COURSE DESCRIPTION

A comprehensive survey of American history from early explorations through Reconstruction. Meets Texas state requirements for all graduates.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You will take three exams, consisting of short answer and matching questions: the first exam on February 18, the second on March 31, and the third (final) exam on May 5. There will also be five quizzes consisting of objective questions.

You are required to take each of the three exams at the regular time. If you miss an exam because of illness, you will be allowed to take the makeup if you furnish a medical certificate from a doctor or from the SFA medical center. For all other last-minute emergencies, you will also be required to furnish written proof of the emergency. ** All make-up exams will be administered during the last week of regular classes at the end of the semester, before the week of final exams.

On quiz days, be sure to arrive in class on time: students arriving late may not be permitted to take the quiz.

GRADING POLICY

Each of the three exams will count for 25% of your semester grade. The reading quizzes will also count for 25% of your semester grade.

Attendance is an important part of student learning and will be taken each class.

TEXTS

* David Emory Shi, America: A Narrative History, Volume One

* Michael Johnson, ed., Reading the American Past
Note about Brightspace

This semester we will make use of Brightspace (D2L) to post grades and some course content. You can reach the website by going to d2l.sfasu.edu

Click on “log in,” then use the same user ID and password that you would use with MySFA. You will see a list of your courses, and click on HIS 133.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)

*** In this class, you will be required to place all notes, books, back-sacks, purses, etc. at the front of the class before the exam begins.

*** Any student who has an electronic device visible during an exam (in their lap, on their desk, or visible nearby) will receive a zero for their exam grade.

*** No student will be allowed to leave the room during an exam unless they finish and turn in their exam first. If you need to go to the restroom, do so before the exam starts.

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) 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 your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf

Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy, A-54)

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.
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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, 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/disabilityservices/

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.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

HIS 133 includes instruction in the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role.

In addition to learning the above, students in HIS 133 will demonstrate the more general ability to:

- Think critically, which includes the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information about this period of history.
- Communicate effectively by developing and expressing ideas through written and visual communication.
- Gain intercultural competence, a knowledge of civic responsibility, and an awareness of how humans in the past have engaged effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- Understand the role that personal responsibility has played throughout history and gain the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to making ethical decisions.

Instruction in the Core Objectives (critical thinking, communication, personal and social responsibility) will be given throughout the semester.

Explanation of credit hours awarded for course:

HIS 133 (United States History I) meets for 150 minutes each week for 15 weeks and also meets for a 2½-hour final examination. Students typically have weekly reading assignments from a combination of textbooks, primary document collections, and supplemental materials (biographies, historical novels, memoirs, etc). Typical sections of the course require students to take 2-3 exams per semester, in addition to the final exam. Many also require students to take quizzes. Course instructors are required to hold regular scheduled office hours to make themselves available to consult with students as needed. Combined, studying for quizzes/exams, doing the required reading, completing writing assignments, and consulting with course instructors average two hours of work outside the classroom for every hour spent in the classroom. Online sections of the course contain extensive written content within modules, and instructors hold “electronic office hours” to consult with students as needed, generally responding to student inquiries within twenty-four hours. Online course content includes the same information students
in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least 150 minutes per week. Besides engaging the material in the modules, online students have outside reading assignments similar to those mentioned above for face-to-face students. Thus, for every hour an online student spends engaging the content in the modules, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

**GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM**

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, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

**COURSE CALENDAR**

Jan 21  Introduction: Why study history? / A collision of cultures

Jan 28  Jamestown / Religion in the colonies

Feb 4  Massachusetts Bay / The Spanish and French in North America

Feb 11  Colonial ways of life / Regulating the colonies

**TEST # 1, Tuesday, February 18**

*Assigned reading in the Johnson book: Chapter 2 – Documents 1 (King of the Congo)*

*Chapter 3 – Document 1 (Frethorne)*

*Chapter 4 – Documents 1 and 2 (Winthrop and Williams)*

*Chapter 5 – Document 1 (Ashbridge)*

Feb 25  The American Revolution / From Confederation to Constitution

March 3  The Age of Federalism / Jefferson’s America

March 17  The War of 1812 and its consequences / Jacksonian Democracy

March 24  The Industrial Revolution and American society

**TEST # 2, Tuesday, March 31**

*Assigned reading in the Johnson book: Chapter 7 – Documents 1 and 2 (Paine and Adams)*

*Chapter 8 – Documents 1 and 3 (Allen and Rush)*
April 7 Reform and culture in the nineteenth century / Manifest Destiny and the West

   -- Shi, America: A Narrative History, ch. 12

April 14 The Old South and the issue of slavery in the territories

April 21 Origins and beginning of the Civil War

April 28 Civil War and Reconstruction

   -- Shi, America: A Narrative History, ch. 15

FINAL (3rd) EXAM, Tuesday, May 5, 7 – 9:30 pm

Assigned reading in the Johnson book: Chapter 12 – Documents 1 and 2 (Lincoln and Bellows)
Chapter 15 – Document 5 (Sherman)
Chapter 16 – Documents 1 and 4 (Schurz and Manigault)