

**History 1301.08**  
**Survey of United States History to 1865**  
**Spring 2017**  
**MWF: 11:00 – 11:50 a.m.**  
**AB IV 305**



**Instructor: Dr. Kristin Henze**  
**Office Hours: MW 12:00 p.m. -12:45 p.m. or by appointment**  
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**Course Description**

This course is a survey of U.S. History from Pre-Contact Societies through Reconstruction. Themes to be developed include westward expansion and globalization, slavery, Native Americans, and religious and social changes. An additional purpose of this course is to introduce students to the skills and practices of history.

**Required Texts (In Order of Assignment)**

Gordon S. Wood, *Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different* (New York: Penguin Books).

Michael Wallis, *The Best Land Under Heaven: The Donner Party in the Age of Manifest Destiny* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company).

## **Suggested Texts**

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History, Fourth Edition, Vol. 1.* (New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company).

Harry L. Watson, *Building the American Republic: A Narrative History to 1877, Vol. 1.* (Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press).

<http://press.uchicago.edu/sites/buildingtheamericanrepublic/index.html> (free online edition)

## **Grade Breakdown**

Midterm Exam	200 points (20%)
Book/Document Response (10)	400 points (40%)
Final Exam	300 points (30%)
Attendance/Participation	100 points (10%)
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Total	1000 points (100%)

## **Course Requirements**

**Exams:** Two exams, a midterm and a final will be given in this course and make up 50% of the total course grade. The exams will cover the lectures and class discussions and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

**Book/Document Response:** This is a writing intensive course. It is intended to improve student reading, writing, and critical thinking skills to aid them in mastering historical knowledge about people, events, nations, ideas, and circumstances throughout time, as well as develop an appreciation for the exercise of intellectual inquiry and analysis. Over the course of the semester, you will be assigned readings from the supplemental texts and will be expected to hand in ten response essays over those assigned readings. Question prompts and additional instructions and information for each week's response essay assignment will be available on blackboard. These response essays will comprise 40% of your total course grade. Response essays that are handed in late will be reduced one letter grade for each day they are turned in after the due date.

**Attendance/Participation:** Attendance and participation in class discussions is required and will make up 10% of your total course grade. Students are allowed two unexcused absences. Five points will be docked from your attendance/participation grade for each additional unexcused absence after the first two. Students who provide official university documentation for their absences will be given an excused absence, which will not result in a loss of attendance/participation points. The instructor will also not provide notes or Powerpoint slides to students. Those who are absent will need to obtain notes from other students in the course.

## **Instructor guidelines and policies**

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** 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>

**Make-up Exams:** Students will be allowed to make up missed exams if they provide appropriate documentation for their absence. To discuss or schedule a make-up exam, please contact me within 48 hours of the missed exam

**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: [/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 should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)). 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 Services for Students with Disabilities 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 Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:  
<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.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.

### **Tentative Instructional Outline (Subject to Change at Instructor's Discretion):**

#### Week 1:

1/19 Course Introduction

#### Week 2:

1/22 *Lecture:* The Myth of the Virgin Land: The Americas on the Eve of Exploration

1/24 *Lecture:* The Process of Colonization I: Spanish Expansion into the "New World"

1/26 Document Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 1 due**

#### Week 3:

1/29 *Lecture:* The Process of Colonization II: New France, New Netherlands, New England

1/31 *Lecture:* Unsettled Times: Clashes, Rebellions, & War in Early Colonial America

2/2 Document Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 2 due**

#### Week 4:

2/5 *Lecture:* A Peculiar Institution: The Beginnings of American Slavery

2/7 *Lecture:* Awakenings: Culture, Religion, & the Age of Enlightenment

2/9 Document Analysis and Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 3 due**

#### Week 5:

2/12 *Lecture:* Expanding Empires, Expanding Conflict

2/14 *Lecture:* The Evolution of Republicanism in the Colonies

2/16 Book Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 4 due**

#### Week 6:

2/19 *Lecture:* An Imperial Crisis: The Rise of American Resistance

2/21 *Lecture:* Reconciliation or Independence? The Road to Revolution

2/23 Book Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 5 due**

#### Week 7:

2/26 *Lecture:* The American Revolution & its Consequences

2/28 *Lecture:* America Under the Articles of Confederation

3/2 *Lecture:* Toward a New Union: Creating A Constitution of Compromise

## Week 8:

- 3/5 Midterm Exam Review
- 3/7 **Midterm Exam**
- 3/9 Reading Day

3/12 – 3/16: Spring Break Holiday (No Class This Week)

## Week 9:

- 3/19 *Lecture*: Making the Republic Work I
- 3/21 *Lecture*: Making the Republic Work II
- 3/23 Book Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 6 due**

## Week 10:

- 3/26 *Lecture*: The Rise of Jeffersonian Democracy
- 3/28 *Lecture*: The War of 1812 & its Significance
- 3/30 Good Friday Holiday (No Class)

## Week 11:

- 4/2 *Lecture*: The Era of Good Feelings & the Breakdown of Unity
- 4/4 *Lecture*: Transformation & Growth: The Jacksonian Era
- 4/6 Document Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 7 due**

## Week 12:

- 4/9 *Lecture*: Slavery & the Emergence of the Cotton Kingdom
- 4/11 *Lecture*: The Enlightenment Impulse: Reform in the North
- 4/13 Book Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 8 due**

## Week 13:

- 4/16 *Lecture*: Manifest Destiny I: The Opening of the West
- 4/18 *Lecture*: Manifest Destiny II: The Question of Slavery in the Western Territories
- 4/20 Book Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 9 due**

## Week 14:

- 4/23 *Lecture*: The Nation Divided: The Politics of Sectionalism
- 4/25 *Lecture*: The Nation Shattered: The Civil War
- 4/27 Document Analysis & Classroom Discussion, **Essay Response 10 due**

## Week 15:

- 4/30 *Lecture*: The Nation Shattered: The Reconstruction Era
- 5/2 *Lecture*: Conclusions
- 5/4 Final Exam Review

## Week 16:

- 5/9 **Final Exam (12:00-2:00 p.m.)**