US History to 1877  
HIST 1301-016

Name: Dr. Lydia Towns  
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D2L Class email (preferred method)

Phone:  
Office: LAN 309  
Office Hours: Mondays- 4-6pm; Thursday 1-5pm  
Teatime hours: MW 4-5pm; Thur. 3-5pm  
Or By Appointment

Department: History  
Class meeting time and place: Tuesday/Thursday 11-12:15 LAN 102

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

Texts and Materials:  
*American Yawp vol. I* ([https://www.americanyawp.com/](https://www.americanyawp.com/)) This is a free, online textbook  
Online materials provided through D2L,  
Access to assigned movies

Course Requirements:

**Historical Engagement:** As you move through the course materials (the history under study),  
you will have several ways to interact with the materials, instructor, and your fellow students  
through a variety of assignments. (The Instructor reserves the right to adjust the number  
of assignments as the semester progresses)

- Movie Projects- 10%
  - There will be two group projects.  
  - Group movie assignments will include an individual analysis paper of 300-400 words (roughly a page) and a 3-5 minute group presentation on the movie.

- Critical Thinking Skills- 10%
  - There will be a variety of online assignments to help you develop your critical thinking and writing skills in preparation for the course.

- Quizzes- 20%
  - Quizzes will be mostly multiple choice and will be scattered throughout the semester. Most quizzes will be in Canvas, group quizzes will be in class only. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. **Group quizzes cannot be made up if missed**

- Historical Engagement- 30%
There will be a variety of “participation assignments” throughout the semester. These will include; primary source activities, reaction papers, and other group activities. These will mostly be in-class assignments and will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. These assignments are designed to enhance the student’s teamwork skills, actively engage the students with the material, enhance analytical and critical thinking and encourage class participation and attendance. The lowest three grades for this section will be dropped.

- **Essays- 30%**
  - There will be 3 document based essays, each worth 10% of the final grade.
  - Essays will be 2.5-3 pages in length and require use of an assigned set of documents, showing the student’s ability to analyze the documents and place them within their historical context.
  - **Essays will require proper Chicago/Turabian style citations**
  - **Essays are to be turned in via Turnitin in D2L. Hard copies or emailed copies will not be accepted.**

**Course Calendar:**
*I reserve the right to amend this schedule for the good of the class*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1- August 28-Sept. 1</th>
<th>Intro-What is History? Early Exploration Ch. 1</th>
<th>Week 1 Folder Friday: Syllabus Quiz &amp; Critical Thinking 1-4 Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2- Sept. 4-8</td>
<td>Exploration and Colonization Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Week 2 Folder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3- Sept. 11-15</td>
<td>Colonization and American Society Ch. 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Week 3 Folder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4, Sept. 18-22</td>
<td>Slave trade and 18th cent. Culture Ch. 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Week 4 Folder</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY ONLINE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday: Quiz 2 Due</strong></td>
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<td>Week 5, Sept. 25-29</td>
<td>Century At War Ch. 4</td>
<td>Week 5 Folder</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY ONLINE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6, Oct. 2-6</td>
<td>Century at War-American Revolution Ch. 5</td>
<td>Week 6 Folder</td>
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<td>Week 7, Oct. 9-13</td>
<td>American Revolution-Building a Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Chapter(s)</td>
<td>Topic(s)</td>
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<td>Week 8 Oct. 16-20</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
<td>The Constitution and the Young Nation</td>
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<td>Ch. 6</td>
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<td>Week 9, Oct. 23-27</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
<td>Jefferson’s Presidency &amp; War of 1812</td>
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<td>Ch. 7</td>
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<td>Week 10, Oct. 30-Nov. 3</td>
<td>Ch. 9</td>
<td>Rise of Nationalism &amp; Mass Democracy</td>
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<td>Week 11, Nov. 6-10</td>
<td>Ch. 9, 10</td>
<td>Industrial Revolution and the Age of Reform</td>
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<td>Ch. 8 &amp; 10</td>
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<td>Week 12, Nov. 13-17</td>
<td>Ch. 9, 12</td>
<td>&quot;That Peculiar Institution” &amp; Manifest Destiny</td>
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<td>Week 13, Nov. 20-24</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
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<td>Week 14, Nov. 27-Dec. 1</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
<td>Sectional Crisis</td>
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<td>Ch. 13</td>
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<td>Week 15, Dec. 4-8</td>
<td>Ch. 14, 15</td>
<td>Civil War and Reconstruction,</td>
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<td>Week 16, Dec. 11-15</td>
<td>Ch.13-16</td>
<td>FINALS WEEK</td>
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**Grading Policy:**
Letter grades are assigned as follows

A= 90-100%  B= 80-89%  C= 70-79%  D= 60-69%  F= 0-59%
Grades can be broken down into the different assignment categories as follows:
Movie Projects- 10%
Critical Thinking Skills- 10%
Quizzes- 20%
Historical Engagement- 30%
Exams- 30%

I will do my best to have all grades posted within one week of their due date. You then have ONE week to come to me if you think that your grade is in error. After one week all grades are final, but you are still welcome to come talk to me about what went wrong and how you can do better next time.

Tea-time with Dr. Towns- During afternoon office hours I will offer an optional “tea time” everyone is encouraged to come by whenever they want to visit, in addition, each individual will receive 1 extra credit historical engagement for attending a “tea time” during the semester. (This is subject to change according to changes in Covid.)

Attendance Policy:
Class attendance is considered a part of the grade for this class and is mandatory for success. Students should make every effort to attend every class meeting. Sometimes a student misses class due to circumstances beyond his or her control. In such a situation the student MUST contact the instructor as soon as possible.
The student is responsible for notifying the instructor and providing documentation of excused absences. If at all possible, this documentation should be in the form of an email and should be delivered in advance of the absence. If advance documentation is not possible, the student should provide documentation on the first day that the student returns to class.

All other absences will be considered “unexcused.” In this case, students will not be allowed to make up missed work. Unexcused absences will also result in a lowering of the student’s class participation grade.

Late Assignment Policy
No late work will be accepted for in-class assignments for unexcused absences. All online assignments will allow submission one day past the due date and will be docked a letter grade.

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:
HIST 1301 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 HIST 1301 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 social 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.

**Explanation of credit hours awarded for course:**
HIST 1301 (United States History I) meets for 2,250 minutes (37.5 hours), including examination times, during the course of a semester. 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 2,250 minutes per term. 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.

By enrolling in HIST 1301, you are enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Critical Thinking, Written Communication, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility requirements.
The chart below indicates: (a) The core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and (b) How the required core objectives will be addressed.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
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<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</td>
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**Academic Integrity**

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy. Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction.
If you are caught cheating, plagiarizing, or using an AI generation such as ChatGPT for your written work, it is an automatic 0, and referral to the Dean of Students. If caught a second time you may fail the course.

**Withheld Grades (Course Grades, 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.

**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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

**Mental Health Statement**
SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
[www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents)
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

**The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”**
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:
* Health Services
* Counseling Services
* Student Outreach and Support
• Food Pantry
• Wellness Coaching
• Alcohol and Other Drug Education
www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4080
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741