

History 1301-28 Syllabus: American History to 1877
Credit Hours: 3
Class Time: Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8:00a.m. to 8:50a.m.
Class Location: AB4 Rm. 302
Semester: Fall 2017

Professor Austin Munoz

Office: AB4-309

Email: ajm029@shsu.edu

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m., MW

COURSE TEXT

America: The Essential Learning Edition Vol. 1. David Shi and George Tindall. Norton Publishing

COURSE DESCRIPTION

HIST 1301 is the first half of the U.S. history survey at Sam Houston State University. This class offers students an introductory overview of the chief social, cultural, and political developments in North America between 1492 and 1876.

The historical aspect of this course focuses on:

1. The impact of the meeting of European, Native American & African cultures during the age of Exploration.
2. The establishment of the English and European colonial systems in North America.
3. The development of the American Revolution and early Republic.
4. The expansion, fracture, and reconstruction of the United States in the nineteenth century.

LEARNING & SKILL OBJECTIVES

1. **Factual Knowledge** – Students will gain factual knowledge about United States History.
2. **Critical Thinking** – Students will learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.
3. **Communications Skills** – Students will hone their ability to communicate with others, particularly in the written format.
4. **Personal Responsibility** – Students will learn personal responsibility by being responsible for class assignments, note taking, reading, and ensuring they are prepared for lectures and exams.
5. **Social Responsibility** – By better understanding history, students will be able to re-evaluate themselves in order to better understand their social responsibilities in a modern context.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Exams: There will be four exams over the course of the class. Each exam features an objective section (multiple choice) and a writing section. The exams (as well as the final) are worth 150 points each. If a student is absent on an exam day, an email with excuse for absence is to be sent to the professor by end of that day. If the professor excuses the absence, the student will schedule a time to take a make-up exam.

Writing Assignments: Over the course of the semester each student will complete 3 writing assignments. These assignments are due at the start of class on the specified day. If the student is absent on the due date, the student must send a copy of the paper via email that day. Any papers submitted after the due date will be accepted for half credit.

Participation: Participation covers a student's activity in class. In-class assignments and discussions contribute to a student's participation grade.

Participation

Calculating your final score:

| Assignment | Individual Point Value | Total |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Exams (x 4) | 150 | 600 |
| Writing Assignments (x3) | 100 | 300 |
| Participation | * | 100 |
| Grand Total | | 1,000 |

Grading:

A = 900 – 1,000 points

B = 800 – 899 points

C = 700 – 799 points

D = 600 – 699 points

F = 599 points or below

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is essential. Lectures are designed to supplement, not duplicate, the textbook and missing lectures will result in poor performance on exams. Exams can only be made up if an acceptable excuse is presented to the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to accept or reject any requests to make up missed exams. Students that arrive to class tardy will be counted absent. Being caught sleeping, using a mobile phone, or using a laptop for activities not related to the class will also count as an absence.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Laptops and Tablets: Laptops and tablets are permitted in the classroom as long as they do not become distractions. Facebook, checking email, and watching videos is not only detrimental to your learning but can prove a distraction to those around you and is strictly prohibited. If this becomes a problem in the classroom, then the instructor reserves the right to ban computers in the classroom.

Mobile Phones: All mobile devices will be silenced during class. Ringtones are distracting to your classmates as well as the instructor. If you forget to silence your phone and it goes off in class, the instructor reserves the right to dismiss you from the class and count that day as an absence for the student.

Recording Devices: No recording devices are allowed in the class room; video, audio, or otherwise.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/dean-of-students/index.html>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe

in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

***Note that all university policies above can be found at the following website:**

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Schedule Overview

Week 1 (23 Aug): Course Introduction and Chapter 1

Week 2 (28 Aug): Chapter 2

Week 3 (04 Sept): Chapter 3

04 Sept. Labor Day

Writing Assignment 1 due 8 Sept.

Week 4 (11 Sept): Chapter 4

Week 5 (18 Sept): Chapter 5

Exam 1: 18 Sept.

Week 6 (25 Sept): Chapter 6

Week 7 (02 Oct): Chapter 7

Week 8 (9 Oct): Chapter 8

Exam 2: 9 Oct

Week 9 (16 Oct): Chapter 9

Week 10 (23 Oct): Chapter 10

Writing Assignment 2 due 27 Oct.

Week 11 (30 Oct): Chapter 11 & 12

Week 12 (06 Nov): Chapter 13

Exam 3: 6 October

Week 13 (13 Nov): Chapter 14

Writing Assignment 3: 17 Nov.

Week 14 (20 Nov): Chapter 15

23-25 Nov. Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 15 (20 Nov): Chapter 15

Week 16 (04 Dec): Exam Week

Exam 4