Learning Objectives

1.1 Describe how political culture has shaped Texas’s politics, government, and public policy.

1.2 Explain the differences among the geographic regions of Texas.

1.3 Analyze the relationship between the social history of Texas and the political characteristics of the state’s diverse population.
Learning Objectives

1.4 Describe both the four land-based industries that formed the historic basis for the Texas economy and the diversification of the modern Texas economy.

1.5 Identify five major policy challenges Texas faces in the 21st century.
Political Behavior Patterns

- Government, Politics, and Public Policy in Texas
  - Government- A public institution with authority to formulate, adopt, implement, and enforce public policies for a society. “Making, implementing, and enforcing these policies is the job of government.
Political Behavior Patterns

- Government, Politics, and Public Policy in Texas (con't)
- Resources are allocated when a state or local government formulates, adopts, and implements a public policy.
Political Behavior Patterns

- Government, Politics, and Public Policy in Texas (con't)
  - Three Branches - Legislative, executive, and judicial (powers of its own and to check the others)
  - Public policy-government action designed to meet public need.
  - Ex. raising taxes to pay for more police protection
Political Behavior Patterns

- Government, Politics, and Public Policy in Texas (con't)
  - Politics- Produces public policy. It is a process and often times will entail conflict among government officials, political parties, interest groups, citizens.
  - Yet, requires cooperation
Political Behavior Patterns

- Political Culture-
  - Attitudes, habits, and general behavior patterns that develop over time and affect the political life of a state or region.

- Moralistic culture
  - Government is a public service and used to advance the public good.
  - Originated in Puritan New England
Political Behavior Patterns

- Texas Political Culture
  - Texas Moralism
  - Progressive groups-Farmers' Alliance and Populist Party to challenge government to control the damaging effects of corporate capitalism (railroads)
Political Behavior Patterns

- Texas Political Culture
- Texas Moralism (influences cont.)
  - Temperance movement in Texas sought to use government to end the sale and consumption of alcohol
  - African Americans and Latinos/change traditionalist policies
Political Behavior Patterns

- Individualistic culture
  - Government to maintain a stable society
  - Government intervention should be limited
  - Low per capita government spending
  - Developed out of westward expansion in 19th century
  - Dominant in Midwestern and western states
Political Behavior Patterns

- Political Culture
  - Traditionalistic culture
    - Government is a vehicle to maintain the status quo
    - Government policymaking fell to the most powerful
    - Grew out of the Old South-agrarian plantation economy/one party system
Political Behavior Patterns

· Texas Political Culture (con't)
  · Texas Traditionalism
    · Influenced by the Old South/Jim Crow Laws
    · Political participation and voter turnout low
    · Influence of Mexico *patrón* system
Political Behavior Patterns

- Texas Political Culture
  - Texas Traditionalism
    - Texas favorable to business-
    - No personal or corporate income tax
      - Right to work laws-does not prevent unionization. People can still join but climate in Texas is negative. See it reflected in the 24 other states as well.
      - Eminent domain- The power of government to take private property for public uses so long as just compensation. Restricted with new legislation
Political Behavior Patterns

• Political Culture

  • Individualists and traditionalists have historically dominated the state and controlled the direction of the political system
Political Behavior Patterns

• Texas Political Culture
  • A Changing Culture?
    • Population influx since mid-1970s
    • New Texans come from heavily moralistic political cultures
    • Will population shift the state away from the 19th century to a more moralistic culture?
    • Urbanization, industrialization, education, communications and population change
Political Behavior Patterns

Questions:

- The goal of public policy is to influence people's behavior.
- Which two types of political cultures have traditionally been dominant in Texas
Critical Thinking Question: In what ways is Texas’s political culture reflected in politics, policies, and the people’s attitudes about, and expectations of, government today?
The Land

· The Politics of Geography

· Size
  · 267,000 square miles of territory
  · Second in land area
  · Campaigning for statewide political office requires a substantial investment of resources

· Regions

· Six regions (see map)
The 6 Regions of Texas

1. West Texas Plains
2. The Border
3. Central Texas
4. North Texas
5. East Texas
6. The Gulf Coast
The Land

- The Politics of Geography

- 1. The West Texas Plains/Panhandle down to Odessa
  - Economy based on agriculture/sheep, goat, and cattle production
  - Cotton grain and sorghum and feedlot for cattle. I -- Ogalalla Aquifer
The Land

- Below the Cap Rock escarpment, oil production forms the economic base of cities like Odessa and Midland. Also big cities of Lubbock and Amarillo.

- Dominated by Protestant fundamentalism

- Republican base
The Land

2. The Border El Paso (mountainous region. Little rainfall). South and Southwest Texas border Mexico to Brownsville)

- Border: Citrus fruits and vegetables
- International trade-NAFTA lowered trade barriers in 1994
- Economy sensitive to Mexican economy
The Land

- Rise of **maquiladoras**- American factories on the Mexican side of the border; Mexico's inexpensive labor pool and lax regulation; more pollution from increased trucking from Mexico.
  - Dominated by the Catholic Church
  - Democratic base
The Land

· 3. Central Texas
  · Waco, Austin, San Antonio
  · Area dominated by state government, universities, high-tech, tourism/Northeast and West coast
  · Thriving art and music /self-avowedly “weird”
  · Democratic and Republican ties
The Land

4. North Texas

- **Dallas-Forth Worth** metroplex (national and international corporations)
- Modern centers for high-tech industries, financial services, defense contractors and food production.
- Explosive growth in recent decades
- Republican stronghold in suburban and rural areas/Democrats in the urban metroplex.
- Cattle country retained “cowboy past”
The Land

5. East Texas

- Cotton production/Timber production in the Piney Woods; cattle and poultry
- Racially segregated though decreasing
- Many African Americans live in Beaumont
  - Dominated by Christian fundamentalism
  - Republican “solid south”
The Land

6. The Gulf Coast

- Louisiana to Rio Grande
- Houston/largest concentration of unions
- Shipping and fishing
- Spindletop oil well in Beaumont
- Petrochemicals fundamental to economy
- Democratic and Republican ties
The People

- Population Distribution
  - Urbanization
    - 1900: 80% rural
    - Today: 85% urban
    - Five of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation between 2000 and 2010
    - By 2014, seven of the fastest growing cities.
    - Texas close to 27,000,000
How Do We Compare . . . in Population?

2013 Population Estimates as Reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Populous U.S. States</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>U.S. States Bordering Texas</th>
<th>Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>38,332,521</td>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>2,959,373</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>19,651,127</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>4,629,470</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
<td>19,552,860</td>
<td>New Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>26,448,193</td>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>3,850,568</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The People

- Population Distribution
  - Harris County 4 million/Loving county 82 people
  - Texas's four most populous counties (Harris, Dallas, Bexar, and Tarrant) have a combined population of more than 10 million people
  - Add Travis to the Four counties and all are located in the Texas Triangle (Highways 35, 45, and 10)
The People

- Population Distribution
  - Repopulation of inner cities and some rural areas growth due to the oil and natural gas production.
  - Government policies- Early history of suburbanization
    - Redlining/Federal agencies/Risks associated with loans.
    - Urban renewal/relocation of business and people/demolition of structures/eminent domain to take private property for government development.
The People

- Exclusionary zoning- local government zoning ordinances to exclude certain groups of people from a given community
- Racial covenants-Agreements by a group of property owners, realtors, not to sell or rent because of specified groups because of race, creed or color
- Laws and court decisions moved official polices away from racially discriminatory practices
- Defacto segregation (not by law but by fact because of virtue of housing patterns)
The People

• Population Distribution
  • Urbanization
    • 1900: 80% rural
    • Today: 85% urban
    • Five of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation between 2000 and 2010
    • By 2014, seven of the fastest growing cities.
The People

- Population Distribution
  - Micropolitan Statistical Areas (mMSA) 10,000-50,000
  - Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) 50,000 plus
  - Most MSA's are in Texas Triangle
  - MSA's contain 80% of state's population but 20% of the state's 254 counties. These 48 counties account for four of every five votes cast in statewide elections. Governmental decision makers are answerable primarily to people living in one-fifth of the state's counties. Urban not always taking opposing view on all policy issues.
The People

- Population Distribution
  - Metropolitan Divisions - Important to get highest possible statistical designation because many congressional appropriations are made (mass transit funds, and area must be a MSA) and congressional representation
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
- Texans Today
  - Elderly most powerful and most conservative voting bloc. Increasing in size.
  - More than 50% of Texans are either African American (3 million (11%) or Latinos (39%).
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
- Texans Today
  - African American 11% of population. Growing but at a slower rate. Northeast (Beaumont 33.5%) and Southeast, and North central.
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
  - Anglos- 44%. poverty rate is lower and incomes higher, businesses, and public offices. Though it is increasing for minorities. Population decreasing.
  - Asian Americans 4% of population but 15.4% at University of Houston. From southeast Asia. Galveston. Also increasing.
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
  - Latinos (39%) of population and growing. Elected officials.
  - Comanche tribe very influential to early Texans because of their independence and warrior abilities
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
- Reasons for decline of the Native Americans population in Texas
  - Disease (cholera) from Europeans and slaves
  - Violence between Native Americans and Anglos
- Removal and extermination by some early Texan Anglos leaders
The People

- Demographics Is Destiny
- Implications of increasing diversity
- 2012 Obama more than Mitt Romney in the four largest counties
- Bush and Abbott (40%) of vote.
- Battleground Texas (2014)
- Republicans making strides to improve Latino vote
- Address poverty rates, high drop out rates
The People

- The Civil War and Reconstruction
- 1866 “A civil war within a Civil War”
- The Great State of Texas
  - Readmitted to United States in 1870
  - African Americans faced struggles
    - Sharecropping
    - *De jure* segregation (made by laws) and so set up for the later Jim Crow laws (1870's into the 1900's)
The People

- Latinos responded to seasonal labor
  - Anti-immigrant sentiment grew
- QUESTIONS:
  - WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE LONE STAR STATE'S SIZE ON TEXAS'S POLITICS?
  - ALL THE REGIONS OF TEXAS DEPEND ECONOMICALLY ON THE SAME INDUSTRIES, AND THUS ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL IN CULTURE AND POLITICS
The People

- Questions
  - The rate of population growth in Texas's Metropolitan Statistical Areas is greater than throughout the state as a whole?
  - How has the size and political power of Texas's Latino population changed in recent decades?
The Economy

- The Texas Economy Through History
  - Cattle
    - Leads nation in cattle production
  - Cotton
    - Leads country in exported cotton
  - Timber
    - Based in East Texas/nation’s tenth largest producer
The Economy

- The Texas Economy Through History
  - Oil and Gas
    - Accounts for over 30% of total U.S. oil production
    - Revenues from taxes on oil and gas are helping Texas fill its Rainy Day Fund, complete highway construction and maintenance, invest in education through the Permanent University Fund
  - 6% of the state's economy/was 21%
The Economy

· The Texas Economy Through History
  ▪ Texas is the number one state in wind energy, overcoming obstacles other states were not willing or unable to because of the NIMBY (not in my back yard) syndrome.
  ▪ Sound, harm to birds, and not enough energy to replace
  ▪ 69% of wind energy is subsidized, more than coal, oil, and natural gas
The Economy

· New Economic Directions
  · Energy
    · Four of five largest corporations energy related
    · Identifying alternative fuel strategies (wind energy)
    · Recent fracking (the mixing chemicals with sand and water and injecting them into the ground to force out oil and gas from the shale) has helped economy
  · Nevertheless, 2016 slowdown in oil production tied to world oil production ($30.00 to $150
The Economy

· New Economic Directions

· High Technology
  · Research, development, manufacturing, and marketing of electronic products
  · Biotechnology/new medicines and vaccines
  · Computers, drones, and medical equipment
The Economy

· New Economic Directions

  ▪ 1/3 of all high-tech jobs are in professional, technical, and managerial position and wages and salaries are nearly twice the average of private sector positions

  ▪ Emerging Technology Fund/administered by the state and provides funding for research and development activities and the relocation of companies from other states
The Economy

• New Economic Directions

• Services

• Employs one-fourth of all Texas workers (nursing, hospitals, hotels, restaurants)

• Education, investment brokers, insurance and real estate, banks.

• Health services projected to be fastest growing because of aging population and availability of new medical procedures

• Few benefits and low wages (with some; restaurants) compared to manufacturing
The Economy

· New Economic Directions

· Agriculture
  · Ranks second in production in U.S.
  · Gross income from the products of Texas agriculture amounts to about $22 billion; second largest industry. Beef is the state's most important meat export. (Yet provide less than 2 percent of the state's jobs and total income.) Would help to have industrial development for the processing of food and not just exports.
  · Recent drought devastating to economy
The Economy

· New Economic Directions

· Agriculture
  · Good ports (Port of Houston) and railways
  · Sends most of exports to other states and countries
  · Decreasing number of farms with large acreages
The Economy

- New Economic Directions

- Trade

  - Maquiladoras- produced in Mexico and export back to the United States without taxes (tariffs

  - Many manufactures set up supply and distribution facilities in Texas (El Paso Laredo, McAllen, and Brownsville)

  - Many manufacturing outlets (food, clothing, cars)

- Exports more services but imports more goods from Canada and Mexico
The Economy

- New Economic Directions
  - Trade (con't)
  - More than 60% of US exports to Mexico are produced in Texas or transported through Texas expanding foreign trade, producing jobs for Texans, profits for state business and increased state and local governments.
The Economy

- New Economic Directions
  - NAFTA (Trade (con't) )
    - Loss of manufacturing, unemployment, and certain industries especially affected (cars and fruit and vegetable producers)
      - Increased trucking on highways (pollution)
    - Kidnapping
    - Drug cartel deaths
  - Texas does business with other countries and some agriculture exports to the island of Cuba
The Economy

· New Economic Directions
  · Questions:
  · What are the four land-based industries that were important to the Texas economy in the past?
  · Which economic sector is currently creating the most jobs for Texans?
Meeting New Challenges

- Immigration: Federal and State Problems
  - Undocumented immigrants
    - Controversial: Cost of education, health, and prisons/increased revenue from the immigrants
    - Texas employers attract immigrants as a source for cheap labor, this system can depress wages for all workers and provide often unwanted competition
Meeting New Challenges

- Immigration: Federal and State Problems
  - Undocumented immigrants
    - Texas DREAM Act - Governor Perry has defended it.
    - Increased demands for border security
Meeting New Challenges

- Water
  - Texas Water Development Board
  - Development management and conservation of water resources
  - Increased population and urbanization, cities will increasingly compete with similar towns, agricultural interests, drought, and the oil and gas industry (fracking) for same water
Meeting New Challenges

- Water
  - Texas Water Development Board
  - 2011 drought, 30 aquifers that supply 60% of the state's water declined
  - Project 46 communities will soon be without water
  - Priority issue
  - A lot of the recent rainfall has replenished some of the supply
Meeting New Challenges

- Environmental Protection
  - Leads nation in . . .
    - Hazardous waste generated
    - Carbon dioxide emissions
    - Volatile organic compounds
    - Toxic chemicals released into the air
    - Toxic chemicals released into the ground
    - EPA has required that plants in Texas upgrade their equipment to reduce toxic emissions
Meeting New Challenges

- Environmental Protection

  - Texas has done a fantastic job of decreasing actual air pollutants from stationary sources (nitrous oxide and ozone) but we get a bad rap because our emissions rate is higher than other states. The reason or this is because we have a significantly larger manufacturing and industrial sector.
Meeting New Challenges

- Environmental Protection
  - Eight-Hour Ozone Design Values/ 1997/84ppb; 2008/75ppb
  - Fine Particulate Matter (PM) Design values. Annual 2002/14.1; 2014/11.5
  - Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) 2000/23ppb; 2014/14ppb
  - Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) 2000/180ppb; 2014/50ppb  Source: TCEQ
Meeting New Challenges

- Education
  - High School graduation rate 44\textsuperscript{th}/
  - College/Important to attract businesses
  - Reduced funding in 2011 but reinstated in subsequent legislative sessions.
  - Rejected (Common core) because of national take over of public schools. Some states have wanted to reverse course.
Meeting New Challenges

- Education
  - 43rd among the 50 states in spending per student. Yet DC worst with highest spending. Oil and gas/monies
  - Texas courts have repeatedly intervened to require the state to increase funds as well as to provide more equitable financing for public schools.

- Robin Hood Plan
Meeting New Challenges

- Poverty and Social Problems
  - children (1 in 4) live in poverty. Federal level has increased in the past 7 years as well.
  - One-fifth (1/5) 20% below the poverty line
  - In 2010, more than one-third of Texas workers were earning less than $20,000 a year which was below the federal poverty level for food stamps for a family of four
Meeting New Challenges

- Poverty and Social Problems
  - Many immigrants and younger people as well that adds to this income disparity.
  - More educational opportunities/trade schools and improving graduation rates
Meeting New Challenges

- Poverty and Social Problems
  - Highest percentage of uninsured residents (use of county hospitals/clinics)
  - More clinics (San Jose Clinic downtown and part of medical center)
  - Reluctance to expand Medicaid Service in Texas under Obamacare Having health insurance does not mean you have more health access or better health quality
Meeting New Challenges

· Poverty and Social Problems
  ▪ Believe better way to address health care through HSA accounts.
  ▪ Some think public assistance for the poor is too much and encourages dependence instead of self-reliance.
  ▪ Texas voters tend to support candidates for lower taxes, less government spending, fewer public employees, and a reduction or elimination of social services.
Meeting New Challenges

- Poverty and Social Problems
  - Call for nongovernmental organizations to play a more active role in dealing with social problems
  - Ranks near bottom of the 50 states in government responses to poverty and social problems
  - Yet in California more monies are spent and poverty rate higher
Meeting New Challenges

- Questions: If current trends persist, demand for water will rise by 10 percent by 2060, and the state's current dependable water supply will meet that projected demand.

- More than one-third of Texas workers are earning wages below the federal poverty level.
Golden State Exodus: People Are Moving from California to Texas, Where the Unemployment Rate is Lower and Housing is Cheaper.
Video Discussion Questions

1. How does the political environment in Texas contribute to its appeal for these families?

2. What other factors attract residents to Texas?

3. Is Texas attractive to small business owners? Why or why not?