



**History 1301.323HY**  
**United States History I**  
**Fall 2023**  
**League City Campus, Room 210**  
**Wednesday 7:10 – 8:30 AM**

**Instructor Information:** Debra Ramsey  
[Dramsey1@com.edu](mailto:Dramsey1@com.edu)  
409-933-8307

**Student hours and location:** M-Thursday 6:45 – 7:00 AM – League City Campus Room 210  
M/W 9:30 – 10:45 – COM LRC Suite A, 225  
T/T 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM COM LRC, Suite A, 225  
M/W 1:30 – 2:30 ONLINE

**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:**

**Exams:** There will be **four exams** during the semester with a value of **100** points each, 60 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.

**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.**

**Introduction Discussion Board:** Students will post an introductory discussion board video. Please follow the instructions in D2L for your video. If you follow the instructions, we will not have to download your video to view. In your video you will: Start by introducing yourself. Your name, things that you like to do outside of school. What is your expectation in 5 years, where you plan to be, and what do you plan to be doing? Also, if you could have dinner with anyone from History, who would it be and why? Respond to two other posters. Please review the Rubric so you know how this discussion will be graded.

**Discussion Board:** There will be weekly Discussion Board entries. Initial posts need to be at least 100 words and have a thorough discussion of the topic question presented. Initial posts will be due on Friday and two responses will be due on Sunday. Students must respond to at least two other posters for full credit. Each discussion board post is worth 10 points. Please review the discussion board etiquette in D2L Brightspace. Initial posts are always due on Friday's, two responses are due by Sunday of each week.

**Research Paper Proposal:** After you have your topic approved on the discussion board, you will need to submit a proposal. Your proposal should include your thesis statement and at least 3 of the 5 sources you will use for your paper. The topic you pick will be used for your research paper and your oral presentation. Instructions are in D2L.

**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.

**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 will record their video in the Discussion Board, please follow the instructions in the appropriate discussion board.

**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?

**All Paper Requirements: Incorrect formats will result in a point deduction.**

- 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 turn in a paper you have used in 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
Syllabus Quiz	20
Attendance	50
Introduction Video	30
Quizzes	100
Discussions	150
Responsibility Paper	60
Responsibility Paper Tutoring	20
Research Paper Topic	15
Research Paper Proposal	15
Research Paper	70
Research Paper Tutoring	20
Oral Presentation	50
First Multiple-Choice Exam	60
Writing Portion 1	40
Second Multiple-Choice Exam	60
Writing Portion 2	40
Third Multiple Choice Exam	60
Writing Portion 3	40
Fourth (Final Exam) Multiple Choice	60
Writing Portion 4	40
Total	1000

**Grade Scale:**

A (90-100% average)	900	to	1000	90	to	100
B (80-89% average)	800	to	899	80	to	89
C (70-79% average)	700	to	799	70	to	79
D (60-69% average)	600	to	699	60	to	69
F (59% or below)	Below 600			Below 69		

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Late work is not accepted. 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. Please do not email me missed assignments, all assignments must be uploaded to D2L Brightspace. 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. Due dates are all in Central Standard Time, if you travel outside of Texas please make sure to check the time zone you are in as you will not be given extensions for the time difference.

**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 any make-up. 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.  
Late work will not be accepted.

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 1301-323**

**Attendance:** Attendance is very important. If you cannot attend class, please email your instructor. Attendance is 50 points.

<b>Student Learner Outcome</b>	<b>Maps to Core Objective</b>	<b>Assessed via this Assignment</b>	
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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](mailto:swakao@com.edu) 409-933-8107

Course Outline: **Subject to change**

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History 1301

United States History I



<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 Module 1 August 28 – September 3	Syllabus Video Quiz Expectations Assignments Introduction Writing Indigenous America (Chapter 1)	<b>Syllabus Quiz due in D2L 9/2</b> <b>Discussion: Introduction due 9/2</b> <b>Read Chapter 1 before class</b> <b>Week 1 Columbian Exchange Discussion Initial post due by Friday 9/1 two responses due by Sunday 9/3</b>
Week 2 Module 1 September 4 – September 10	Finish Indigenous America Colliding Cultures (Chapter 2)	<b>Read Chapter 2 before class.</b> <b>Quiz 1 (Chapter 1 &amp; 2) opens 9/7 closes 9/9</b> <b>Week 2 Colonies Discussion Initial post due by Friday 9/8 two responses due by Sunday 9/10</b>
Week 3 Module 1 September 11 September 17	British North America (Chapter 3) Colonial Society (Chapter 4)	<b>Discussion: Research Paper/Oral Presentation Topic due 9/13</b> <b>Quiz 2 Chapter 3 opens 9/14 closes 9/16</b> <b>Week 3 Virginia Discussion Initial post due by Friday 9/15 two responses due by Sunday 9/17</b>
Week 4 Module 1 September 18 – September 24	American Revolution (Chapter 5)	<b>Quiz 3 Chapter 4&amp;5 opens 9/21 closes 9/23</b> <b>Week 4 Seven Years War Discussion initial post due by Friday 9/21 two responses due by Sunday 9/23</b>
Week 5 Module 1 September 25 – October 1	<b>Exam 1 in class</b> A New Nation (Chapter 6)	<b>Discussion Revolution initial post due by Friday 9/29 two responses due by Sunday 10/1</b> <b>Exam 1 in class 9/27</b> <b>Writing Portion 1 due 9/27</b> <b>Read Chapter 6 &amp; 7 for next week</b> <b>Take Home Constitution Quiz (Quiz 4) due in class 9/28</b>
Week 6 Module 1 October 2 – October 8	Early Republic (Chapter 7)	<b>Week 6 A New Nation discussion initial post due by Friday 10/6 two responses are due by Sunday 10/8</b> <b>Quiz 5 Chapters 6 &amp; 7 opens 10/5 closes 10/7</b>

Week 7 Module 2 October 9 – October 15	Market Revolution (Chapter 8)	<b>Responsibility Paper and Tutoring due 10/11</b> <b>Week 7 Early Republic Discussion initial post due Friday 10/13 two responses due by Sunday 10/15</b> <b>Quiz 6 Chapter 8 opens 10/12 closes 10/14</b>
Week 8 Module 2 October 15 – October 22	Democracy in America (Chapter 9)	<b>Read Chapter 9 before class</b> <b>Quiz 7 Chapter 9 opens 10/20 closes 10/22</b> <b>Research Proposal due 10/18</b> <b>Week 8 Democracy in America discussion initial post due by Friday 10/19 two responses due by Sunday 10/21</b>
Week 9 Module 2 October 23 – October 29	<b>Exam 2 in class</b> 0	<b>Exam 2 in class 10/24</b> <b>Writing portion 2 due 10/24</b> <b>Discussion Religion and Reform initial post due by Friday 10/27 two responses due by Sunday 10/29</b> <b>Read Chapter 11 for next week</b>
Week 10 Module 2 October 30 – November 5	Religion and Reform (Chapter 10) Cotton Revolution (Chapter 11)	<b>Discussion Cotton Revolution initial post due Friday 11/3 two responses are due by Sunday 11/5</b> <b>Quiz 8 Chapters 10 opens 11/2 due 11/4</b>
Week 11 Module 3 November 6 – November 12	Manifest Destiny (Chapter 12)	<b>Quiz 9 – Chapter 11 &amp; 12 opens 11/9 due 11/11</b> <b>Research paper and tutoring due 11/8</b> <b>Week 11 Discussion Manifest Destiny initial post due Friday 11/10 two responses due by Sunday 11/12</b> <b>Discussion: Oral Presentation due 11/12</b>
Week 12	<b>Exam 3 in class</b>	<b>Exam 3 in class 11/15</b>

Module 4 November 13 – November 19		<b>Writing portion 3 due 11/1</b> <b>Read Chapter 13 before class</b> <b>Week 12 Discussion Sectional Crisis initial post due 11/17 two responses due by Sunday 11/19</b>
Week 13 Module 3 November 20 – November 26	The Sectional Crisis (Chapter 13) The Civil War (Chapter 14)	<b>Quiz 10 – Chapter 13 opens 11/23 due 11/26</b> <b>Week 13 Discussion Civil War Part I initial post due by Friday 10/24 two responses due by Sunday 11/26</b>
Week 14 Module 4 November 27 – December 3	The Civil War (Chapter 14) Reconstruction (Chapter 15)	<b>Read Chapter 14 before class.</b> <b>Week 14 Discussion Civil War Part II initial post due by Friday 12/1 Responses due by Sunday 12/3</b> <b>Quiz 11 Chapter 14 opens 11/30 due 12/2</b> <b>Extra Credit Life of Fredrick Douglass due 11/29</b>
Week 15 Module 4 December 4 – December 10	Reconstruction (Chapter 15)	<b>Week 15 Discussion Reconstruction initial post due by Friday 12/5 responses due by Sunday 12/7</b> <b>Quiz 12 Chapter 15 opens 12/8 due 12/10</b> <b>Extra Credit Movie Critique due 12/6</b> <b>Evaluations due 12/10</b>
Week 16 December 11– December 14	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam 12/14 in class</b> <b>Writing portion 4 due 12/12</b>

## **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](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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 11. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 28. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is December 7.

**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](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).