Required Reading (listed in order of assignment during the semester)


None of the required readings for this course are available through the college bookstore. New and used copies of *The Mexican Wars for Independence*, *A Glorious Defeat*, *Revolution in Texas*, *The Big Rich*, and *White Metropolis* are available through online bookstore outlets such as Amazon.com; students may also readily find copies of these books available through the HCC library system or at other Texas public university libraries.

II. Course Objectives and Description:

Historian T. R. Fehrenbach once observed that “the history of Texas, and the people of Texas, were American history and American people and in part, a part of the story of the world.” This survey of Texas history from the earliest times to the present, through lecture, assigned readings, and other media, will approach the subject from the global perspective alluded to by Fehrenbach. In the process, students will explore the major political, economic, social, and cultural trends that will allow the history of Texas to be viewed as a microcosm of western civilization. Students enrolled in this course will sharpen their analytical skills by learning to think and read critically while developing their ability to place events in historical perspective and truly realize what is meant by the maxim that “all politics is local.”

In addition to the content areas mentioned above, upon completion of this course, students will be able to: create an argument through the use of historical evidence, analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources, analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, and global forces that shape Texas history, and understand the importance of chronology and how earlier ideas and events shaped later developments.

III. Course Structure:

1. **Lectures:** There are thirty-two scheduled class days during the semester. Class will meet two days each week, except when holidays are scheduled, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 until 10:50 in room 218 at the Katy Campus of Houston Community College.

2. **Attendance:** Perfect attendance is not required, but regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Please arrive on time and stay until the lecture has ended and the professor has
dismissed the class. Excessive tardiness may result in disciplinary action. The professor will handle these on an individual case-by-case basis.

Students will sign an attendance sheet during each scheduled class meeting to record their presence. The maximum number of allowable absences is four (4). Any student that exceeds this number of absences, for any reason, will automatically be penalized one letter grade off their final course grade at the end of the semester upon their fifth absence. For each additional absence beyond the fifth absence, students will be penalized one letter grade for each absence. For additional information regarding the HCC attendance policy, see the Student Handbook.

3. PLEASE NOTE: The professor will not initiate an administrative withdrawal at any time during the semester for any student. Students who simply stop attending class and are still enrolled in the course at the end of the semester will receive the grade that their performance in class reflects. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

4. PLEASE NOTE: Students who have not attended class at all for any reason before the Official Day of Record, 27 January 2014, will automatically be withdrawn from this course and will not be allowed to re-enroll. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

5. Eagle Online: Each student enrolled in this course is automatically enrolled into an Eagle Online account through HCC-NW. Through this account, students can correspond with the professor and other students enrolled in this course as well as to receive handouts relating to course content. Please Note: it is each student’s responsibility to monitor postings on Eagle Online.

6. Research Paper: Students are required to complete a research paper on an approved topic relating to the history of Texas. The research paper may focus on a personality, an event, or a document. Students must use both primary sources and secondary works on their research paper. The research paper will be discussed in greater detail at a later date. The research paper will account for 50% of the overall course grade. The research paper is due on Thursday, 17 April 2014. Please Note: Late research papers will not be accepted by the professor. Students may turn in their research papers any time before April 17, 2014 but late papers will not be accepted. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

7. Group Presentations: Students in this will be divided into five groups consisting of five students in each group. Each group will select a topic, again relating to the history of Texas. Each group will make a 30-minute presentation; presentations are scheduled for Thursday, 1 May 2014 and Tuesday, 6 May 2014. The presentation grade will account for 30% of the overall course grade. Please Note: Attendance for the group presentations is mandatory. Any student who does not attend class during the group presentations will have 30 points deducted from their individual presentation grade for each absence. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

8. Class Discussions: There will be five (5) scheduled class discussions: dates and assignments for each are on the Course Outline and various handouts given to students during the semester. These class discussions will be devoted to your critical evaluation of lecture material and assigned readings. Therefore, it is essential that you read the assignments before the discussion and come prepared to talk intelligently about what you have learned and read. Participation in these class discussions will account for 20% of the final course grade. A separate handout will be provided with more details about individual evaluation for each class discussion.

8. Once the research papers have been graded, and performances in group presentations and class discussions have been assessed, each student will receive letter grades A through F based on
the following scale:

A = 100-90 (Excellent)
B = 89-80 (Good)
C = 79-70 (Passing)
D = 69-60 (Poor)
F = 59-0 (Failing)

VI. Administrative Notes:

A. Scholastic Dishonesty: Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. All of these offenses are serious and are not taken lightly by the instructor or the Houston Community College System (HCCS). Punishment for scholastic dishonesty will be failure in the course, and that student’s name will be forwarded to administration officials with a recommendation for dismissal from HCCS. Please refer to the Online Student Handbook for additional information.

Additionally, due to a recent upsurge in the number of cases involving plagiarism at Houston Community College and other colleges and universities across the nation, HCCS has contracted the services of Turn-It-In, a privately owned corporation that checks papers written by students against a vast array of written works searching for evidence of plagiarism. All research papers must be submitted first to Turn-It-In to be checked before turning the papers in to the professor for credit. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

B. Services for Students with Disabilities: Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty members are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Services Office. You can reach the Northwest College ADA Counselor at (713) 718-5708.

C. Dates to Remember: Students enrolled in this course are responsible for keeping track of these important dates to remember. All students are strongly encouraged to mark these dates on either their personal calendar or on the calendar provided by Eagle Online.

1. Tuesday, 28 January 2014: Class will meet in the Library; Research Paper topics must be selected by this date. Students who do not have their research paper topics selected by this date will have 25 points deducted from their overall research paper grade. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

2. Tuesday, 11 February 2014: Group leaders must be selected by this date. Please Note: Groups that have not selected group leaders by the posted deadline for their class will have 25 points deducted from their overall group presentation grade. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

3. Thursday, 6 March 2014: Research Paper theme and thesis are due along with a Preliminary Bibliography indicating the major primary sources, secondary works, and websites that students will be using to research their topics. Students who do not turn in these items on March 6, 2014 will have 25 points deducted from their overall research paper grade. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

4. Thursday, 6 March 2014: Group topics must be decided upon by this date. Please Note: Groups that have not decided on a topic by the posted deadline for their class
will have 25 points deducted from their overall group presentation grade. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

5. **Monday-Friday, 10-14 March 2014:** Spring Break—Class will not meet.

6. **Monday, 31 March 2014:** Last Day for Administrative and Student Withdrawals (4:30pm).

7. **Thursday, 17 April 2014:** Research Papers are due during class. Late papers will not be accepted by the professor. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

8. **Thursday, 1 May 2014:** Group Presentations scheduled for Group 1 and Group 2. **PLEASE NOTE:** Attendance for the group presentations is mandatory. Any student who does not attend class during the group presentations *for any reason* will have 30 points deducted from their individual presentation grade for each absence. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

9. **Thursday, 1 May 2014:** Last day of instruction.

10. **Tuesday, 6 May 2014:** Group Presentations for Group 3, Group 4, and Group 5. **PLEASE NOTE:** Attendance for the group presentations is mandatory. Any student who does not attend class during the group presentations *for any reason* will have 30 points deducted from their individual presentation grade for each absence. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

**D. Miscellaneous**

1. Houston Community College (HCC) is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering academic preparation, and lifelong learning opportunities that prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in an increasingly international and technical society. The Northwest History Department will provide an environment conducive to learning and encourages academic excellence. Furthermore, the History faculty will encourage the development of the following competencies: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Critical Thinking, and Computer Literacy.

2. **NOTICE:** Students who repeat a course for a third time or more now will face significant tuition and fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. At HCC, the tuition increases for “threepeaters” amounts to $150 for each 3-hour course and $200 for each 4-hour course ($50 per credit hour). Please ask your professor or counselor about opportunities for tutoring or other assistance before withdrawing from a course or if you are not receiving a passing grade.

3. **NOTICE: New Houston Community College Course Withdrawal Policy:** The Texas State Legislature recently passed legislation that imposes new penalties on students who drop courses excessively (see above). In 2007, the legislature passed a law limiting new students (those starting college in the Fall 2007) to no more than a total of six (6) course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. Future penalties will be imposed on students who exceed this number. To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor will “alert” you and HCC Student Services of the chance that a student might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. Please visit with your professor, an HCC counselor, or HCC Online Student Services to learn about what, if any, HCC
interventions might be offered to assist you—tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc.—to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

Effective immediately, students must visit with a faculty advisor, a counselor, or Online Student Services in order to obtain a signature prior to withdrawing from a course and this must be done before the official withdrawal date (31 March 2014 by 4:30 pm). Individual HCC faculty members are no longer permitted to assign students a “W” once the official withdrawal date has passed. Please Note: This rule does not only apply to this course, but all courses offered at HCC, including all campus-bound courses, Hybrid, and Distance Education courses.

4. Students must use correct grammar and demonstrate historical knowledge in order to receive full credit for their research papers. For that reason students are strongly encouraged to submit a draft of their research paper to HCC’s “Ask Online” Service (http://www.hccs.askonline.net). Tutors knowledgeable in both grammar and history will review submitted work and highlight errors/problems. Please Note: Students whose work is submitted with grammatical and historical errors will have significant points deducted from their research paper grade.

5. Students must turn off cell phones, smart phones, and tablets before class begins. Texting is not allowed during class meetings. Students who text during class will be dismissed from class.

6. The use of laptop computers and tablets during class is not permitted unless the student has a documented disability that requires the use of a laptop computer. Students with such a disability must present documentation from the ADA counselor within the first week of the semester. Please Note: The one exception to this rule applies only to those students who purchase the Kindle versions of the required readings for this course. On the days students are required to bring the readings to class these students are permitted to bring to their Kindle or other device utilizing a Kindle app for use in class.

7. Please include either your name as part of your email address or in the subject box of the message. Otherwise, there are no guarantees as to whether or not the professor will accept or acknowledge these messages.

8. Due to the alarming number of increasingly sophisticated computer viruses, always include some kind of title in the subject box on all emails. Any email sent that is identified with simply “No Subject” in the subject box will be deleted and unacknowledged by the professor.

9. The use of tobacco products, especially chewing tobacco, is not permitted during class.

10. Please take care of personal business (i.e. trips to the restroom, drinks of water, etc.) before class begins or wait until class has been dismissed.

11. Students who send an email to the professor after 2:00 pm on Thursday afternoons should not expect a reply before Monday morning.

12. Want to be immortal? Start keeping a journal in a series of notebooks. Record everyday observations regarding personal and public events, weather, and other seemingly mundane life events. When you’re old, pack your journals into boxes and will them to a university (perhaps your alma mater). Trust me (I’m a doctor), one day
an historian will find your journals and write about your life and experiences and you will live forever

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part One:</th>
<th>Prehistoric and Spanish Texas to 1821</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic I:</strong></td>
<td>The Great Journey: The Peopling of Ancient Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin Henderson, <em>The Mexican Wars for Independence</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic II:</strong></td>
<td>“To Govern is to Populate”: International Rivalry and the “Europeanization” of Texas, 1685-1821</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finish Henderson, <em>The Mexican Wars for Independence</em></td>
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**Class Discussion #1**
Timothy J. Henderson, *The Mexican Wars for Independence*
Thursday, 6 February 2014

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Two:</th>
<th>From Revolution to Reconstruction, Texas, 1821-1877</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic I:</strong></td>
<td>A Duel of Eagles: Texas under Mexican Rule through the Texas</td>
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| Begin Henderson, *A Glorious Defeat*
| Begin Johnson, *Revolution in Texas* |
| **Topic II:** | A Nervous New Nation: The Texas Republic and Another War with Mexico, 1836-1848 |
| **Topic III:** | The Ordeal of Union and Re-Unification: The Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas, 1848-1877 |
| Finish Henderson, *A Glorious Defeat* |

**Class Discussion #2**
Timothy J. Henderson, *A Glorious Defeat*
Tuesday, 18 March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Three:</th>
<th>Transitions and Transformations, 1877-2013</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic I:</strong></td>
<td>New Frontiers, New Realities, 1877-1901</td>
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</table>
| Begin Burrough, *The Big Rich*
| Begin Phillips, *White Metropolis* |
| **Topic II:** | Optimism and Anxiety: Crisis and Reform in Texas, 1901-1941 |
| Finish Johnson, *Revolution in Texas* |
Class Discussion #3
Benjamin H. Johnson, *Revolution in Texas*
Thursday, 3 April 2014

**Topic III:** Globalization and its Discontents, 1941-1972

**Topic IV:** The Republican Restoration: Neo-Conservatism in Texas Politics, 1972-2014

Finish Burrough, *The Big Rich*
Finish Phillips, *White Metropolis*

Class Discussion #4
Bryan Burrough, *The Big Rich*
Thursday, 24 April 2014

Class Discussion #5
Michael Phillips, *White Metropolis*
Tuesday, 29 April 2014