**Course Description**

A comprehensive survey of American history from early explorations through Reconstruction.

This semester we will be looking at the ‘growth of America’ and how that theme changes as we move from one unit to the next.

To fully benefit from this course, you will need to come to class prepared to discuss and share ideas, participate actively and respectfully, and be willing to challenge yourself and your beliefs.

The best discussions require you to be open to hearing alternative points of view and learning to argue your position constructively.

You will be asked to validate your opinions in writing throughout the semester.

**Course Requirements**

Assignments will consist of three in-class essay examinations, three document-based essays, reading quizzes, and other daily work. Attendance will play a role in your final grade.

**Grading Policy**

Each of the examinations will count for 10% of your semester grade. Each essay will count for 10%. Quizzes will count for 20%. Attendance and introduction assignments will be worth 20%.

Grades are determined as such: A=1000-900; B=899-800; C=799-700; D=699-600; F=599 and below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>3 at 100 each</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>3 at 100 each</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 at 20 each</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>20 at 5 each</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>2 at 50 each</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points maximum</strong></td>
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**Quizzes**

You will be given a reading quiz after we have covered the material in each chapter. All quizzes will be open notes (must be hand-written – no phones, computers, or textbooks allowed.) We will quiz over 13 chapters; however, I will only count the best 10 grades.

As I drop the lowest three grades, you will not be allowed to make-up any missed quizzes due to absenteeism.
Exams
Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching, and short essay questions. No make-up exams will be given unless you have made prior arrangements to miss a scheduled exam. Appropriate excuses are at the discretion of the teacher. Exams missed due to emergencies on the day of the exam, will be arranged once documentation has been provided to justify your absence. The final exam will not be given early. Please make arrangements accordingly.

Essays
The class will be given three (3) essays to write based on documents from the historical time period we are studying. Papers are to be submitted through D2L in the drop box provided. If you have any difficulties with the drop box, I would suggest emailing a backup copy to me. No late papers will be accepted.

Attendance
Attendance is expected of all students. You will receive up to 100 points (10%) towards your final average for attending class on a regular basis. Each class period is worth 5 points. Arriving late, leaving early, or failure to participate in class are grounds for reducing your daily points. Point deductions are at the discretion of the teacher.

Introduction Assignments
Students will respond to an introductory assignment and submit their work via the D2L drop box. You will be required to meet with the teacher during office hours at least one time this semester for approximately 10 minutes. If you are not able to meet during scheduled office hours, be sure to arrange another time. Meetings must take place during the first four weeks of classes.

Text
America: A Narrative History by Shi and Tindall.

Technology
While I understand that students sometimes need access to phones for family emergencies, it is easy to become distracted by technology. Please place your phones on silent during class and refrain from texting. If you are expecting an important call, please notify me before class begins.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:
1. Explain the key issues and developments in early American history.
2. Identify the main historical arguments associated with an event or period in early American history.
3. Analyze a primary source.
| Day 1: | July 16 | Introduction  
Collision of Cultures: Chapter 1  
Homework: Introduction Assignment |
| Day 2: | July 17 | Chapter 1 quiz  
England’s Colonies: Ch. 2 |
| Day 3: | July 18 | England’s Colonies: Ch. 2  
Homework: Columbus Essay |
| Day 4: | July 22 | Ch. 2 quiz  
Colonial Ways of Life: Ch. 3 |
| Day 5: | July 23 | Ch. 3 quiz  
From Colonies to States: Ch. 4 |
| Day 6: | July 24 | Ch. 4 quiz  
Revolution: Ch. 5  
Homework: American Revolution Essay |
| Day 7: | July 25 | **Exam**: Chapters 1-5  
Strengthening the New Nation: Ch. 6 |
| Day 8: | July 29 | Strengthening the New Nation: Ch. 6 |
| Day 9: | July 30 | Ch. 6 quiz  
Early Republic: Ch. 7 |
| Day 10: | July 31 | Early Republic: Ch. 7 |
| Day 11: | Aug 1 | Ch. 7 quiz  
Market Economy: Ch. 8 |
| Day 12: | Aug 5 | Ch. 8 quiz  
Nationalism and Sectionalism: Ch. 9 |
| Day 13: | Aug 6 | Ch. 9 quiz  
Jacksonian Era: Ch. 10 |
| Day 14: | Aug 7 | **Exam**: Chapters 6-10  
South, Slavery, and King Cotton: Ch. 11 |
| Day 15: | Aug 8 | Ch. 11 quiz  
Religion, Romanticism, and Reform: Ch. 12 |
| Day 16: | Aug 12 | Ch. 12 quiz  
Western Expansion: Ch. 13 |
| Day 17: | Aug 13 | Ch. 13 quiz  
Gathering Storm: Ch. 14  
Homework: Secession Essay |
| Day 18: | Aug 14 | Ch. 14 quiz  
Civil War: Ch. 15 |
| Day 19: | Aug 15 | Ch. 15 quiz  
Reconstruction: Ch. 16 |
| **Day 20:** | August 16 | **FINAL EXAM**: Chapters 11-16 |
Course responsibilities
I will follow the syllabus and keep to the schedule as best I can, but promise to notify you if there are any changes.
It is your responsibility to come to class, keep up with the reading, and prepare for assignments. The grade you earn is determined by the quality of your effort, not necessarily by the amount of time you spend.

Consultations
You are always welcome to come to my office during office hours to discuss readings, lectures or anything else that you have concerns or questions about.
You may also make an appointment, if my hours are not convenient. If you are having problems in the class, the worst possible thing you can do is wait until the end of the semester to say something. Let me know right away, so that I can help you.

Professionalism
Students are expected to be on time and to behave in a professional manner. Disruptive or distracting behavior will not be tolerated. Students reading non-course material or disrupting the class in any way will be asked to leave the room.
The penalty for cheating and plagiarism will range from failure of the assignment to failure of the course and referral to your dean, depending of the severity of the incident.

Make-up Work
No make-up exams will be given unless you make prior arrangements to miss the regularly scheduled exam. If you miss an exam due to an emergency on the day of an exam, you will not be allowed to take a make-up until you provide written documentation to justify your absence.

No make-up quizzes will be given regardless of the reason for the absence. Three grades will be dropped; any missed quizzes will count as one of your drops. Students missing more than three classes in which quizzes were administered should speak with the teacher.

*A complete syllabus with university policies can be found on D2L.
COURSE POLICIES AND OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY POLICY
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (SFA POLICY 4.1)
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam; falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or; helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to: submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person; submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or, incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit. Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

You may read the complete policy at
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf

WITHHELD GRADES (SFA POLICY 5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

DISABILITY POLICY (SFA POLICY 6.1)
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND THE SFA WAY (SFA POLICY 10.4)
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program.
Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.
For information on the Student Code of Conduct, called The SFA Way, go to:
http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-conduct-code.pdf
CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Personal Responsibility, Social Responsibility, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, and Teamwork. The Coordinating Board has indicated that American history courses should focus on the first four of these objectives, although this course will also provide some opportunities for you to improve your teamwork skills.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.