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

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 Brightspace.

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

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>
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</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>
</tr>
<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:**

**Thursday, January 18**  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

**Monday, January 22**  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 January 22.
Wednesday, January 24  Unit 1, Module 1: Old and New Worlds

• Read module content and watch the first video talk.

Friday, January 26  Unit 1, Module 2: Colonial America

• Read module content and watch the second video talk.

Tuesday, January 31  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 January 31 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Thursday, February 2  Unit 1, Module 3: The Politics of Empire

• Read module content and watch the third video talk.

Monday, February 5  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 February 5 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Wednesday, Feb 7  Unit 1, Module 4: Causes of the American Revolution

• Read module content and watch the fourth video talk.

Monday, February 12  First exam

• Take the first exam, available from 8 am until 11 pm (start time)

Wednesday, Feb 14  Unit 2, Module 1: War for Independence

• Read module content and watch the fifth video talk.
Monday, Feb 19       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 February 19 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Thursday, Feb 22     Unit 2, Module 2: Confederation and Constitution

- Read module content and watch the sixth video talk.

Monday, Feb 26       Unit 2, Module 3: The Age of Federalism, 1789 – 1801

- Read module content and watch the seventh video talk.

Thursday, Feb 29     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 February 29.

Tuesday, March 5     Unit 2, Module 4: The Republican Era, 1801 – 1825

- Read module content and watch the eighth video talk.

Thursday, March 7     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 March 7.

Monday, March 18     Unit 2, Module 5: Jacksonian Democracy

- Read module content and watch the ninth video talk.

Thursday, March 21   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 March 21 from 8 am to 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Tuesday, March 26    Second exam

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

Monday, April 1    Unit 3, Module 1: Antebellum America

- Read module content and watch the tenth video talk.

Wednesday, April 3    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 April 3 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Friday, April 5    Unit 3, Module 2: National Expansion

- Read module content and watch the eleventh video talk.

Tuesday, April 9    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 April 9.

Thursday, April 11    Unit 3, Module 3: The Impending Crisis

- Read module content and watch the twelfth video talk.

Tuesday, April 16    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 April 16 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.
Friday, April 19  
Unit 3, Module 4: Civil War  

- Read module content and watch the thirteenth video talk.

Wednesday, April 24  
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 April 24 from 8 am until 11 pm (start time). You will have fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Monday, April 29  
*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, April 29.

Wednesday, May 1  
Unit 3, Module 5: Reconstruction  

- Read module content and watch the fourteenth video talk.

Monday or Tuesday, May 6/7  
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, and also The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

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>2/12, 3/26, 5/6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written communication.</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, and 3rd exams</td>
<td>2/12, 3/26, 5/6-7</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>4/29</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>
</table>

**Withheld Grades:** (Semester 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. For additional information, go to [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf).

**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/).

**Institutional Absences ** **HOP 04-110:**

An Institutional Absence may be granted to a student who participates as a representative of the University in academic (including research), extra- or cocurricular, or athletic activities. Students will be excused for institutional purposes from otherwise required academic activity only when a valid Institutional Absence is approved by the appropriate administrative unit or official and the documentation of approval is provided to the faculty member at least five (5) days in advance.

Institutional absences will not be approved for keystone events, defined as: a special or unique assignment, test, project, experience, or other academic exercise identified by the Faculty member as critical for successful completion of standards of the class and unable
to be missed. These events must be identified on the syllabus at the beginning of the semester and communicated to the students. Events added to the syllabus at a later date will not qualify for Keystone Event status. Keystone Events where the date/time is changed will no longer be considered a Keystone Event. Students should make themselves aware of any Keystone Events identified in the syllabus to ensure there are no conflicts.

For keystone events where the assignment dates vary, it is incumbent upon the students to work with their faculty member to not select a conflicting date.

More information on Institutional Absences, including how to apply, can be found at https://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents/student-resources/institutional-absences.

**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](https://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](https://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/thetaub](https://www.sfasu.edu/thetaub)
936.468.4008

thetaub@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