

Dr. J. Neff, Adjunct Professor
History 1301 – US History through Reconstruction
Fall 2026

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: History

Course Number: HISTORY 1301

Course Title: United States History I

Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

This course partially satisfies a core curriculum requirement: American History Foundational Component Area (060)

Class Format: Dual Credit Face to Face

Campus: Anton ISD High School Campus

Textbook: Corbett, P., et al. (2021). *U.S. History*. Openstax.

Course Description: A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

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.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students should be familiar with the evolution of American political, social, and economic institutions and traditions from the arrival of Europeans to the mid-nineteenth 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.

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.

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.

Dropping a Course: Students may drop courses through Texan Connect, the Admissions and Records Office, or Advising and Testing Center through the late registration period.

After late registration has closed, a student must complete the online [Student Initiated Drop Request](#) to drop a course.

Students may also drop courses in person at any campus location by completing a Student Initiated Drop Form. Complete a [Student Initiated Drop Form](#) and return the signed form to the Levelland Admissions and Records Office, the Student Support Center at the Lubbock Downtown Center, the Lubbock Career and Technical Center, or Plainview Center. You must have a picture ID to complete the drop.

A mark of "W" will be given for student-initiated drops that occur prior to and through the last day to drop as indicated in the online Academic Calendar found here:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>.

Syllabus Statements: For information about Artificial Intelligence, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Intellectual Exchange, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, Campus Concealed Carry, and COVID-19, please use this link: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Course Evaluation

This course will be scored based on the following assessments.

Exam 1 – 100 points

Exam 2 – 100 points

Exam 3 – 100 points

Final Exam – 200 points

Weekly Discussion Boards (DB) – 100 points

Primary Source Essays – 4 at 50 points each (200 points)

800 total points

A = 800-720 points

B = 719-660 points

C = 659-600 points

D = 599-540 points

F = Less than 540 points

Course Outline

Week of Aug 24

Read: Chapters 1 & 2

DB: Columbian Exchange

Week of Aug 31

Read: Chapter 3 & 4

DB: The role of colonies in nation building

Week of Sept 7

Read: Chapters 5 & 6

DB: Why Democracy?

PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAY 1 DUE 9/18 @ 11:59PM

Week of Sept 14

Read: Chapters 7 & 8

DB: The American Experiment

EXAM 1 on 9/18

Week of Sept 21

Read Chapter 9
DB: The Industrial Revolution

Week of Sept 28

Read Chapter 10
DB: Genocide and History

PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAY 2 DUE 10/9 @ 11:59PM

Week of Oct 5

Read Chapter 11
DB: Push, Pull, Migrate

Week of Oct 12

Read Chapter 12 & 13
DB: Life in the South

Week of Oct 19

Read Chapter 14
DB: What to do when things look bad

EXAM 2 on Nov 1

Week of Oct 26

Read Chapter 15
DB: Causes of the Civil War

PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAY 3 DUE 11/6 @ 11:59PM

Week of Nov 2

Read Chapter 16
DB: Fixing what was broken

Week of Nov 9 - TBD

Week of Nov 16 – TBD

EXAM 3 on Nov. 20, Primary Source Essay 4 Due on Nov. 20 @11:59PM

Nov 23 – THANKSGIVING

Nov 30 - TBD

Dec 7 FINAL EXAM DETERMINED BY SCHEDULE