HIST 4175
History/Social Studies TExES PREP

Fall 2023
R 5:45-6:45 Library

PURPOSE:
HIST 4175 is a one-hour course designed to help you prepare for the content specialization Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES) in History 7-12 or Social Studies 7-12. Additionally, students receive guidance for maintaining certification and professional development expectations as a certified teacher in Texas.

COURSE GRADING POLICY:
Completion of this course with a passing grade will be based on the following criteria:

- **Teaching Presentations**: Following the completion of the first Content Mastery Exam, students will be assigned a research topic for their teaching presentation to support continued development of topics relevant to teaching history at the secondary level. Failure to complete the research presentation will result in not passing the course, regardless of your score on the Content Mastery Exam.

- **Performance on the Content Mastery Exam**: Students will have several opportunities to complete the content practice throughout the semester. A score of at least 75% or above on the practice exam is required to earn an A in the course. You must pass this course with a B or better before you will be eligible to take the History or Social Studies TExES 7-12.

- **Teaching Presentation Attendance**: Failing to attend mandatory presentation days and complete feedback survey for your classmates will result in a letter grade drop.

Students completing presentation requirements and earning at least a 75% on the practice exam will receive an A in this course. Students completing the presentation requirements but do not earn a 75% on the practice exam will receive a B in the course. Students who do not complete the presentation requirements but passed the content exam with a 75% or better will receive an F in this course. At the end of the semester, students earning a B in the course may continue taking practice exams as available by the instructor until they have received the necessary 75% to qualify to take the exam.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
This course will utilize different locations on-campus (i.e. the library, computer lab, traditional classroom setting) dependent on class instruction expectations for the week. Students will be notified in d2l where class will meet weekly. Historically speaking, it is difficult to pass this class without regular attendance. As an independent study, this course offers each of you individualized study guidance, which requires weekly individualized preparation; therefore, attendance is expected and appreciated. If for any reason you cannot attend, please notify your instructor via email before class. Students attending class regularly may request additional exam opportunities throughout the semester.

Prerequisite for taking this course:
Students must be officially admitted to SFASU's Teacher Preparation Program before taking this course and/or receiving clearance for the TExES exam.

I'm trying to free your mind, but I can only show you the door. You're the one that has to walk through it.

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Office: LAN 362
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00-12:15; Thursdays 10:00-11:30, no appointment necessary. Other availability by appointment.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS:
As a candidate for teacher certification in History or 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 should rely on those materials to help you prepare for the presentation (described below) and study for the Content Mastery Exam you will be take 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. Additionally, you may request textbook study materials from your instructor for free (as available, first-come).
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 HIST 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:
The more specific outcomes for this course are as follows:

1. The student will be able to prepare for the TExES exam in secondary education history or social studies.
2. The student will be able to analyze the causes and consequences of important historical, social, economic, political, and cultural events.
3. Students will understand expectations for maintaining certification in the state of Texas.
4. Students will be better prepared to pass the content TExES exam.

A professional educator in Texas certified to teach Secondary Education History 7-12 or Social Studies is expected to be able to interpret the events of the past with consideration to the complex nature of the historical world and put this information into context for student learners in their classroom. This course will help you, as a future educator, determine your readiness for this task. This course is most advantageous for you, as a student, after you have completed all content courses in your major (history or social studies).

COURSE CONTACT HOURS & STUDY HOURS
Students receive one hour course credit for the successful completion of HIST 4175. This course is a requirement for all students pursuing a teaching certificate (minor in Secondary Education) with a major in History or Social Studies. HIST 4175 meets for one hour of classroom instruction with a expectation of a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit.

COURSE CALENDAR

**Week 1:** August 31  
Introduction to course/ course expectations; Syllabus review

**Week 2:** September 7  
Assessing your knowledge base subject-specific to the TExES History 7-12

**Week 3:** September 14  
Reviewing your assessment; discussion on exam organization and preparation. Assigned research presentation topics.

**Week 4:** September 21

**Week 5:** September 28

**Week 6:** October 5

**Week 7:** October 12

**Week 8:** October 19

**Week 9:** October 26

**Week 10:** November 2

**Week 11:** November 9

**Week 12:** November 16

**Week 13:** Thanksgiving Week  
No class November 20-24

**Week 14:** November 30  
Class Presentations

**Week 15:** December 7  
Class Presentations

**Week 17:** December 14 Finals Week  
FINAL Content Mastery Practice Exam Opportunity

*Week 4-12, the class schedule will vary based on the need of the group to utilize class time and resources in the most effective way. Students should refer to the News Feed in d2l for class location and instruction details.*