

## HISTORY 1301.04 SYLLABUS: U.S. History to 1876

CRN # 20328 (3 credit hours)

Class Location: ABIV room 220 (Olson Auditorium, second floor)

Class Meeting Times: 9:00 - 9:50 MOWEFR

Dr. Rosanne Barker  
Office: AB4 room 465 (4<sup>th</sup> floor)

Office Hours: MWF 2:00-4:00 pm

and by appointment

Spring 2017

Office Phone:

936-294-1492

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his\_rmb@shsu.edu

Teaching Assistant: We are lucky to have Mr. Brian Jacobs, a History M.A. student, who will serve as our Graduate/Teaching Assistants (TA). His office is AB4 room 309 and the phone number there is 936-294-3752. His office hours are posted in Blackboard.

SYLLABUS REQUIREMENTS: Please access this website if you have questions regarding university policies on course syllabi: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

### TEXTS and COURSE MATERIALS:

TEXT: *The American Yawp* (<http://www.americanyawp.com/>). This is a FREE online text that is accessible through any device that has internet so you will not have to worry about purchasing a textbook. Reading the text is mandatory; questions from it will appear on exams. It will be extremely difficult to pass the course without reading it.

FILMS: A few films will be required viewing for the course. These will be either embedded in Blackboard, or a link provided so that you can easily access them. A "Films" folder can be found in each of the three "Unit" folders in Blackboard.

POWERPOINTS: PowerPoints shown in class will be posted to Blackboard before the related lecture is given. This will allow you to print them ahead of time so that you can take notes along side each of the slides. There is a computer lab located just outside of Olson Auditorium if you need to print anything at the last minute.

--One package (= 10) of Scantron form # 882 or #882E --#2 pencil(s)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is a freshman-level survey course, beginning with the first inhabitants of North America and ending with the period of Reconstruction following the Civil War. It is designed to familiarize you with basic trends and controversies in American history. Broad themes and topics such as religiosity, regional differences, race relations, immigration, social mobility, and gender roles will all be discussed within the context of the developing American economic and political systems.

For the most part, the class will be conducted in a lecture format. Lectures are designed to enhance the course readings. Your job as the student will be to integrate what you hear in lecture with what you read for the course. On average, you can expect to spend two hours reading and studying for each hour you sit in class.

The course is also Blackboard-based. Blackboard enables me to record grades, post announcements, attach course assignments and e-mail students enrolled in the class. Using your student account, you will be able to access the course syllabus and any other pertinent materials for the course. The program is accessible through the SHSU home page. Please check your email and Blackboard DAILY for class updates.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Gain factual knowledge of American history from c.1607 to 1877
2. Learn to apply course material to improve thinking, problem-solving and decision-making
3. Develop specific skills and competencies such as note-taking, listening, and reading comprehension
4. Develop a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values through the study of choices made by Americans in the past

5. Acquire an interest in learning more by asking your own questions and seeking answers. The ultimate goal for this freshman course is easily summed up in one word: **judgement**. The course is not only about history; it is about preparing you for the "real world." Consider note-taking, for example. When you are the new associate in a big law firm and a senior partner gives you some complex directives, can you rely on your notes to remember where to begin researching the case? What kind of a listener are you? If your boss assumes you understood everything s/he discussed with you, will you know what to do later, or will you have to ask them to repeat what they had said earlier? Will your future job require research or critical thinking skills, in other words exactly those skills you will be honing in this course? A year from now when I see you at Humphrey's and ask you about the three basic tenets of Hamilton's financial plan, do you really believe that you will remember, or that I care if you don't? What I do care about is that you learn to question, to evaluate, and then ultimately to decide for yourself what you think is the best answer to the historical riddles posed in this course. These are the skills that will ensure your success in the future.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Regular and punctual attendance is expected from all students. Here are the reasons why:

1. We are focusing on honing your analytical, or critical thinking skills.
2. Lectures are designed to *supplement*, not duplicate, the textbook. As a result, at times I discuss things that are not covered in other course materials such as the textbook.
3. Accordingly, exam questions will be taken from lectures.
4. Listening is an essential skill and coupled with
5. Note-taking, are the exact skills you need to perfect for any white collar job you hope to have in the future.
6. Dr. Barker needs YOUR energy in the room to do her very best lecturing.

For all of these reasons, **attendance is essential!**

If you do miss a class, *you* are responsible for getting the notes and anything else that was covered during the hour. PowerPoint presentations shown in class will be posted to Blackboard. However, I do not make copies of my own notes, nor do I loan films that may have been shown in class.

**THE SEATING CHART:** A seating chart will be made so please select a seat that will enhance your classroom experience. You will be asked to place your name on the chart and then Mr. Jacobs will make sure that you are sitting in the correct seat according to the chart. After the seating chart is made, it is **IMPERATIVE THAT YOU SIT IN THE SAME ASSIGNED SEAT FOR THE DURATION OF THE SEMESTER** because Mr. Jacobs will use the chart to take attendance each class meeting. You are responsible for sitting in your assigned seat every class meeting. If, for any reason, you would like to change your assigned seat, simply notify Mr. Jacobs and he will make that happen.

**SIX ABSENCES TOTAL ALLOWED:** Three absences are allowed by University policy, however I allow for six because we do not have time to verify "excused" absences. Even if the absence is "excused," you have still missed class and will need to make an effort to find out what occurred on that day.

**If you have more than 6 hours of absence, you may fail the course at my discretion.**

**DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE:** If for any reason you must miss class more than the university's limit of three times, then you will need to contact the Dean of Students office. That office will verify the circumstances and send a letter to all of your professors. However, it is up to each professor to determine a student's overall attendance and how the course attendance policy will be applied..

**ARRIVING AFTER ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN TAKEN:** If you arrive late to class and attendance has already been taken, that will count as an absence.

**LEAVING CLASS EARLY:** If you leave class early, that will be counted as an absence. Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis.

**MISSING AN EXAM:** If you miss an exam, you may make it up. Make-up exams will be essay-style.

**If you miss two or more exams you automatically fail the course with a grade of "F".**

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Cheating on exams includes, but is not limited to: looking at another student's exam during the course of the exam, looking at materials such as notes or text on a cell phone that provide information for the exam, having another person take the exam for you, altering your Scantron so that incorrect answers cannot be detected. Any student who engages in any of these behaviors will receive an "F" for the final course grade.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex. Phone: 294-1720. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

**STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

**VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:** *Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.*

*On the other hand, you are more than welcome to bring children to class if daycare falls through. Just let me know before class so that I can tailor the lecture to suit children.*

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT:** *Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. **Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins.** Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in*

accordance with university policy. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline may be found at the following link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

**CELL PHONES & OTHER TECHNOLOGY:** *As members of the classroom community, all students have a responsibility to others who are a part of that community. The goal is to produce an environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and other students with respect. Cell phones, laptop computers, pagers, and similar devices have become increasingly a part of life in our society; however, when used in the classroom environment they can become disruptive. Laptop computers, if allowed, may be used for note taking purposes if they are not disruptive to other class members. Students are to turn off cell phones, pagers, and other similar electronic equipment while in the classroom. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. Therefore, the use by students of cell phones, pagers, or similar communication devices during scheduled class-time is prohibited unless specifically permitted by the instructor. All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class. Failure to comply with this policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with three or more offenses, failure of the course.*

*If there is an emergency situation for a student, that student should inform the instructor and place himself/herself in a seat near the door where an exit for a phone call would be only minimally disruptive. With instructor approval, students may record lectures, take notes via laptop computer, etc., provided that they do not disturb other students in the process. Other exceptions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor.*

*Any use of cell phones or other electronic devices during a test period is prohibited. Even the visible presence of a cell phone or other device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of a cell phone during a test could result in a charge of academic dishonesty (see student code of conduct reference below). During the test these instruments should be left at home or stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student.*

*For further information on student conduct in and out of the classroom see the Code of Student Conduct. <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/StudentGuidelines2010-2012.pdf#page=29>*

**INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION:** *Students will be asked to evaluate the instructor online toward the end of the semester. Your input is an essential component in tenure and merit pay decisions. You will receive instructions on how to do this online*

## **EXAMS AND GRADING PLAN:**

**Assignments:** *You will be expected to read roughly one chapter per week from The American Yawp. There will also be three short (one page, or 250 words) written assignments based on primary documents.*

**Exams:** *There will be three exams, each worth 100 points. Exams are objective and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, matching and map questions, 50 in all. The exams will be taken in class.*

**Extra Credit:** *There will be several opportunities for earning extra credit points to be announced in class. They may include viewing films and attending university-sponsored events.*

The total number of possible points for the course is 500.

$$3 \text{ Assignments} \times 33 \text{ points} = 99 + 1$$

$$10 \text{ Modules} \times 10 \text{ points} = 100$$

$$3 \text{ Exams} \times 100 \text{ points} = 300$$

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Total = 500 points

A = 90-100% = 450-500 points

B = 80-89% = 400-449 points

C = 70-79% = 350-399 points

D = 60-69 % = 300-349 points

F = 59% or below = 299 points or fewer

**FINAL EXAM:** The final will be the same format as the two previous exams and will not be comprehensive; in essence it is simply Exam #3.

**WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS AND LECTURE TOPICS:** Ideally, you will read the course materials twice: once before and once after the lecture.

**Reading and Writing Center:** If you are one of those people who reads three pages and then can't remember what you just read, or if you are a particularly slow reader, then you can get help at the Reading Center. Phone: 294-3114.

**SAM Center:** If you have test anxiety, want to work on your study skills, or like to procrastinate, then help is available at the Student Advising and Mentoring [SAM] Center. Phone: 294-4444.

**Counseling Center:** If you find that you are depressed, or too "stressed out," then please go to the Counseling Center where you can talk to a therapist. There is no charge for this; it is already covered by your student fees. The Counseling Center is located in the Lee Drain Annex (between Farrington and Lee Drain). Phone: 294-1720.

**Please note: the course outline is tentative and may be subject to change.**

## UNIT I: COLONIAL AMERICA, 1607-1763

### Week 1, Jan. 18

Read: the course syllabus, word for word

Lecture Topics:

Presentations: "My Favorite History"

**Due in Class Fri., 1/20:** Assignment 1: "My Favorite History"

### Week 2, Jan. 23

Read: Chapter 1 in *The American Yawp*

Film Assignment: *Tracking the First Americans: Ancient Voices*

Lecture Topics:

Indigenous America

The Age of "Discovery"

### Week 3, Jan. 30

Read: Chapter 2 in *The American Yawp*

Film Assignment: *Secrets of the Dead: Death at Jamestown*

Lecture Topics:

Why Americans Choose Columbus  
The Founding of Virginia, 1607-1624

**Week 4, Feb. 6**

Read: Begin Chapter 3 in *The American Yawp*  
Life in the Tobacco Colonies, 1624-1680s  
Bacon's Rebellion: Gender, Race, and Class  
The Slow but Deliberate Development of Slavery

**Week 5, Feb. 13**

**Assignment 1 due in Blackboard on Feb. 13 by 5: p.m.**

Read: Finish Chapter 3 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

The Massachusetts Bay Company and Puritan Immigration  
The Puritan Church and Town  
The Puritan Criminal Justice System

**Week 6, Feb. 20**

Read: Chapter 4 up to the "French and Indian War" in *The American Yawp*

Lectures:

Death, Puritan-Style  
Was Puritanism in Decline?  
The Great Awakening and Other Challenges to Authority

**Exam 1 on Monday, Feb. 27, in class**

## UNIT II: The American Revolution, the Constitution & the Early National Period, 1783-1820

**Week 7, Feb. 27**

Read: the end of Chapter 4 and begin Chapter 5 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

The French and Indian War and the End of Salutary Neglect  
The Symbolism of the Boston Massacre

**Week 8, Mar. 6**

Read: Finish Chapter 5 in *The American Yawp*

**Film Assignment:** *Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 1: Reluctant Revolutionaries*

Lecture Topics:

Lexington, Concord, and the *Common Sense* of Tom Paine  
Shays' Rebellion and the Constitutional Convention  
The American Revolution: How Revolutionary Was It?

**Week 9, Mar. 13** **Spring Break!**

**Week 10, Mar. 20**

Read: Chapter 6 in *The American Yawp*

**Film Assignment:** *Liberty! The American Revolution Episode 6: Are We to be a Nation?*

Lecture Topics:

- Debating the New U.S. Constitution
- Politics in the 1790s: Interpreting the U.S. Constitution
- Thomas Jefferson and the Revolution of 1800

### **Week 11, Mar. 27**

**Assignment 2 due in Blackboard on Mar. 27 by 5: p.m.**

Read: Chapter 7 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

- The Louisiana Purchase and Lewis & Clark
- The British Again: The War of 1812 and the Monroe Doctrine

### **Week 12, Apr. 3**

Read: Begin Chapter 8 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

- Development of the American Economy
- The Transportation and Market Revolutions

**\*\*\*Drop Date: the last day to Q-drop this course is Friday, Apr. 7\*\*\***

### **Week 13, Apr. 10**

Read: Finish Chapter 8 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

- The Factory System and the Reorganization of Work

**Exam 2 is Friday, Apr. 14 in class**

## **UNIT III: Jacksonian America, 1820-1840s**

### **Week 14, Apr. 17**

Read: Chapter 9 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

- Andrew Jackson, Champion of the Common (White) Man
- Development of the Second Party System

### **Week 15, Apr. 24**

**Assignment 3 due in Blackboard on Monday, Apr. 24 by 5: p.m.**

Read: Begin Chapter 10 in *The American Yawp*

Lecture Topics:

- The Trail of Tears
- The Nullification Crisis and the Expansion of Cotton Culture
- The Second Great Awakening and the Age of Reform

### **Week 16, May 1**

Read: Finish Chapter 10 in *The American Yawp*

**Film Assignment:** *Amistad*

Lecture Topics:

- The Early Women's Movement and Temperance

Moral Reform and Variations of Marriage  
The Texas Revolution

**\*\*\* Note: the last day of class is Friday, May 5\*\*\***

**The Final** (Exam 3) is Wednesday, May 10 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in Olson Auditorium, where our class meets regularly.