History 1301: U.S. History Colonization to 1877
9:00 to 12:00 Room 104

CRN Number: 43405  Instructor: Allen Thornton  E-mail: adt1974@gmail.com

Text Books Required:

3. The Fate of Their Country by Michael Holt

Text Books Suggested:

1. Daughter of Time by Josephine Tey: While it does not cover the time period we are studying, this book deals with what the subject of history is all about, an analysis of accounts to find out what really happened. Reads like a mystery novel.

Office Hours: MTWTh: 10:00 to 5:00, F 12:30 to 5:00 Please note that I do not have an office, these are times to contact me.

Mission Statement: The Houston Community College System 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 technological 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.

Core Objectives:

Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Personal Responsibility: to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making Guidelines

**History 1301 Learning Outcomes:**
Students will be able to:

1. Evaluate historical developments in an essay.
2. Read primary source documents
3. Analyze historical evidence by writing an analytical essay
4. Explain the importance of chronology and how earlier ideas and events shaped later events.

**History 1301 Outcomes:**
1. Discuss the Age of Exploration
2. Explain Colonization
3. Identify the Causes and Effects of the American Revolution
4. Explain the Origins and Impact of Slavery
5. Analyze the Formation of the Republic
6. Summarize the Effects of Expansion and Innovation
7. Explain Nationalism and Sectionalism
8. Discuss the Civil War
9. Evaluate the Effects of Reconstruction

**Course Requirements and Grading Policy:**

Written Assignment 20%
Debate Participation 20%
Test I 20%
Test II 20%
Final 20%.
Grading Scale:
100-90= A                          69-60=D
89-80=B                          59-0=F
79-70=C

Lectures: Class will meet two days each week, except when holidays are scheduled, from 9:00 until 12:00 in room 104 at the Barker-Cypress Campus of Houston Community College.

Debates: Each major section we will have a debate as seen on the calendar. You are to choose a side of the debate, do research, and participate. As it will be a fifth of your grade I do suggest that you participate in this endeavor.

Classroom Activities: Participation in class discussion is important to better analyze and understand the subject matter. To promote the free flow of information from both the students and instructor no intelligent questions, theories, or discussions will be dismissed just because they are deemed controversial. Please note that this is not a license to say outrageous things for the sake of it being controversial. To truly look at history with an objective eye one must look at everything including the bad.

Classroom Behavior: Cell phones will need to be at minimum set to vibrate at best turned off. There will be no texting, answering phones, food, earphones, or any other item that will disrupt the class with noise. If the student does disrupt the class with any item, that item will be confiscated until the end of the class.

Reading Assignments: The student is responsible for reading from the texts. Please be aware that material in the texts may not necessarily be covered in class but will be questioned about in the tests.

Classroom note taking and study habits: Before class, there will be a note outline placed for viewing. This is just a guide. It is not all the material being covered. Keep in mind there will be material covered in the lectures not covered by the textbook and material in the textbook not covered by the lecture. The student is responsible for both. On study habits, get together with your fellow students and form study groups. A student may understand something you might
have trouble with and you might understand something another student is having a problem with, so you can help each other out.

**Note Taking Devices:** Laptops will be permitted in the classroom for the purpose of note taking. However, due to past excesses those that need a laptop will be required to sit in the front rows. Keep in mind that if you are not on task taking notes and surfing the web, you are not only distracting yourself but your fellow students. Any student found to be not on task will have their laptop privileges revoked. As for recording lectures, only ADA requirements or the permission of the instructor will recording devices be allowed. No unauthorized recording will be permitted.

**Examinations:** Each examination will be half multiple choice and half essay questions. On each exam, students will be expected to integrate and analyze materials from the lectures, readings, and class discussions. Please bring a blue or black ink pen, a No. 2 pencil, and a blue examination book to each scheduled examination. These items are available at the HCC College bookstore. The instructor will not accept a test whose answerers, both multiple choice and essay that are not written inside a blue examination book. Students that fail to bring a blue book on exam days will automatically receive a zero. Examination dates are subject to change. Students will be notified immediately in class should any date changes for examinations become necessary.

**Writing Assignments:** The course will include one ten-page paper, which will include sourced material. Note that this paper will be required to be in Times New Roman font at the 12-point scale. Students must use correct grammar and demonstrate historical knowledge and analysis in order to receive full credit for their paper. For that reason students may want to submit a draft of their essay to HCC’s “Ask Online” Service ([http://www.hccs.askonline.net](http://www.hccs.askonline.net)) for review. Students whose work is submitted with grammatical and historical errors will have points deducted from their grade. Outside material will be required to be properly sourced and referenced. This paper will be due on March 27. There is a forty-eight hour grace period allowing for the general mishap. It is your responsibility to turn the paper in time. However, due to previous excesses, if you are turning in the paper late, I need a digital copy emailed to me by the end of the day the paper is due. Please note that only the hard copy will be graded. If you do not turn a hard copy
and only send a digital copy, you will get a zero. If you turn in the paper in after that time period, the paper will be graded accordingly.

Your topic is what is an area of history termed counterfactual, the what if scenario. The paper will be divided into three parts.

1. The first part is your description of an actual historical event. You are free to choose any event, as long it is relevant to American History and the time period of the course.

2. The second part is you will change a part of that event and how that affected the outcome. For example Hitler did not invade Russia.

3. The third part you must expand on what that change has meant to the rest of history to the present day. Using the above example Germany not exposing it to a two front war concentrates on Britain and conquers it. Germany then invades Russia, but not during the winter allowing it to take over the country.

Requirements

1. At least three outside sources (Wikipedia is not a source), meaning other than your textbooks. These can be from any form (Book, article, internet) as long as they are properly sourced in either endnotes or footnotes. If you do not source quotes or ideas not your own, it is automatically -40 points.

2. Font is Times New Roman size 12

3. Pages must be numbered. Placement does not matter.

4. Preferred spacing is 1.5, but double spacing is acceptable as long as the page count is ten full pages.

5. Page count is ten pages. Anything below that will be marked off. If you try to expand your page count by not following the above rules, your paper will be marked off.

6. Illustrations, graphs, tables and the like will not count to page count.

7. Any subject matter is allowed as long as it is well researched and conforms to the course. If you do not it is automatic failure. The only exception to this is the slight overlap of 1301 and 1302. If you do want to do a paper that is slightly beyond the course please talk to me. If you write a paper about WWII and you are taking 1301
you will fail. If you write a paper about the War of Texas Independence and you are taking 1302, you will fail.

8. I do not want to hear a political screed. For example, if you write a paper about the legalization of marijuana, that paper needs to be well researched, documented, and showing understanding of historical materials. If all you give me are reasons why it should be a certain way no matter what the subject matter is, it will be an automatic failure. Please note, that this isn’t an ban against controversial subjects, but rather a suggestion that if you do a controversial subject that it be very well researched and written.

9. Amount of pages devoted to each chapter is subjective. You should devote your bulk of your paper to the first section with some devotion to the second and third sections being couple pages. Do not give section two and three two small paragraphs at the end of page ten that will be considered inadequate for the assignment. Ideally you should have five pages for your first section, two your second, and three for your third, but that only a loose page count. Also, please note that there isn’t a penalty for going over the page count.

10. Grammar and spelling will only count if errors are excessive. A few errors are okay. Do realize that spell check do not catch everything.

11. No orphans, which are the one sentence of a paragraph on a new page. If this occurs, please edit.

12. Papers should have cover sheet, with name, date, and class period. I have other classes and if I don’t know which class you are in it may cause some problems. Note that the cover sheet does not count towards the page count. Also do not put cover sheet information on your first page.

13. Papers should have a bibliography. The bibliography is separate from your endnotes or footnotes. Note that the bibliography does not count towards the page count.

14. The report must be turned in with some type of binding, whether it be a report cover or stapled does not matter. Paper clips are not adequate binding.

15. There will be a sample paper accessible on my Learning Web page.

16. There are several resources such as the Writing Centers.
Grade Scale

1. No Sourcing: -40 points
2. Page Count: -5 points per missing page. Please note that any tricks to increase page count will also be counted and graded against page count.
3. Excessive grammatical and/or spelling errors: -10 points
4. Inconstancy in spacing, format, sourcing, etc: -10 points
5. No Bibliography/Work Cited: -10 points
6. Three Outside Sources: -20 points per source
7. Wikipedia as a source: -10 points
8. No Cover Sheet: -10 points
9. Cover Sheet Information on Page 1: -5 pts
10. Pages not Numbered: -5 pts
11. Inadequate or no Binding: -5 pts
12. Not enough material dedicated to Part I: -30 points
13. Not enough material dedicated to Part II: -20 points
14. Not enough material dedicated to Part III: -15 points
15. Political Screed without historical backing: Automatic Failure
16. Not on topic for an American History Class: Automatic Failure
17. Plagiarism: Automatic Failure of Paper and Course, with recommendation for probation or dismissal from the college system
18. Paper Turned in after 24 hr grace period: -10 points per week
19. No Paper Turned in: 0 for Assignment

As it is evident in the grading scale it is possible to receive a grade in the negative range. The best hedge against this is to have someone proofread your paper, such as the Writing Lab and HCC’s “Ask Online” Service (http://www.hccs.askonline.net). It goes without saying that procrastination will cause a lower grade

Sources: All materials that are quotes or ideas not the student’s own must be sourced in the appropriate manner utilizing endnotes or footnotes. If not properly sourced the material could be considered plagiarism. You are to source facts, quotes, or ideas not your own. Please note that Wikipedia will not be considered an appropriate source.
A primary source is a document or physical object, which was written or created during the specific time under study. It is eyewitness testimony. Some types of primary sources include original documents (diaries/journals, speeches, letters, interviews, autobiographies/memoirs, official records, court testimony), creative works (poetry, drama, novels, music, art), and artifacts (pottery, clothing, buildings). A secondary source analyzes primary sources. These sources are one or more steps removed from the event. Secondary sources are mainly publications (textbooks, magazine articles, non fiction books, encyclopedias).

**Endnotes/Footnotes:** There are several different styles such as MLA to write papers with. Style chosen is your preference but be consistent. That being said, there will be no parenthetical citation. The differences between footnotes and endnotes are where you put the information. Footnotes are at the bottom of the page and endnotes will be put at the end on a separate piece of paper that will not count towards your page count.

Example: This sentence will be referenced with a notation in the text.¹ See below for Example of Footnote. If the source is used multiple times cite the author². However if you have multiple books by the same author also put in the specific title of the book.

**Quotes:** Quotes are what a person directly stated. Lincoln said “Four score and seven years ago”, not what the author wrote. If you are using information gained from a book, article, or website; put the information in your own words, then source it.

**Bibliography:** This is separate from endnotes. You will put the bibliographic information of your sources. The difference between the two is the bibliography is the book you used whereas the footnotes or endnotes is the specific pages that you are getting the your information.

Example: Author, Book/Article Name

```
Publication City: Publisher/Website, Publication Date
```

¹ Author, Book/Article Name

(Publication City: Publisher/Website, Publication Date) page numbers

² Author, new pages
**EGLS3 -- Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System:** At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.

**Academic Honesty:** All Houston Community College System students are required to exercise academic honesty in completion of all tests and assignments. Penalties for academic dishonesty (cheating on test, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration on an assignment) may include a grade of 0 or F for the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the college system.

Additionally, 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.

**Attendance Policies:** Attendance and being on time for the class is expected. However, it is known that real life can disrupt plans. Students are expected to be on class on time, however due to the nature of Houston traffic, students will have a grace period of fifteen minutes before being counted as absent. It should be noted that if there are excessive tardiness issues the instructor will talk to student about what is causing the tardiness.

**Make-up Policy:** Students that miss class are responsible for the information given that day. If the student is unable to obtain that information please see the instructor. Assignments have a grace period of 24 hours after the due date in which to contact the instructor. Any papers turned after that grace period will be graded accordingly. If absent on a test day, please contact the instructor to arrange a make-up. If no arrangement is made the test grade will be consider a 0. If you know that you will be absent ahead of time due to a religious holiday, doctor’s appointment, court date, or other matter, please contact the instructor so that proper arrangements can be made.
**Withdrawal Policies:** It is the student’s responsibility to withdrawal from the course by the deadline. If a student does not drop the course, the instructor will not drop the student for excessive absences, but the student will be given the grade of current assignments or lack thereof. There will be no exceptions.

**Course Repeat Statement: NOTICE:** Students who take a course for a third time or more must now pay significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. At HCC it is an additional $50 per credit hour. New policy states that a student is allowed a grade of six W’s (Withdrawals). The seventh will be a grade of F with an increase in tuition. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

**ADA Statement:** 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 are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. You can reach the Northwest ADA Counselor at 713-718-5708.
Course Calendar with Assignments:

Part 1: The New World and Colonization

A: The Original Settlers
   1. Chapter 1,2

B: The British Colonies
   1. Chapter 3,4
   2. “Jamestown Fiasco” p.62, “Puritans and Sex” p 73,

C: The American Revolution
   1. Chapter 5,6
   3. Discussion: Causes of the American Revolution, Redcoats vs. Patriots

D: Birth Pangs of a New Nation
   1. Chapter 7
   2. “The Witch and We, The People” p. 239
   3. Discussion: The Articles of Confederation vs. the Constitution

E: Debate: Tories vs Whigs

F: Test: February 27

Part II: New Nation

A: The Founding Fathers
   1. Chapter 7,8

B: War of 1812
   1. Chapter 9
   2. “Jeffersonian Foreign Policy and the War of 1812” p 274
   3. Discussion: Causes of the War of 1812

C: Expansion
   1. Chapter 10,11,12

3. Discussion: Manifest Destiny vs. Native Americans

D: Debate: Expansionism vs Remaining the 13 states

E: Test: April 10

Part III: Civil War

A: The Road to Civil War

1. Chapter 13

2. “Lincoln and the Abolitionists” p. 441, The Fate of Their Country

3. Discussion: Slavery

B: Civil War

1. Chapter 14

2. “No Peace Without Victory” p 493

3. Discussion: Causes of the Civil War, North vs. South, Lincoln Conspiracy

C: Reconstruction

1. Chapter 15

2. “History of the Sioux War and Massacre” p 528

E: Debate: The Grey vs The Blue

F: Final: May 15 9:00

Holidays: Spring Break 3/16 to 3/20

Written Assignment Due: March 27

Note: Last Day to Withdrawal: March 30 (4:30 pm)

Note: Examination and assignment dates are subject to change.
Syllabus Contract

I, _________________________________, have received a copy of the syllabus for Mr. Thornton’s History 1301 class on ________________________________.