



History 1301 – United States History to 1877 CRN - 12430
Northwest College, Spring Branch Rm. 308
Monday and Wednesday, 2:00pm-3:30pm
Fall, 3 Hour Lecture Course, 16 Week

Professor

Michael Ramey

Office Hours

After class or
by appointment

Email

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Phone Number

832-918-0315

Required Reading

TEXTBOOK: *The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People*
Brinkley, Alan 8th Edition. McGraw Hill. Smart Book

*There will be an in-class presentation concerning the textbook on the second day of class. Do not purchase a textbook until that time.

A monograph to be chosen by the class on the second class day, from this list:

George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring that Saved the American Revolution.
Kilmeade, Ryan. Penguin Publishing.

The War that Made America: A Short History of the French and Indian War. Anderson, Fred. Penguin Publishing.

Trail of Tears: The Rise and Fall of the Cherokee Nation. Ehle, John. Anchor Books.

Almost Free: A Story about Family and Race in Antebellum Virginia. Wolf, Eva Sheppard. Sarah Mills Hodge Fund, Pub

Weblinks provided on **Learning Web**.

Course Objectives

History 1301 surveys American History from the start of the historical record to the end of Reconstruction. This class examines the political, social, economic, and cultural trends of the United States inside a larger global context. Students will rely on and enhance their critical thinking and analytic skills, be able to relate past and present events, and further develop their writing abilities.

Course Outcomes:

- Will be able to create an argument through the use of historical evidence
- Will be able to analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources
- Will be able to analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural and global forces on this period of United States history
- Students will be able to understand the importance of chronology and how earlier ideas and events shaped later events.

Note: In accordance with HCC guidelines a student must have passed ENGL 1301 (Composition I) or be co-enrolled in ENGL 1301 to attend HIST 1301 or HIST 1302.

16 WEEK CALENDAR – The following is a rough outline of the course structure. While we will attempt to stay with the calendar, certain dates may change.

WEEK ONE

Introduction
Native American Society

WEEK TWO

European Expansion/Colonization – Reading 1

WEEK THREE

Origins of Slavery & Puritan/New England Colonization – Reading 2

WEEK FOUR

English Colonization Overall & English Warfare in the 18th Century – Reading 3

WEEK FIVE

Catch-up Day & French and Indian War

WEEK SIX

American Revolution – Reading 4

WEEK SEVEN

Exam Review & **Exam 1/Essay 1**

WEEK EIGHT

Early American Republic & Thomas Jefferson/Alexander Hamilton – Reading 5

WEEK NINE

The Constitution & Thomas Jefferson's Presidency

WEEK TEN

War of 1812 & Era of Good Feelings – Reading 6

WEEK ELEVEN

Jacksonian Democracy – Reading 7

WEEK TWELVE

Western Expansion & Texas – **Research Paper Due November 16th**

WEEK THIRTEEN

Crises of the 1850s – Reading 8
WEEK FOURTEEN
1850s Continued & Civil War
WEEK FIFTEEN
Civil War and Reconstruction/ Exam 2 Review
WEEK SIXTEEN
Exam 2/ Monograph Essay

Course Structure

1. Classes will be held Monday and Wednesday, from 2:00pm until 3:30pm.
2. **Attendance:** While attendance is not mandatory, regular attendance will be taken. Arrive on time and stay until the class is finished. **Please Note:** There will be periodic discussions held concerning the readings. There is a grade associated with this discussion. Therefore, if you are absent on these days you will not receive credit.
3. **Learning Web:** All weblinks and supplements will be handled via Learning Web.
4. **Reading Assignments:** There will be periodic reading assignments. Usually, these will be due on Wednesday. The majority of the readings will come from the Connect Smart Book. There will be an in-class quiz over the readings on their due date.
5. **Research Paper:** Each student will be required to turn in one 5+ page paper (double spaced, 12point font, with citations) over a subject or person **of his or her choice**. The deadline for this paper will be **Wednesday, November 16th**. While many students may wish to work individually, this can also be a group project. If up to four students wish to do a group project they will jointly give an in-class presentation. Individual scores will be given based off of the quality of the work and the amount of work done by the individual to the project. If you wish to complete a group project please see the instructor before **Halloween**.
6. **Exams Materials:** Please bring a bluebook and a pen to the scheduled exam.

Grading

1. There will be a total of two exam scores: Exam I & Exam II. These are each worth 20% of your grade.

2. Your quiz score, coming from the assigned readings, make up another 20% of your final grade.
3. The research paper makes up another 20%.
4. There will also be two essays due in the class: Essay I and the Monograph Essay. These are each worth 20% of your grade.
5. The mathematically inclined will notice that equals 120%. At the end of the semester, the lowest score will be removed and the five highest will constitute the final average.

A = 100 – 90;.....4 points per semester hour

B = 89 – 80:3 points per semester hour

C = 79 – 70:2 points per semester hour

D = 69 – 60:1 point per semester hour

59 and below = F.....0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress)0 points per semester hour

W(Withdrawn).....0 points per semester hour

I (Incomplete).....0 points per semester hour

AUD (Audit)0 points per semester hour

IP (In Progress) is given only in certain developmental courses. The student must re-enroll to receive credit. COM (Completed) is given in non-credit and continuing education courses. To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades “IP,” “COM” and “I” do not affect GPA.

Administrative Notes

1. 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 HCC. Punishment for scholastic dishonesty will be failure of the course, and that student’s name will be forwarded to the administration office with a recommendation for dismissal from HCC. Please refer to the Student Handbook for additional information.

2. 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.

3. Student Rights: Access Student Services Policies on their Web site:
<http://hccs.edu/student-rights>

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 “three eaters” 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. 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 course offered at HCC, including all campus-bound courses, Hybrid, and Distance Education courses.

4. Turn off your cell phones. That important text can wait.

5. Laptops are great, but please use them for taking notes only.

6. If you bring food and drinks to the class, pick up after yourself.

7. If you have a problem/concern, **do not hesitate in contacting me!** The sooner I know of a problem the better able I will be to work to fix it or help.