

History 1301.408
Department of History
Instructor: Ashley Branch

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: History

Course Number: HISTORY 1301

Course Title: U.S. History I

Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

Available Formats: Conventional, INET, ITV

Satisfies a core curriculum requirement? Yes, American History

Prerequisites: TSI compliance in Reading **Campus:** Guthrie CSD

Textbook: *The Americans: United States History to 1877* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Course Specific Instructions:

- 1) Be on time
- 2) Turn off electronics and store them securely
- 3) Be honest
- 4) Use appropriate language and classroom behavior
- 5) Turn in all work at appropriate times

Course Description: This course is a survey of United States history from colonial foundations to 1877. Primary emphasis is placed on ideas and social concepts that constitute the American heritage.

Course Objectives addressed:

1. **Critical thinking:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **Communication:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **Social responsibility:** to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **Personal responsibility:** to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Course Purpose: To acquaint students with the diversity of American history and to promote critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. Fundamentally, the course promotes general understanding of a body of knowledge any literate person should possess about the history of his own country.

Course Requirements: To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be familiar with the evolution of the nation and its role in the world from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century. This would include the ability to:

- Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

Assignments:

Exams:

- Two exams will be given during **each** six weeks.
- The exams will be given at the mid-way point and end of the six weeks.
- The exams will be comprised of multiple-choice questions and an essay.
- A review sheet is on the Google Classroom site.
- An in class review will take place on the class day before each exam.

Essay Paper:

- Students will write one essay paper **each** six weeks.
- Each paper will be 3-5 pages in length.
- Prompts and logistics for each paper can be found on the Google Classroom Site.

Quizzes:

- Students will take 5 quizzes **each** six weeks.
- The quizzes will be multiple-choice and will cover material from lectures, readings and assignments for that week.

Homework/In Class Assignments:

- Students will complete 30 assignments **each** six weeks.
- Don't freak out! Most of these will take place during the class period.
- If the student completes more than 30 assignments, the lowest grades will be dropped.

Grading Policy (FOR EACH SIX WEEKS):

<u>Grade Determination</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Percentage of Final</u>
2 Exams	200 points each	400	40%
1 Essay Paper	100 points each	100	10%
30 Homework/ In Class Assignments	10 points each	300	30%
5 Quizzes	40 points each	200	20%

Grading Breakdown:

Letter Grade	Final Average in Points
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
F	699 & Below