INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Chuck Dendy
Office: 344; Vera Dugas Liberal Arts North
Phone: 936-639-2388; 1-800-677-7438
Email: rayine@cdendylaw.com or dendyc@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Classroom: Room 474 T. E. Ferguson Liberal Arts Building

NOTE: My legal assistant, Rayine White, is available at the telephone numbers above between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. If your question is compelling and cannot wait for an email response you may leave a message with her, and I will call back as quickly as possible.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A comprehensive study of American history from the First Americans through Reconstruction. Meets Texas state requirements for all graduates. Course credits three semester hours.

TEXT BOOK
Roark•Johnson•Cohen•Stage•Hartmann, The American Promise: A Concise History, Volume 1, To 1877, Eighth Edition; ISBN:9781319208899

OTHER REQUIRED READING
When I Was a Slave: Memoirs from the Slave Narrative Collection ISBN 9780486420707

GRADING
Your course grade will be determined by your scores on weekly quizzes, examinations, and reaction papers. The dates of the examinations and reaction papers are noted on the class schedule. Your final grade will be based on the total points earned on these assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Quiz Grades</td>
<td>10 @ 10 pts each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination Grades</td>
<td>3 @ 100 pts each</td>
<td>300 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Papers</td>
<td>3 @ 50 pts each</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A 495 - 550
B 440 - 494
C 395 - 439
D 340 - 394
F 0 - 339
**BONUS POINTS:** You can earn up to 30 bonus points which will be added to your point total. See the explanation of the bonus points below.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION CAN HELP YOUR GRADE.** If you come to class, are prepared, and regularly participate, there is a chance a borderline grade can become the next highest grade. That is not to say a 72 can become a 92, but effort and participation can make a difference in a close call.

**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 1301 is part of the university’s Core Curriculum and as such strives towards both the general goals of the core and the specific objectives for classes designated for inclusion in the American History Foundational Component Area as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Courses in this Foundational Component Area focus on the consideration of past events and ideas relative to the United States. Courses in this area, such as HIS 1301, include 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 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.

**ATTENDANCE**
Attendance will be taken, and excessive absences will be punished severely, up to and including forfeiture of your firstborn child. You are adults and someone paid tuition for this class. It is up to you to attend regularly and get the most out of it. Regular attendance normally leads to better grades, so keep that in mind when you are deciding whether to come to class on a given day. Also, as noted below, there will be weekly quizzes. Obviously, if you are not there you can’t take a quiz.

**NOTE:** Students receiving financial aid are required by law to attend class. Failure to do so can result in the loss of future financial aid.

**WEEKLY QUIZZES**
There will be a 10-question quiz given every Monday on that week’s assigned readings. The ten highest quiz grades will count towards your final grade. Quizzes will be fill in the blank, matching, multiple choice, and/or very short answer. **Because some weekly quiz grades will be dropped, there will be no makeup on any quiz.** The purpose of the quizzes is to encourage you to do the assigned reading and come to class.

**EXAMINATIONS**
There will be three examinations in the course. Exam material will be taken from the textbook, the required readings, lectures, class notes, and anything else that may go on in class. Each test will consist of 25 multiple
choice, fill in the blank, matching, and/or very short answer questions; seven questions that require a paragraph or two to answer, of which you will answer five; and three essay-type questions of which you will answer two. Tests will not be cumulative.

**REACTION PAPERS**
In addition to the weekly quizzes and examinations each student will complete three reaction papers over the three required books. Details of the reaction papers will be discussed more fully in a subsequent handout.

**BONUS POINTS**
Three bonus points may be earned each week, up to a maximum of 30 points, by connecting current events discussed in the news with historical themes discussed in class. The points will be given if at the beginning of class you hand in a type-written paragraph that identifies the news source and explains how it ties into something discussed in class. The *Dallas Morning News* and *Houston Chronicle* are both available through your MySFA account.

An example paragraph is as follows: In the City/State section of last Tuesday’s *Houston Chronicle* there was a story about old-fashioned pay telephones – the kind you put money in. The article explains that as cell phones are used more and more, pay phones are used less and less. This is an example of how technology is changing how Americans live.

**OUTSIDE OF CLASS ASSISTANCE**
Tutorial assistance is available to students through the Academic Assistance Resource Center – better known as “AARC” – at Ralph W. Steen Library. Statistics show a student can expect to improve their class score by a whole letter grade if they participate in the program. Among the services available are study groups led by a student who has previously taken the course from a particular professor and done well in that class. The student instructor (SI) of the study group for this class is Robert Stewart. You are encouraged to use this resource.

**WRITING ASSISTANCE - OWL**
Writing assistance is available through AARC’s Online Writing Lab, or “OWL.” OWL can check your reaction paper for both structure and grammar – all online! OWL will be discussed more completely as the due date of your first reaction paper approaches. You are strongly encouraged to use OWL and/or Grammarly. It can make a real difference in your grade.

**MAKEUPS**
If an illness or emergency causes you to miss an exam, please let me know in advance or as soon as possible after the fact. If your documented reason for missing the exam is acceptable, you will need to take a makeup. Makeup exams will be taken in my office during office hours or as otherwise arranged. You may only take a makeup exam if you missed an exam due to an excused absence.

**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.

**This section on academic integrity should not be necessary. You learned it was wrong to cheat in kindergarten. Make it easy on everybody and just don’t cheat.**

**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/).

**Mental Health and Wellness**

SFA 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:**

**SFA Counseling Services**

[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)

Rusk Building, 3rd Floor

936.468.2401

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic**

[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)

Human Services, Room 202

936.468.1041

**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 741-74
WITHHELD GRADES
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor and with the approval of the department chairman, 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 the future, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER CLASS DISRUPTIONS
Cell phones should be turned off during class. This includes texting and web searching. **Points will be deducted from your total if this rule is violated.**
# COURSE SCHEDULE

**August**
- 28 Introduction
- 30 Chapter 1

**September**
- 4 Chapter 1 & 2
- 6 Chapter 2
- 11 Chapters 2 & 3
- 13 Chapters 3 & 4
- 18 Chapter 4
- 20 Chapter 5
- 25 Chapter 5; Review
- 27 **1st Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 1-5**

**October**
- 2 Chapter 6
- 4 Chapters 6 & 7
- 9 Chapter 7
- 11 Chapters 7 & 8
- 16 Chapters 8 & 9; Abigail Adams; *Abigail Adams reaction paper due*
- 18 Chapters 9 & 10
- 23 Chapters 10 & 11
- 25 Chapter 11
- 30 Chapter 11; Review

**November**
- 1 **2nd Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 6-11; Abigail Adams**
- 6 Chapter 12; *When I Was a Slave reaction paper due*
- 8 Chapters 12 & 13
- 13 Chapters 13 & 14
- 15 Chapters 14 & 15
- 20 Thanksgiving Holiday Break
- 22 Thanksgiving Holiday Break
- 27 Chapter 15
- 29 Chapters 15 & 16

**December**
- 4 Chapter 16; *The Last Stand; The Last Stand reaction paper due*
- 6 *The closing of the West; Review*
- **Final Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 12-16; When I Was a Slave; The Last Stand; the closing of the West**