



HIST-1301-02212-FA2025
United States History I
Fall 2025 2nd 8-Week Session

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Blythe Thorne

Preferred Contact: bthorne1@com.edu

Student hours and location: online/TBA

Required Textbook/Materials:

The American Yawp – A free and collaborative textbook (www.americanyawp.com)

We will also reference other supplemental books online, all free of cost

Course Description: HIST 1301 is 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.

This course will emphasize political, social, and economic developments, as well as other significant topics. This course (a) meets the requirements of a college transfer course for four year degree programs (b) prepares students for upper-division coursework in history (c) prepare students for the academic rigors of upper-division coursework in the social sciences (d) prepares students for developing their critical thinking skills.

Important Dates:

10/13-First day of course-Welcome!

10/20-Census Date-if there have been no assignments completed by this date, you will be automatically dropped from the course

11/27-11/30-Thanksgiving Holiday

11/25- W Day

12/4- Last day of course

Course requirements:

Exams

Students will take four major exams throughout the semester, each worth 50 points. Exam questions are based on the required readings from *The American Yawp*.

An optional study guide for each exam is available on D2L and must be submitted before the end of the testing window for 5 extra credit points. If students prefer to complete a handwritten version, they must upload a clear photo or scan of their work.

Each exam consists of two sections that will be proctored:

- Multiple-choice section (30 questions, 30 points) .
- Essay response section (1 essay, 30 points) – Students will choose from two provided prompts, which are selected from five potential prompts listed in the study guide.

Exam Schedule:

- Exam 1 (Ch. 1-4) Testing window: Wednesday, 10/29 at 12:00 am through Sunday 11/2 at 11:59pm
- Exam 2 (Ch. 5-8): Testing window: Wednesday, 11/12 at 12:00 am through Sunday 11/16 at 11:59pm
- Exam 3 (Ch. 9-12) Testing window: Wednesday, 11/24 at 12:00 am through Sunday 11/26 at 11:59pm
- Exam 4 (Ch. 13-15) Testing window: Monday, 12/1 at 12:00 am through Tuesday 12/2 at 11:59pm

Lecture Reflections and Media Connections

Students will complete a total of 15 assignments that include 4 lecture reflections and 3 media connections to lectures.

Lecture Quizzes

Students will complete a quiz per chapter that is based on the recorded lecture. Notes are allowed on the lecture quizzes.

Reading Assignments

Students are required to read 2–3 chapters of *The American Yawp* each week along with other supplemental books that will be accessible online at no cost.

Writing Assignments

Students must complete a response paper using primary and secondary sources.

- Rough Draft Due: 11/2/25 (Not graded by rubric, but must be complete and include required sources)
- Final Draft Due: 11/23/25 (Graded by rubric)

Students may submit drafts early for feedback or schedule office hours for assistance.

Attendance & Coursework Policies

- Missed Exams: Notify the instructor in advance if you cannot attend an exam. Make-up exams must be scheduled promptly.
- Late Assignments: May be accepted with a 50% point deduction at the instructor's discretion. Extensions are granted only in cases of emergencies.

Discussion Posts

Students will complete seven discussion posts throughout the semester. Each initial post is required to be a minimum of 300 words and to include information presented in readings, lectures, or other sources.

- Initial response: due on Wednesday of the assigned week on most weeks.
- Replies: Students must respond to two classmates (minimum 150 words each) by the following Sunday (on most weeks).

Category	Assignment	Points
Introductory Assignments	Syllabus Quiz 2.5 points Introductory Post 5 points AI Statement 2.5 points	10 points 1%
Discussion Post Assignments	7 Discussion Posts at 50 points each	350 points 35%
Lecture Quizzes	15 Lecture Quizzes at 10 points each	150 points 15%
Lecture Reflections	4 Lecture Reflections at 20 points each	80 points 8%
Media Connections	3 Media Connections Assignments at 25 points each	75 points 7.5%
Primary and Secondary Source Response Paper	Rough Draft: 35 points Final Draft: 100 points	135 points 13.5%
Exams	4 Exams at 50 points each	200 points 20%
Exam Study Guides (Extra Credit)	4 Exam study guides (optional: 5 points extra credit each)	
		1000 points

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:

Attendance Policy: Attendance is taken based on work completion twice per week. If no work is submitted during a given period, it will count as an absence. Regular participation is important and expected throughout this course.

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 D2L or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome	Maps to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1.Create an argument through the use of historical evidence	Critical Thinking Skills	Discussion Posts
2.Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.	Critical Thinking Skills	Course Response Paper

Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.	Critical Thinking Skills	Course Response Paper
4. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through written communication	Communication Skills	Course Response Paper
5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through oral communication	Communication Skills	Recorded Discussion Post
6. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through visual communication.	Communication Skills	Discussion post and responses.
7. Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.	Social Responsibility	Course Response Paper
8. Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own and relate consequences to decision-making.	Personal Responsibility	Course Paper

Academic Dishonesty Academic Integrity & AI Policy

Do not plagiarize or use AI to generate assignments. Plagiarism includes copying work without citations or submitting AI-generated content. Any violation may result in a zero for the assignment and possible further disciplinary action. If unsure about plagiarism, ask before submitting the assignment is due, and definitely before submitting the assignment.

If plagiarism occurs on any assignment, the consequences may range from receiving a zero on the assignment to further academic penalties.

AI Use Policy: AI (artificial intelligence) can be helpful for brainstorming, research guidance, and refining ideas, they should not replace your own thinking and effort. You are responsible for all work submitted. Any misuse of AI, such as submitting work that AI wrote for you, will be treated as academic dishonesty and may result in penalties similar to those for plagiarism. If you are unsure about how to use AI ethically in this course, ask before you submit the assignment, I am happy to help!

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.

Course outline:

HIST 1302 Tentative Schedule of Assignments

Week 1: 10/13-10/19 10/13-First day of Course Week 1 Total Possible Points: 100 points		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Week 1 Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 1 “Indigenous America” Chapter 2 “Colliding Cultures”		
Introductions Discussion	5 points	Initial post due 10/15 responses to two classmates’ posts due 10/19
Discussion Post 1:	50 points	Initial post due 10/15 responses to two classmates’ posts due 10/19
Syllabus Quiz	2.5 points	10/19
AI Statement	2.5 points	10/19
Lecture Reflection	20 points	10/19
Chapter 1 Lecture Quiz	10 points	10/19
Chapter 2 Lecture Quiz	10 points	10/19
Week 2: 10/20-10/26 10/20: Census Date Week 2 Total Possible Points: 95 points + 5 optional extra credit points		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 3: “British North America” and Chapter 4: “Colonial Society”		
Discussion Post 2	50 points	Initial post due 10/22 responses to two classmates’ posts due 10/26
Media Connections	25 points	10/26
Chapter 3 Lecture Quiz	10 points	10/26
Chapter 4 Lecture Quiz	10 points	10/26

Week 3: 10/27-11/2 EXAM WEEK ROUGH DRAFT DUE THIS WEEK Week 3 Total Possible Points: 175 points		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 5: “The American Revolution” and Chapter 6: “A New Nation”		
Exam 1 covering <i>The American Yawp</i> Chapters 1-4	50 points	Testing Window: 10/29 at 12am through 11/2 at 11:59pm
Exam 1 Study Guide (optional)	5 extra credit points	11/2
Course Response Paper- Rough Draft	35 points	11/2
Discussion Post 3	50 points	Initial post due 10/29, responses to two classmates’ posts due 11/2
Lecture Reflection	20 points	11/2
Chapter 5 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/2
Chapter 6 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/2
Week 4: 11/3-11/9 Week 4 Total Possible Points: 95 points + 5 optional extra credit points		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 7: “The Early Republic” Chapter 8: “The Market Revolution”		
Discussion Post 4	50 points	Initial post due 11/5 responses to two classmates’ posts due 11/9
Media Connections	25 points	11/9
Chapter 7 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/9
Chapter 8 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/9
Week 5: 11/10-11/16 EXAM WEEK Week 5 Total Possible Points: 140 points		

Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 9: “Democracy in America” and Chapter 10: “Religion and Reform”		
Exam 2 covering <i>The American Yawp</i> Chapters 5-8	50 points	Testing Window: 11/12 at 12am through 11/16 at 11:59pm
Exam 2 Study Guide (optional)	5 extra credit points	11/16
Discussion Post 5	50 points	Initial post due 11/12 responses to two classmates’ posts due 11/16
Lecture Reflection	20 points	11/16
Chapter 9 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/16
Chapter 10 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/16
Week 6: 11/17-11/23 FINAL DRAFT DUE THIS WEEK Week 6 Total Possible Points: 195 points + 5 optional extra credit points		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> Chapter 11: “The Cotton Revolution” and Chapter 12: “Manifest Destiny”		
Course Response Paper- Final Draft	100 points	11/23
Discussion Post 6	50 points	Initial post due 11/19 responses to two classmates’ posts due 11/23
Media Connections	25 points	11/23
Chapter 11 Lecture Note Quiz	10 points	11/23
Chapter 12 Lecture Note Quiz	10 points	11/23
Week 7: 11/24-11/26 11/25: W-Day EXAM WEEK Week 7 Total Possible Points: 150 points Week 7 Assignments will open early on 11/18 due to the short week		
Description of Assignment	Possible points of assignments	Due Dates of Assignments
Required Reading: <i>The American Yawp</i> : Chapter 13: “The Sectional Crisis”, Chapter 14: “The Civil War” and		

Chapter 15: “Reconstruction”		
Exam 3 covering <i>The American Yawp</i> Chapters 9-12	50 points	Testing Window: 11/24 at 12am through 11/26 at 11:59pm
Exam 3 Study Guide (optional)	5 extra credit points	11/26
Discussion Post 7	50 points	Initial post due 11/24 responses to two classmates’ posts due 11/25
Lecture Reflection	20 points	11/25
Chapter 13 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/25
Chapter 14 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/25
Chapter 15 Lecture Quiz	10 points	11/25
Thanksgiving Break: 11/27-12/30 No Classes, College Closed		
Week 8: 12/1-12/4 12/4-Last day of Course EXAM WEEK Week 8 Total Possible Points:50 points + 5 optional extra credit points		
Exam 4 covering <i>The American Yawp</i> Chapters 13-15	50 points	Testing Window: 12/1 at 12am through 12/2 at 11:59pm
Exam 4 Study Guide (optional)	5 extra credit points	12/2
Total course points: 1000		
A-900-1000 points earned in course		
B-800-899 points earned in course		
C-700-799 points earned in course		
D-600-699 points earned in course		
F-0-599 points earned in the course		

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.

