# HIST 1301 Syllabus

**UNITED STATES HISTORY - Before 1877**

**Course Number:** 75989

**Days - Time - Room: 223**

12:00 – 2:00 PM Tuesday & Thursday – Scarcella Learning Hub

**Instructor:** Ken Urbanowicz

**Office: Rm.** [HCC Southwest, Stafford Campus, 10041 Cash Road, Stafford]

**Office Hours:** 15 Minutes before each class

**E-mail:** [Kenneth.urbanowicz@hccs.edu](mailto:Kenneth.urbanowicz@hccs.edu)

**Contact Number:** Stafford Campus: 713-718-7800

**Course Description:** A survey of U.S. history from the Age of Discovery

through Reconstruction. This course explores the period from the time of first contact between Europeans and the original inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere through the events of the Civil War. Topics will include the various cultural and biological exchanges between New and Old World civilizations, the evolution of colonial communities within North America, revolutionary ideology and the War for American Independence, industrialization and technological revolution, antebellum reform movements, and the struggle over the institution of slavery. Special emphasis will be on the American Revolution, the formation of a republic under the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion and the Civil War. When possible, the topics will include the causes and effects of each significant event. History 1301 fulfills three hours of the state-required six hours of United States History.

**Prerequisites:** Must be placed into college-level reading and college-level writing

**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

**Program Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will evaluate historical developments in an essay.

2. Students will read primary source documents.

3. Students will analyze historical evidence by writing an analytical essay.

4. Students will explain the importance of chronology and how earlier ideas and events shaped later events

**Course (Student) Learning Outcomes for History 1301:**

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

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND OTHER MATERIALS**

**The American Promise** – – 5th Edition. Roark, Johnson, Cohen, Stage, Hartmann. You must purchase a book as quickly as possible to perform well in class. I will ask to see your books during week #2.

**REQUIRED REPORTS**

Students will select and read one **Biography** from the recommended booklist and write a Book Review Report. Book review instructions are contained in the book list. Books are available in Bookstores, on the Internet or in the Library for History 1301. Do not use encyclopedias or Wikipedia for this assignment. The booklist is posted on my web site. A format for writing the Report is posted on my web page. **Do not** read any other books unless I approve them in advance. Due date for this report will be listed in the Class Schedule.

You must also prepare a **Research Paper** on a historical topic using on-line Internet and library resources. Do not use encyclopedias, videos, web-based TV programs or Wikipedia for this assignment. Topics will be selected from a list that I will provide during the second month of class. Guide Lines for writing the Research Paper is posted on my web site. Due date for this Paper will be listed in the Class Schedule.

Students are expected to hand in their Book Reports on the designated day at the end of class. Late Reports/Papers will lose 4 points for each late class day. After 3 class days, they **will not** be accepted. **Do Not** send Reports/Papers by email or other electronic means. Only a printed copy will be accepted.

**NOTE:** This **Syllabus** is posted on my Learning Web page. The schedule is subject to change each week due to the use of a new textbook. I will post all important changes on the board during class.

**GRADING POLICY**

**Grades are calculated as follows:**

Tests and Quizzes = 40% - (2 multiple choice chapter-based tests) A Pop Quiz may also be administered for extra credit as time permits.

Final Examination = 20% - (Multiple choice and essay questions on selected chapters)

Book Report = 15% - (Biography book as described above)

Research Paper = 25% -

**Grading and Grading Scale:**

The course grade will be the sum of the grades earned in the activities noted in the schedule above. I do not drop a test grade or use a curve. My grade sheets are forwarded to my department chairman for review and permanent file.

The final grade is calculated by the GPA method [A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 0-59], and rounded to the closest whole number.

**TESTING, ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS POLICY:**

**TESTS AND REPORTS:**

Students are expected to sit for examinations with their class. If you miss an exam on the scheduled date, you **MUST** take the following steps:

Contact the instructor within 24 hours of the scheduled examination time in

person, or by message. On the first day that you return to class after the scheduled examination or scheduled project due time, ask me for guidance and present your **written excuse**. All excuses must have supporting documentation (Doctor’s note on his/her office forms, etc.) Note that vacation, religious holidays, or other discretionary absences **are not** an acceptable excuse for missing any test. Make-up tests and reports must be completed **within 1 class day of the scheduled due date**. Missed tests that are **not supported** by acceptable written documentation will be assigned a 60% grade.

**ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS:**

Regular and punctual attendance is essential to success in this class. Excessive absences usually results in failing grades. A seating chart will be kept, and attendance will be noted at the start and end of class by visual inspection from the chart.

**If you are over 10 minutes late, you are absent for that day.** It is your responsibility to inform the instructor at the end of the class session of any special circumstances for your lateness. Otherwise, you will be recorded as absent in the official role. There is no policy on being tardy 3 times before I count you as absent. All tardy days are absent days. Consistent lateness will also result in a rapid accumulation of absences. This will result in being dropped from the course as described below. Leaving class early will also result in you being marked absent for the day. Other factors may cause you to be marked absent such as using electronic devices during class periods, sleeping in class, and disrupting class.

HCC policy states that students may be administratively withdrawn if they miss more than 6 hours (3 days) of class. **My policy is that you will be dropped from class after you have more than 6 hours of unexcused absences along with poor academic performance**. You will be assigned a grade of “W” for the class. If you are absent, the cause of the absence is not normally relevant. Exceptions to the attendance policy will be allowed in cases of severe medical problems or emergencies of comparable gravity if verifiable documentation is supplied in a timely fashion, but such exceptions are at the discretion of the instructor. Documentation may include court documents, doctor/hospital forms, etc.

It is the student’s responsibility to drop a class if they wish. Failure to drop a class that you have stopped attending will result in a final grade of F or FX for the course. Be sure to notify me immediately by email if you have dropped the course. The final date to drop the course with a grade of W (Withdrawn) is **4:30 pm, November 9th.**

**NOTICE**: Students who repeat a course three or more times may face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. Please contact your instructor/counselor about opportunities for tutoring/other assistance prior to considering course withdrawal, or if you are not receiving passing grades.

**ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT:**

The instructor has the right to take reasonable measures to ensure a class period free of disruptions. Adult behavior is expected at all times. Use the Chapter Outline downloads to take notes in class. **The use of cell phones, recording devices, digital cameras, radios, Bluetooth earphones, laptop computers, iPads, and pagers is prohibited in the classroom at all times.** They need to be **turned off** and placed off the desk when the class period begins. Students answering a phone call or text message will be asked to leave the classroom and will be marked as absent for that day. Exceptions to this rule are only medical emergencies. Students creating disruptions of any type will be moved to another seat or asked to leave the classroom. Consult your Student Success Handbook for further information on responsibilities and regulations.

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited by HCC policy and by the rules of this class.

* Plagiarism is the use of the ideas or words of another person (either whole or in part) without crediting the source and constitutes the theft of another person’s intellectual property. It is the most common form of academic dishonesty. If you are unclear as to what constitutes plagiarism, you should seek clarification before beginning an assignment.
* Cheating involves fraud and deception for the purpose of violating legitimate testing rules. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: copying from another student’s test paper, using during an exam materials or resources not authorized by the instructor; collaborating with another student during a test; knowingly using, buying, selling whole or part of an unadministered test.

Academic dishonesty constitutes a severe violation of HCC policy and rules and is subject to stringent penalties. **Violations of these policies can result, at a minimum, in the automatic failure of the assignment or the class. Severe violations could result in suspension or expulsion from HCC.**

**Disability Policy:**

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Support Service Counselor, Dr. Becky Hauri (713 718-7909) at the beginning of the semester. Faculty members are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS). Students who are requesting special testing accommodations must first contact the office.

**Equal Opportunity Statement:**

It is the policy of the Houston Community College District to

provide equal employment, admission and educational opportunities without regard

to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

The HCC Colleges strive to provide an excellent learning environment free

from harassment or intimidation directed at any person's race, color, religion,

national origin, sex, age, or disability. Any form of harassment will not be

tolerated.

**EGLS = 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. Log in to

<http://hccs.edu/EGLS3> to complete the survey.

**PROSPECTIVE CLASS SCHEDULE (Fall 2015)**

**WEEK NR DATE CHAPTER REMARKS**

1 Sep 22 2 Orientation – Syllabus – Overview Ch 2

Sep 24 2 Europeans Encounter the New World

2 Sep 29 6 The British Empire and the Colonial Crisis

Oct 1 6 Continued

3 Oct 6 7 The War for America – 1775-1783

Oct 8 7 Continued

4 Oct 13 7 Continued - –- **Turn in Book Report**

Oct 15 8 Building a Republic – 1775-1789

5 Oct 20 8 Video – **Test #1 (Chapters 6-7-8)**

Oct 22 11 The Expanding Republic 1815-1840

6 Oct 27 11 Continued

Oct 29 11 Continued

7 Nov 3 12 The New West and the Free North 1840-

Nov 5 12 Continued

8 Nov 9 **Final Drop Date for a W**

Nov 10 12 Continued

Nov 12 14 The House Divided 1846-1861

9 Nov 17 14 The House Divided – Continued

Nov 19 14 **Test #2 (Chapters 11,12,14)**

10 Nov 24 15 The Crucible of War – 1861-1865

**Research Paper Due**

**Nov 26 Holiday**

11 Dec 1 15 Continued - Video

Dec 3 16 Reconstruction – 1863 - 1877

12 Dec 8 16 Study Guide Review

**FINAL EXAM: December 10 – 12:00 -2:00**

After reading these class requirements, tear off this last page and sign and date it.

Signing this form is your acknowledgement that you have read and understand the rules and information in this syllabus and agree to follow them while in class.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT YOUR NAME)

have read, understand and agree to follow the rules and information presented in the attached syllabus.

Class Number: 75989 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

History – 1301

(YOUR SIGNATURE)