

**HIST 1311-703**  
**8 Weeks (Online)**  
**History of the United States to 1865**  
**(October 2018)**

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**HISTORY DEPARTMENT PHONE:** 817-272-2861

Faculty members in the History department do not have office phones. The fastest, most direct and preferred means of communication is via email. Expect a response to an email with 48 hours, longer on weekends and breaks. You may also email to set up a virtual meeting through Blackboard Collaborate. If you wish to talk directly with your instructor or coach, you will need to arrange a virtual meeting.

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT:** An introduction to the political, social, economic, and cultural history of the United States to 1865. This course is designed to help students understand and evaluate their society, comprehend the historical experience, and further develop reading and writing competencies and critical thinking skills.

**CLASS PREREQUISITES:** Completion of or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 1301

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

**The American Yawp:** This is a FREE Open Educational Resource. The textbook/reader is available online and will be linked to the course module. Access the book by going to: <http://www.americanyawp.com/>

**RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK:** We recommend that you have access to a physical copy or bookmark an online college dictionary. Be sure to look up words you are unsure of.

**HOW TO ACCESS THE COURSE MODULE:** This course resides in Blackboard ([elearn.uta.edu](http://elearn.uta.edu)) and will become available on first day of the course; I will email the class when the module is available. Note that you will not be able to see the class listed in Blackboard until I open it to students. If you have difficulty logging into your course go to: <http://www.uta.edu/blackboard/students/index.php>

**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:** You will upload documents in this course and will need appropriate software. If you do not already have it, Microsoft Office is available from the UTA Bookstore for a substantial discount and it will allow you to complete all assignments in this course. If you choose to use software other than Microsoft Office, I will not be able to support you and you may risk improper submissions. ***\*Note\* - You cannot use anything older than Microsoft Office 2007 (PC)/2008 (Mac) for Word Documents, but you may submit a pdf file. No other types of files are permitted unless otherwise stated in the course module.***

You will need access to the Internet in this course. You may use any device that is compatible with Blackboard in this course. You may also use computers in the UTA library and computer labs. If you have not already done so, you should check to make sure that your system is configured correctly. Go

to <http://www.uta.edu/blackboard/system-configuration.php> to see a list of requirements. If you are not at the most recent update, you may have issues opening some items in Blackboard.

*A note about BROWSERS:* The recommended browser for Blackboard is Firefox. However, I also require that you have another browser available on your computer (Chrome is a good second choice, but any other browser will do). Why? Well, sometimes there are updates to either the browser or to Blackboard. When this happens, some content might not display in one browser, but will be visible in another.

Always contact me or your coach first if you are having technical issues. We will often be able to quickly resolve your issue, but if not, we will be able to help you craft the description of your problem and what issues we have ruled out so that the OIT Help Desk will be better able to pinpoint your problem. Before contacting me or your coach with a technical issue with course materials, always access the material in your back-up browser. If it displays properly, then it is an issue with a recent update of software for your primary browser. Use the backup browser for a day or two (this gives Blackboard a chance to adjust their settings). Also, check the Technical Help FAQ, located in the Boot Camp in the course module for troubleshooting information for common problems.

**REQUIRED TECHNICAL/COMPUTER SKILLS:** Online students will need to have basic computer skills to do well in this course. Basic computer skills include:

- Accessing and logging into Blackboard
- Sending and receiving email through your Mavs student account (you will be checking your email account daily in this course)
- Attaching files and opening attachments
- Using Microsoft Office software like Word
- Following instructions (video or written) to learn how to use new web-based tools

You will also need regular access to a computer and reliable Internet service. You can connect your tablet or laptop to the campus wi-fi. You can use the computers in the library or computer labs if you have a set of headphones. You should also have a flash drive to save any work or downloads if you plan to use campus computers. If you do not come to campus this semester and are accessing this course from home, you should have a backup plan if your Internet connection fails. Be sure to have a list of alternate Internet access points. For example, is there a local public library? How about the Starbucks or McDonald's around the corner? They typically have free wi-fi. If you don't have a laptop or tablet and your Internet fails, can you go to a friend or relative's house?

It is university policy that students must use their university emails for online courses. All emails to the class are made both as announcements in the course module and university email. If student emails go down, it will be for all students in the course and they will be able to see the duplicate announcements in the course module and can send me a message through Blackboard.

***If you do not have basic computer skills or access to a computer/tablet with a reliable Internet connection, you should rethink taking a fully online course.***

**COURSE NAVIGATION:** When you first access the course, you will land on the Announcements page. There will be instructions on how to proceed, but you will begin the course by clicking on the "Course

Boot Camp" tab at the top of the course menu (left side of the screen). This introduction provides you with all the information you need to successfully navigate the course module. Simply start at the top of the Boot Camp page and move to the bottom, clicking on all links and folders.

#### **UTA CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES:**

The state of Texas requires specific objectives for general education "core" courses. The state objectives for "general ed" courses require that students learn critical thinking and communication (written, oral, visual) skills; teamwork skills; quantitative reasoning; personal responsibility (ethics) and social responsibility (civics). This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in social and behavioral sciences.

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. *Must be addressed in all core curriculum courses.*
- **Communication Skills:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. *Must be addressed in all core curriculum courses.*
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills:** to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions. *Must be addressed in all core courses that satisfy the following requirements:*
  - Mathematics
  - Life and Physical Sciences
  - Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - Component Area Option of Mathematics and Logic
- **Teamwork:** to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. *Must be addressed in all core courses that satisfy the following requirements:*
  - Life and Physical Sciences
  - Creative Arts
  - Communication
- **Personal Responsibility:** to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making. *Must be addressed in all core courses that satisfy the following requirements:*
  - Communication
  - Language, Philosophy and Culture
  - American History
  - Government/Political Science
- **Social Responsibility:** to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities. *Must be addressed in all core courses that satisfy the following requirements:*
  - Language, Philosophy and Culture
  - Creative Arts
  - American History
  - Government/Political Science
  - Social and Behavioral Sciences

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

During this course, students will learn how to:

- identify key events, peoples, individuals, terms, periods, and chronology of the history of the United States; distinguish between historical fact and historical interpretation; and connect historical events in chronological chain(s) of cause and effect
- develop critical thinking skills by discussing the living nature of history, using historical evidence to critique competing interpretations of the same historical events, explaining the nature of historical controversies
- synthesize diverse historical information and evidence related to broad themes of U.S. history and present this information in coherent, well-articulated, and well-substantiated analytical discussions and other written assignments
- develop the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making by examining the motivations and actions of key figures in U.S. history
- develop an understanding of civic and social responsibility by examining interactions within and between regional, national, and global communities in U.S. history
- demonstrate basic awareness of the historical geography of the United States
- instructor-specific learning outcomes

**FACULTY EXPECTATIONS:**

We expect that students will

- not cheat, plagiarize, collude or commit other acts of academic dishonesty
- participate fully by being prepared for discussions and other assignments. Being prepared means doing your reading, watching videos, perusing all links in this website and covering all materials presented
- do college-level work in all written assignments. You will receive specific and detailed instructions for all assessments within this course, follow them. Proofread for grammar and prose (turning in sloppy work with many grammatical errors is not college level - if you have problems with writing on a college level, utilize the services of the Writing Center)
- turn in work on time
- show respect to your instructor and your fellow students in all interactions
- ask for help when needed

**ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS:**

Your grade for this course will be based upon 1000 quality points. All points in this course are weighted equally and simply add up over the semester. At the end of the semester, grades will be awarded according to the following scale:

Semester Grade	Earned Points
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	0-599

*Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels. You will find your grades in the course module. Click on the "Useful Information" tab on the course menu and then select "Grades."*

**ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS:** There are **FOUR types of assignments** in this course; full information and instructions for each assignment are given when assigned. Your knowledge of the course materials will be assessed through: Historical Skills Exercises (15%), Discussions (40%), Signature Assignment Essay (20%), and Tests (20%). There is also an Ice Breaker discussion (5%).

**1. Historical Skills Exercises:** These are assignments that are critical thinking in nature and will teach students a particular analytical skill necessary for historical thinking. There are five exercises teaching the skills you will need to learn to think historically are worth a total of 100.

**2. Unit Discussions:** There are 4 graded discussions in this course, one for each of the units. Each is worth up to 100 points. Students must make a substantive and analytical initial post (70 points) and comment in a meaningful way on the posts of at least three other students (10 points each). The discussions have interim due dates with your initial posts due before the comment posts are due. See course calendar for specific dates.

**3. Signature Assignment Essay:** This is a formal essay, utilizing all of the historical skills learned in the exercises which is analytical in nature. It assesses your abilities with the core objectives of this course. Worth up to 200 points.

**4. Tests:** There will be one Midterm and one Final. Each is worth up to 100 points and will consist of short essay questions over the course materials. The midterm covers the first half of the course (Units 1 and 2) and the final covers the second half of the course (Units 3 and 4). Each test is available for a 4 day window and is open note/textbook. See course calendar for due dates.

**TURNING IN ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments and assessments will be uploaded or completed through the Blackboard course module and all submitted assignments will be run through SafeAssign checking for plagiarism and collusion. No emailed submissions are accepted for grading. If you are having technical issues with completing or uploading an assignment in Blackboard, you must notify me via email *prior to the deadline for completion/submission*. If you are having problems uploading a completed assignment, you must attach your assignment file to your email notifying me of your technical issues as evidence you completed the assignment on time. Once your technical issue is resolved, you will be required to submit the same file through Blackboard for grading. Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due by 11:59 pm Central Time.

**LATE PAPER AND MAKE-UP POLICY:** Students must provide university approved documented evidence to make up tests/quizzes or turn in late work. If you know there is going to be a conflict with meeting a due date or participating in a group assignment, contact me before the window of opportunity for that assignment/test closes and we will come up with an appropriate plan of action. We will not, however, extend due dates/open assignments early, to accommodate personal travel plans.

**GRADE GRIEVANCES:** You will typically receive your grade and feedback on an assignment within one week. If, for some reason, there will be a delay in return of grades, I will post an announcement and send a class email with further details. I will also make an announcement when the grading of an assignment is complete and all grades are posted. Once a grade is posted, you will have ONE WEEK from my emailed announcement to contact me about any discrepancies or issues. After that time, the grade will be considered final and I will not revisit the grade later in the session. There will be a shorter turnaround period at the end of the semester. Items due the last two weeks of the semester will have a three-day window for a grade grievance once the grade is posted.

To file a grade appeal, first contact your coach first, unless announced otherwise, to discuss your grade. You may ask that your assignment be re-graded by the instructor only after you have discussed the grading feedback with your coach. The official grade grievance policy (beyond the instructor) for this course is laid out fully in the course module. The first step is arbitration with the coordinator of online courses for the History department. Further information on the UTA policy for an appeal of a grade beyond the instructor is published in the current undergraduate catalog. [see [http://wwweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic\\_regulations.aspx#19](http://wwweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#19)]

**EXPECTATIONS FOR TIME SPENT IN STUDY:** In a traditional long semester face-to-face course, a general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 2-3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 6-9 hours of study including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc. beyond the time required to attend each class meeting. ***This online course is an accelerated version of the on-campus course. You are doing the same amount of work in half the time. Students should expect to spend at least 12-18 hours per week on course materials, reading, studying, and assignments.***

**PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE:** At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. Since this is an online course, my definition of attendance means regularly (at minimum weekly) accessing the course module and moving through the materials in a timely manner. There is no grade based upon simply accessing the module. Students are responsible for being aware of all windows of opportunity for completing assignments and tests. The full course calendar is available in the Blackboard course module and an overview is provided below.

Please note: While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

**DROP POLICY:** Students must contact ***your advisor*** for drop policies. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wwweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**A RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** It is the goal of the Department of History and the College of Liberal Arts to create and maintain a respectful learning environment in online courses. The official policy concerning communications within this course is stated below:

*When contacting your instructor via email, remember to construct your messages both respectfully and carefully (be as specific as possible with your questions). In this course, as with any other UTA course, your communication with students and faculty should be the utmost professional. When communicating with your peers and instructor, there will be NO discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, ideology, political affiliation, veteran status, age, physical handicap, or marital status. Keep in mind that instructors reserve the right to manage a positive learning environment and thus will not tolerate inappropriate conduct in the course. All UTA students are responsible for behaving in a manner consistent with UTA's Standard Code of Conduct. Students violating these codes will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.*

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

The History Department takes academic dishonesty very seriously. Copying or closely paraphrasing directly from the text or internet sites without proper citation as plagiarism. If in doubt, cite. **If you are found guilty of academic dishonesty on an assignment, you will receive a 0 for that assignment. If you are found guilty of cheating on a second assignment, you will receive an F (0) for the course.** We will refer all cases of suspected academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs.

*NOTICE: All assignments submitted to Blackboard will be run through SafeAssign to check for plagiarism.*

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**CAMPUS CARRY:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**TITLE IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students'

anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE:** *The instructor reserves the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.*

This course consists of **5 Units**. There are windows of opportunity to complete content materials and assignments associated with each unit (plus the Signature Assignment which is outside of the unit structure). Units, lessons, and textbook readings are listed below. You may work through the course materials in a unit at your own pace, but be cognizant of any due dates associated with assignments.

Each unit will contain individual lessons and case studies and assigned materials include readings from the texts as well as links to other materials, websites, lecture videos, etc. Work in order from top to bottom in both the Unit folder and each individual lesson folder. Detailed reading assignments and other materials are assigned in the individual topics in the Course Module

**Schedule and Textbook Readings Overview:**

<b>UNIT 0</b>	History Boot Camp
<b>UNIT 1: THE CREATION OF AMERICA</b> Weeks 1-2 YAWP, Chapters 1-3	Ancient America European Expansion English Expansion Case Study: The Impact of Indian Wars
<b>UNIT 2: THE MATURE COLONIES</b> Weeks 3-4 YAWP, Chapters 4-5	Colonial Society in the 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Challenges to Imperial Control American Independence Case Study: American Indians in the Wars for Empire Case Study: Rebels and Redcoats
<b>UNIT 3: THE EARLY REPUBLIC</b> Weeks 5-6 YAWP, Chapters 6-8	From the Articles to the Constitution The Virginia Dynasty The Market Revolution Case Study: Native Americans and the Young United States Case Study: Tocqueville and Dickens
<b>UNIT 4: THE ROAD TO DISUNION</b> Weeks 7-8 YAWP, Chapters 9-14	Democracy in America The Antebellum North The Antebellum South Expansion A House Divided Case Study: Angelina Grimke and Abolition

## COURSE CALENDAR

All assignments due by 23:59 CENTRAL TIME on the last day to turn in. No late assignments accepted without documented excuse or an extension arranged with the instructor prior to the due date.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>First Available</b>	<b>Last Day to Turn In for Credit</b>
<b>Unit 0 Assignments</b>		
Ice Breaker	Upon Completion of Start Here	Initial Post: 10/17 Comment Posts: 10/18
Skill 1	Upon Completion of Start Here	10/19
Skill 2	Upon Completion of Start Here	10/19
Skill 3	Upon Completion of Start Here	10/19
Skill 4	Upon Completion of Start Here	10/19
Skill 5	Upon Completion of Start Here	10/19
<b>Unit 1 Assignment</b>		
Unit 1 Discussion	Upon Completion of Skill 5	Initial Post: 10/27 Comment Posts: 10/29
<b>Unit 2 Assignments</b>		
Unit 2 Discussion	Upon Completion of Unit 1	Initial Post: 11/3 Comment Posts: 11/5
<b>Midterm</b>	11/8	11/11
<b>Unit 3 Assignment</b>		
Unit 3 Discussion	Upon Completion of Midterm	Initial Post: 11/17 Comment Posts: 11/19
<b>Signature Assignment</b>	11/12	11/26
<b>Unit 4 Assignments</b>		
Unit 4 Discussion	Upon Completion of Unit 3	Initial Post: 12/1 Comment Posts: 12/3
<b>Final</b>	12/4	12/7