HIS 4175-080 – History/Social Studies TExES PREP  
Fall 2021
Class meeting time and place: Tuesdays, 5:00-5:50pm, F-477

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays; 10:00-12:00, or by appointment

PURPOSE:  
HIS 475 is a course designed to help you prepare for the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES) in  
History/Social Studies. You must pass this course with a B or better before you will be eligible to take the History/Social  
Studies TExES. You earn an A by passing the Content Mastery Exam with an 80% or better, a B by passing with a 70-  
79.9%, which demonstrates you are ready to take the TExES, and a C in the class by earning a 60.9% on the practice  
Content Exam. It is strongly recommended you receive at least a 240 on the practice exam before applying to take the  
Content Mastery Exam.

You will have several opportunities to pass the practice Content Mastery Exam. One of these opportunities is  
scheduled during our class meetings every week. Any other opportunity must be scheduled with the course Professor.  
Please note that passing the exam does not exempt you from class attendance. Since you must pass the TExES to earn  
teacher certification, you are strongly encouraged to continue taking practice exams even after you achieve a desired  
passing practice score until you take the actual Content exam.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:  
The SFA History Department has identified the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for all SFA students earning  
a B.A. degree in History, and are applicable to HIS 4175:  
The SFA History major can:
  1. INTERPRET THE PAST IN CONTEXT  
  2. UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX NATURE OF THE HISTORICAL RECORD  
  3. ENGAGE IN HISTORICAL INQUIRY, RESEARCH, AND ANALYSIS  
  4. CRAFT HISTORICAL NARRATIVE AND ARGUMENT  
  5. PRACTICE HISTORICAL THINKING AS CENTRAL TO ENGAGED CITIZENSHIP  
*This course will focus on PLOs 1 and 2.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:  
  1. The more specific outcomes for this particular course are as follows:  
  2. The student will be able to prepare for the TExES exam format in either history of social studies.  
  3. The student will be able to analyze the causes and consequences of important historical, social, economic,  
     political and cultural events.  
  4. Students will pass the TExES exam.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS:  
As a candidate for teacher certification in History/Social Studies, you probably have study materials of your own (old  
textbooks, course lecture notes, etc.) that you have found useful in the past. You may rely on those materials to help  
you prepare for the presentation (described below) and the Content Mastery Exam you will be taking this term. You can  
also purchase general United States, Western Civilization, and World History textbooks at the SFA bookstore or online,  
as well as political science, geography, economic, and psychology material for social studies.

COURSE GRADE:  
Completion of this course with an appropriate grade will be based on the following criteria:  
  • Attendance. In semesters past, you will not pass the course if you had more than one unexcused absence,  
    regardless of your score on the Content Mastery Exam. However, in this unprecedented time of COVID 19, this  
    semester attendance will not factor into your ability to pass the course.  
  • Teaching Presentations: Following the completion of the first Content Mastery Exam, students will be assigned  
to present on areas in which they displayed a deficiency in, as indicated by the first exam. Failure to do this will  
result in not passing the course, regardless of your score on the Content Mastery Exam. Specific guidelines for
that exam (so go to the Education Department).

NOTE: and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For early as possible in 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/disabilityservices/.

NOTE: After you pass the Mastery Content Exam Course in this class, the professor will contact the Perkins College of Education to have you cleared to take the TExES in History/Social Studies. You will need to contact Education to schedule that exam (so go to the Education Department).

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1: August 24, Introduction to course; distribution of the syllabus meet in F477
Week 2: August 31, Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for first exam)
Week 3: September 7, Receive score report; Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 4: September 14, Understanding your score Q & A; Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 5: September 21, US History Exam Content Overview; Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC lab for class)
Week 6: September 28, Presentation Overview/ Expectations (Topic assigned); Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 7: October 5, Texas History Exam Content Overview; Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 8: October 12, No Class; Preparation time for Lesson Presentations
Week 9: October 19, Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 10: October 26, World History Exam Content Overview (Meet in LINC lab for class)
Week 11: November 2, World History Exam Content Overview; Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 12: November 9, No Class; Preparation time for Lesson Presentations (set-up office appointment for Q/A)
Week 13: November 16, Presentations (due in the Dropbox); Content exam optional
Week 14: Thanksgiving Week- No class November 22-26
Week 15: November 30, Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 16: December 7, Content Mastery Exam (Meet in LINC Lab for exam)
Week 17: December 13-17 Finals Week Social Studies Skills & Processes Exam Content Overview (optional)

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/academic_integrity.asp

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, 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/disabilityservices/.