Course Description:

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

Course Materials:


Optional textbook: *OpenStax U.S. History*, available free online, either streamed or downloaded, at [https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history](https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history)

Office Hours:

For this online summer class please e-mail with questions to rballen@sfasu.edu or through D2L/Brightspace.

Course Requirements:

- Three exams, worth 100 points each = 300
- Six discussion post assignments, worth 10 points each = 60
- Six reading quizzes, worth 15 pts each = 90
- One primary source exercise, worth 50 points = 50

500 points
Grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Semester average</th>
<th>Semester grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 – 500</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 – 449</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>350 – 399</td>
<td>70 – 79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>300 – 349</td>
<td>60 – 69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 – 299</td>
<td>0 – 59</td>
<td>F</td>
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Extra credit and late work:

Extra credit points may be earned by students who participate in a series of “thought assignments” and turn them in by specific deadlines.

Late work is not accepted.

Course Calendar:

July 7         Getting started

- Read “Get Started,” including the syllabus and the semester calendar, including the schedule of assignments
- Make a post in the discussion thread, introducing yourself with some basic information: name, where you are from, what do you like to do

July 8         Unit 1, Module 1: Old and New Worlds

- Read module content

July 9         Unit 1, Module 2: Colonial America

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 2 of American Realities and take the first reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on July 9 until 9 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

July 13        Unit 1, Module 3: The Politics of Empire

- Read module content
- Read chapter 3 of American Realities and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 125 words.
July 14  Unit 1, Module 4: Causes of the American Revolution

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 4 of American Realities and take the second reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on July 14 until 9 pm (start time).

July 15  First exam

- Take the first exam, available until 9 pm (start time)

July 16  Unit 2, Module 1: War for Independence

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 5 of American Realities and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words.

July 20  Unit 2, Module 2: Confederation and Constitution

- Read module content
- Read chapter 6 of American Realities and take the third reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on July 20 until 9 pm (start time).

July 21  Unit 2, Module 3: The Federalist Era, 1789 – 1801

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 7 of American Realities and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words. You should also make one response to another student’s post: your response should be at least 50 words.

July 22  Unit 2, Module 4: The Republican Era, 1801 – 1825

- Read module content

July 23  Unit 2, Module 5: Jacksonian Democracy

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 9 of American Realities and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words. You should also make one response to another student’s post: your response should be at least 50 words.
July 27  Second exam

- Take the second exam, available until 9 pm (start time)

July 28  Unit 3, Module 1: Antebellum America

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 10 of *American Realities* and take the fourth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on July 28 until 9 pm (start time).

July 29  Primary source exercise due

- The primary source assignment should be at least 250 words and should be uploaded to the dropbox in D2L by 9 pm on July 29.

July 30  Unit 3, Module 2: National Expansion

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 11 of *American Realities* and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words. You should also make one response to another student’s post: your response should be at least 50 words.

Aug 3  Unit 3, Module 3: The Old South and Slavery

- Read module content
- Read chapter 12 of *American Realities* and take the fifth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on August 3 until 9 pm (start time).

Aug 4  Unit 3, Module 4: The Impending Crisis

- Read module content
- Zoom class at 12:30 pm
- Read chapter 13 of *American Realities* and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words. You should also make one response to another student’s post: your response should be at least 50 words.

Aug 5  Unit 3, Module 5: Secession and the Civil War, 1860 – 1865

- Read module content
- Read chapter 14 of *American Realities* and take the sixth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on August 5 until 9 pm (start time).
Aug 6
Unit 3, Module 6: Reconstruction, 1865 – 1877

• Read module content
• Zoom class at 12:30 pm

Aug 7
Third exam

• Take the third exam, available until 9 pm (start time)

**Academic Integrity:**

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](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/](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 2 ½-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.