



**HIST 1301-304C3**  
**United States History I**  
**Fall 2024**  
**M-F – 1:45 – 2:30 PM**

**Instructor Information**

**Name:** Ona M. Mull, M.A.

**Email:** [OMull1@COM.edu](mailto:OMull1@COM.edu)

**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 material that is not available in the textbook, material 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- these CANNOT be turned in electronically. Students will write an argument paper. All students are expected to actively engage in class activities and discussions. 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. **Points will be deducted for sleeping and playing on phones.**

- **Exams** – (50%) a series of 5 exams - comprised of objective and/or essay questions.
- **Oral Presentation** – (10%) Each student will present a 3–5-minute presentation of their research topic to the class. Process paper and annotated bibliography will be turned in to assess research.
- **Argument Paper** – (10%) Will be completed after participating in a Structured Academic Controversy
- **Daily grades/quizzes** – (20%) consisting of attendance, discussions, in-class activities, and reading assignments. Note that all phones have an assigned place in my classroom - please comply. I will drop the two lowest scores. There is no make-up of quizzes.
- **Comprehensive final** – (10%)

## Grading Scale Grading scale

- A (90% - 100% average)
- B (80% - 89% average)
- C (70 % - 79% average)
- D (60% - 69% average) - note a D is a failing grade for the high school
- F (59 or below)

## DUAL CREDIT

Letter grades are turned in to COM by instructor. These are your college credit grades. Please note that DHS then transfers those numbers into a numerical grade – an A becomes 95, B becomes 85, C becomes 75, D becomes 65, F becomes 55. Note a D does NOT earn you high school credit.

## Reading Assignments:

Primary source documents will be available on Brightspace and I provide hard copies. These are due at the beginning of class. Turning in at the end of class or later in the day will result in points being deducted. The following is a grade rubric for primary source readings:

**Below Expectations** – Summary does not demonstrate an understanding of the topic and information is inaccurate or incomplete; poorly written or copied from another student’s work.

**Meets Expectations** – Summary demonstrates an understanding of the topic and has no grammatical errors and is well written.

**Exceeds Expectations** – Summary demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the topic and is exceptionally well written.

**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. I have attached a guide sheet to aid you in completing your paper, with specific due dates. Students may want to have a tutoring session with the Speaking, Reading, and Writing Center for their assistance in citations, avoiding plagiarism, organization, and thesis.

**Oral Presentation:** This class includes oral communication in its curriculum as part of College of the Mainland’s Quality Enhancement Plan. Each student will present a 3–5-minute presentation of their research topic to the class. You may use two notecards when you present. You will also create a “movie poster” to compliment your presentation. This must use visual imagery and be limited to 10 words.

Each student will be graded on

- Verbal Communication - The speaker demonstrates the ability to express their ideas verbally using expressive, accurate, and appropriate language. 20 points
- Nonverbal Communication - The speaker uses appropriate presentation techniques (i.e., maintains eye contact, modulates voice, demonstrates appropriate pacing, uses appropriate gestures, etc.). 20 points
- Content - The speaker demonstrates understanding of the topic by utilizing properly cited facts, examples, and other forms of support - shows research! 20 points
- Poster - The poster is visually neat and well organized. It aids a well-organized and logical oral presentation. 20 points
- Annotated bibliography 20 points
- Process Paper 10 points

**Extra Credit Work:** For each test you may bank up to 10 bonus points by completing a video analysis. The video list is attached and available on D2L. Quality summaries may earn up to ten points, sloppy or plagiarized work may earn zero

points. In the event of a low test grade, a book critique may be used as an alternative assessment, with the instructor's approval.

Other extra credit may be given throughout the semester. The best plan of action is to complete assignments ON TIME!

**Make-Up Work:** General policy is to pay attention to your syllabus. I will post a calendar on the class board to help you stay up with due dates. I generally do not allow make-up of multiple-choice tests. I will change the multiple-choice portion to a completely written/oral exam. You will need to arrange a time after school. If you know in advance that you will be missing a test due to a school event or other conflict, you may discuss options with me.

**Late Work:** Record your DUE dates! Assignments are due when they are listed on the syllabus. There is no excuse for not turning in an assignment on time. You may electronically turn in your assignment if you are not in attendance. An assignment is considered late if it is not turned in at the beginning of the class period. Turning in work at the end of the class or after school, will result in a 20% penalty. See me if you know you will be missing class for an extended time.

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

### Table Mapping SLO's, 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	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.

### Important Dates

Sept 2nd – no class

**Sept 6th – Test 1 – material from activities, lecture, and chapters 1, 2 & 3**

Sept 16th – sign up begins

**September 25<sup>th</sup> – Argument Paper** due in D2L by midnight

**October 2nd – Test 2 – material from activities, lecture, and chapters 4, 5 & 6**

**Oct 18th – Test 3 – material from activities, lecture, and chapters 7, 8, & 9**

Oct 21st - Bring typed annotated bibliography - we will correct and work on in class

**November 5th – Test 4 – material from activities, lecture, and chapters 10, 11 & 12**

November 15th – W-day – This is the last day to withdraw from the course.

**Nov 17th – Test 5 – material from activities, lecture, and chapters 13 & 14**

**Dec 4th – Comprehensive Final!!! Focus on chapter 15**

## **Course Policies & Guidelines**

**Attendance:** 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. Excessive tardiness - defined as three - will result in the loss of participation points. 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 15th.

## **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! Don't wait until the last minute.**
9. **Believe me – I want you to succeed!**

## **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\\_2024-2025\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_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, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 26.

**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.

# Oral Presentation and the Process Paper

Based on a two-year selection process, oral communication was chosen because employers cited oral communication as one of the top skills they seek from college graduates, while data indicated that this skill was not emphasized in College of the Mainland courses.

As a result of the QEP implementation, not only will our students gain confidence in their speaking skills but they also will be able to communicate their ideas in a clear, effective manner appropriate to their audiences. This, in turn, will enhance their ability to compete successfully in the workplace.

## 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 not a report, but an explanation of how you prepared for your project. You may write in the first person – 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 preference is Chicago Manual Style.

– Example book

Morris, Edmund. *Theodore Rex*. New York: Modern Library, 2001.

This biography of Theodore Roosevelt helped me understand the way in which Philippe Bunau Varilla was able to get President Roosevelt to recognize the revolutionary government of Panama. It also gave me details regarding the specific treaties signed between the two nations that gave the U.S. control of the canal zone.

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html) can help you.

## Test Extras

You *may* earn up to a 10 points bonus on your test. I really like complete sentences! Remember I need to have NO doubts that you watched the movie and really thought about it. NO WIKIPEDIA CUT AND PASTES. These are due at the time of the test.

**Unit 1**

Chap 1-3

*The New World**Three Sovereigns for Sarah**The West episode 2**The Mission***Unit 4** 10-12*12 Years a Slave**Amistad**Liberty* – PBS Series (*one episode*)*John**Adams HBO series (one episode)**The Alamo**Abe Lincoln in Illinois**Lincoln***Unit 5** 13-14*Not For Ourselves Alone***Unit 3**

ch 7-9

*Later episodes of John Adams series**Hamilton**A Midwife's Tale**Gettysburg**Glory***FILM STUDY WORKSHEET -- FOR A WORK OF HISTORICAL FICTION**

Read the questions before you watch the movie so that you will know what to look for. Complete the assignment by answering each question in paragraph form on a separate sheet of paper. Answers need to be complete and comprehensive, demonstrating that you paid attention and thought about what was shown on the screen. You may use more than one paragraph if necessary. Be sure that the topic sentence of your first paragraph uses key words from the question. All responses should be in complete sentences using proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Questions 6 and 10 ask about your personal experience and you may respond in the first person. All other responses should be in the third person.

- Write a brief summary of the main plot, describing the event or events that are the focus of the film, stating where and when they take place. Be sure to identify the protagonist and antagonist (*1-2 paragraphs*)
- In the story told by the film, what is the main conflict and how is it resolved? (*1 paragraph*)
- Music and lighting are part of the way that the moviemakers communicate their message. Go deeper than that. Give one specific example of how other elements of the cinematic art, such as shot framing, camera angles, camera movement, color, editing choice, or length of take were used by the filmmakers to get their point across. (*1 paragraph*)
- Describe two images or scenes from the film that stand out in your mind. Discuss why they impressed you and how they relate to themes explored in the story. (*2 paragraphs*)
- Describe one event or portrayals in the film that, on the whole, accurately reflect what actually happened and one that does not. For any historical inaccuracies, describe what really happened. A helpful guide will be to check a historical review of the movie – make sure you cite. (*2 paragraphs*)
- It could be said that “History is what the present chooses to remember about the past.” Given the fact that the audience will take away from the movie an impression of the historical events or figures portrayed in the story, does the film improve the viewer’s understanding of historical events? Justify your conclusion. (*1 to 2 paragraphs*) *Would you recommend this to a classmate?*