

# History 1301: US History to 1876

## Fall 2017

**Teacher:** Professor Daniel J. McGuire

**Email:** [dmcguire@shsu.edu](mailto:dmcguire@shsu.edu)

**Office Hours:** Email or talk to me in class to schedule an appointment

**Class Times and Location:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:00-12:50--CJ Building A209

### Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- Analyze primary sources.
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on United States history.

### Grading:

There will be a minimum of four exams throughout the semester each worth 100 points.

Regular source analysis quizzes will be worth 25 points each.

There will be five writing assignments worth 50 points each.

I will give 2 points per day per person as extra credit on the next exam for participating in course discussions. (If you ask 3 relevant questions and make 5 relevant comments in a day, you get 2 points. If you make 1 relevant comment in a day, you get 2 points.)

So, the class is worth at least 800 points.

**A=720-800    B=640-719    C=560-639    D=480-559    F=Didn't do the work.**

### Quiz and Exam Schedule:

Quizzes are unannounced and can happen at any time in any class. Exams will be approximately every three weeks beginning the first week of class. There will be a review the class before each exam. Any changes in the exam schedule will be announced in class at least one week in advance.

### Required Texts:

Joseph J. Ellis, *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*, Vintage Books, New York, 2002.

Melton A. McLaurin, *Celia, a Slave: A True Story*, Avon Books, New York, 1991.

### The Day-to-Day:

This is a lecture and discussion-based course. It is designed to allow students to learn by engaging directly with primary sources. The class will consist of regular document examination and discussions as well as lectures. Print documents will be handed out in class. All assignments not completed in class must be typed, printed, and stapled before turning them in. Note-taking, time management and other study skills will greatly improve your performance in the course.

Visitation to the classroom is limited to registered students only unless approved by the professor in advance. Although, there is no absence policy, there will be many in-class

assignments that cannot be made up and important announcements that will only be made in class. Good attendance is necessary for passing the class.

You are responsible for your own behavior in the classroom. Students who wish to fail by cellphone or other distractions will be allowed to do so. However, students will not distract others. Basic courtesy for the instructor and other students in the class is required for the successful completion of this course.

If you have any questions, comments, or need advice on anything related to the course at any time, feel free to contact the professor in person or by email.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Don't do it! The theft of someone else's intellectual property in this class will result in a zero on the assignment. Further action may also be taken to ensure that a second offense never happens again. 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. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

### **Dates to Remember:**

August 23	Class Begins
September 4	Labor Day
September 15	Last Day to Drop with "Q" and Full Refund
November 10	Last Day to Drop with "Q"
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 4	Final Exam Begins at 1:00 pm

### **Amendments to Syllabus:**

This document is subject to change at any time for any reason the professor sees fit. Alterations will be announced in class with plenty of advanced notice.

### **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.

**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.

**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.