November 14th.

Student Success Tips!

1. **Come to EVERY class.**
2. **Pay attention in class.**
3. **Take detailed notes.**
4. **Study lecture notes.**
5. **Use the study guide.**
6. **Read the textbook carefully.**
7. **Use the book website for additional useful tools.**
8. **Come see me for help as soon as you recognize you have a need.**

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.