Course Description:

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

Course Materials:

Readings and primary sources for our course will be assigned and posted on Brightspace / D2L. Students will also be expected to read the material in the course modules and to watch the prerecorded video talks.

As an optional resource, students may also consult *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:

Office hours will be held on Zoom by appointment: whenever you would like to meet on Zoom, let me know and we will arrange a time. It’s important that you feel comfortable asking questions this semester. Please e-mail with questions to rballen@sfasu.edu or through D2L.

Course Requirements:

* Three exams, worth 90 points each = 270
* Four discussion post assignments, worth 10 points each = 40
* Seven reading quizzes, worth 15 pts each = 105
* One primary source assignment, 85 pts = 85

Total = 500 points
The exams, consisting of short answer and multiple-choice questions, will be over the assigned modules, video talks, and readings. Discussion post assignments will require students to read primary sources and to answer prompt questions about those sources, while the reading quizzes will comprise multiple-choice questions over the assigned readings.

**Grading scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Semester average</th>
<th>Semester grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 – 500</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 – 449</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 299</td>
<td>0 – 59</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late work is not accepted.

**D2L / Brightspace:**

This semester, students will take all of their exams and quizzes on D2L and will also submit their primary source exercise and discussion posts on D2L. Students should fulfill these assignments early enough to allow for technical difficulties. If you have difficulties, you can email SFA’s D2L support team at d2l@sfasu.edu or call them at (936) 468-1919 (available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm).

It is your responsibility to check D2L frequently to keep up with announcements and assignments.

**Course Calendar:**

Monday, August 28  Getting started

- Read the “Get Started” module, including the syllabus and the semester course calendar with 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

Wednesday, August 30  First Discussion

- Read the discussion question and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 100 words. No reading is required for this discussion, and you do not need to respond to another student’s post. The discussion thread will close at 11 pm on August 30.
Thursday, August 31  
Unit 1, Module 1: Old and New Worlds
- Read module content and watch the first video talk.

Tuesday, September 5  
Unit 1, Module 2: Colonial America
- Read module content and watch the second video talk.

Thursday, September 7  
First quiz
- 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 September 7 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, September 11  
Unit 1, Module 3: The Politics of Empire
- Read module content and watch the third video talk.

Wednesday, September 13  
Second quiz
- 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 September 13 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, September 18  
Unit 1, Module 4: Causes of the American Revolution
- Read module content and watch the fourth video talk.

Wednesday, September 20  
First exam
- Take the first exam, available from 8 am until 11 pm (start time)

Monday, September 25  
Unit 2, Module 1: War for Independence
- Read module content and watch the fifth video talk.
Thursday, September 28  Third quiz

- 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 September 28 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, October 2  Unit 2, Module 2: Confederation and Constitution

- Read module content and watch the sixth video talk.

Thursday, October 5  Unit 2, Module 3: The Age of Federalism, 1789 – 1801

- Read module content and watch the seventh video talk.

Tuesday, October 10  Second discussion

- Read the primary sources posted on D2L and answer the prompt with a discussion post of at least 150 words. You do not need to respond to another student’s post. The discussion thread will close at 11 pm on October 10.

Thursday, October 12  Unit 2, Module 4: The Republican Era, 1801 – 1825

- Read module content and watch the eighth video talk.

Monday, October 16  Third discussion

- 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. The discussion thread will close at 11 pm on October 16.

Wednesday, October 18  Unit 2, Module 5: Jacksonian Democracy

- Read module content and watch the ninth video talk.

Monday, October 23  Fourth quiz

- Read the primary sources posted on D2L and take the fourth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to
you on October 23 from 8 am to 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Thursday, October 26          Second exam

- Take the second exam, available from 8 am until 11 pm (start time)

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Tuesday, October 31          Unit 3, Module 1: Antebellum America

- Read module content and watch the tenth video talk.

Thursday, November 2          Fifth quiz

- Read chapter 10 of American Realities and take the fifth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on November 2 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, November 6          Unit 3, Module 2: National Expansion

- Read module content and watch the eleventh video talk.

Wednesday, November 8          Fourth discussion

- 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. The discussion thread will close at 11 pm on November 8.

Monday, November 13          Unit 3, Module 3: The Impending Crisis

- Read module content and watch the twelfth video talk.

Wednesday, November 15          Sixth quiz

- Read chapter 13 of American Realities and take the sixth reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on November 15 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.
Tuesday, November 28  Unit 3, Module 4: Civil War and Reconstruction

- Read module content and watch the thirteenth video talk.

Thursday, November 30  Seventh quiz

- Read chapter 14 of *American Realities* and take the seventh reading quiz, consisting of five multiple choice questions. The quiz will be available to you on November 30 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, December 4  Primary source assignment due

- The primary source assignment should be at least 350 words and should be uploaded to the dropbox in D2L by 9 pm on Monday, December 4.

Thursday, December 7  Fifth discussion

- Read chapter 15 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. The discussion thread will close at 11 pm on December 7.

Monday or Tuesday, December 11/12  Third exam

- Take the third exam, available from 8 am Monday until 11 pm Tuesday

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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 with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

Please read the dishonesty policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf), and also [The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf).

**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 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 this 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 the core objectives addressed by this course and the assignments that will be used to assess the objectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Course Assignment Title</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, and 3rd exams</td>
<td>7/12, 7/25, 8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written communication.</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, and 3rd exams</td>
<td>7/12, 7/25, 8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
<td>Primary source exercise</td>
<td>7/31</td>
</tr>
<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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</tbody>
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Student Wellness and Well-Being

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, 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

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic** Human Services, Room 202
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
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](http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub)
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

**Crisis Resources:**

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741