

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: HISTORY 2327
Revised 8/26

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: History

Course Number: HIST 2327

Course Title: Mexican-American History I

Available Formats: conventional, internet, hybrid

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Lubbock Downtown, Dual-Credit

Course Description: This course is a survey of the economic, social, political, intellectual, and cultural history of Mexican Americans/Chicanx. Periods include early indigenous societies, conflict and conquest, early European colonization and empires, New Spain, early revolutionary period, Mexican independence and nation building, United States expansion to the United States-Mexico War Era. Themes to be addressed are mestizaje and racial formation in the early empire, rise and fall of native and African slavery, relationship to early global economies, development of New Spain's/Mexico's northern frontier, gender and power, missions, resistance and rebellion, emergence of Mexican identities, California mission secularization, Texas independence, United States' wars with Mexico, and the making of borders and borderlands.

Prerequisite: TSI compliance in Reading

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Textbook: Varies according to instructor.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: American History Foundational Component Area (060)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student 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.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test and/or a writing assignment rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

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.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Syllabus: HISTORY 2327
Mexican-American History I
South Plains College
Fall 2026

Professor: Dr. Abel Rios

Office: 1015 A, Lubbock Downtown Campus

Office Hours: Mon./Wed. 1:00 - 2:30 pm; Tues./Thurs. 8:30 – 9:30 am; Fri. 9:00 – 1:00 pm

E-mail: arios@southplainscollege.edu. Do not send me a message through “Course Messages” in Blackboard.

Class Meets: **Monday and Wednesday 11:00 am - 12:15 pm – Lubbock Downtown, 1009 (HIST 2327-601)**

Required Text:

[*The American Yawp*](#), vol. 1: Before 1877

This is a FREE online textbook located here. If you want to order a hard copy, you can do so online or at the South Plains College Bookstore. ISBN 9781503606715

Gonzales, Manuel. *Mexicanos: A History of Mexican Americans in the United States*.

Bloomington: Indiana University, 2019. ISBN 978-0253041722. The e-book is available through the [South Plains College Library](#).

Douglass, Frederick. [*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*](#). Mineola, New York: Dover Press. ISBN 978-0-486-28499-6

Access to Blackboard:

You will need reliable internet service for this course. Sign in with your SPC login information to <http://southplainscollege.blackboard.edu>.

Grades:

Frederick Douglass Quiz – 20 points

Quizzes (4 X 20 points each) – 80 points

Film Analysis Project – 100 points

Exam 1 – 100 points

Exam 2 – 100 points

Final Exam – 100 points

Total – 500 points

Final Grade:

A (100-90) = 500-450 points

B (89-80) = 449-400 points

C (79-70) = 399-350 points

D (69-60) = 349-300 points

F (59-0) = 299-0 points

Course Work Descriptions:

Quizzes

There are quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will cover material from the e-book *Mexicanos*. Complete your reading assignments to do well on the quizzes. To complete the quizzes, students need to use the [HonorLock](#) software. See *Blackboard* for more information.

Exams

There are three (3) exams. Each exam will cover material from the weeks prior to the exam. For example, the first exam will cover weeks 1-5, the second exam will cover weeks 6-10, and the final exam will cover weeks 11-15. Exams will include lecture material and assigned readings. Additionally, exams will include multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. There are also short essay questions.

Frederick Douglass Quiz

There is a quiz on *Frederick Douglass* at the end of the semester. See the syllabus for the due date.

Film Analysis Project

Students will choose a film that relates to an important historical event or period. They will analyze the film's historical accuracy and its impact on historical memory. The project will include several components: a reflection, an annotated bibliography, and a final presentation. More instructions will be provided. See the syllabus for the due date.

South Plains College and Class Policies:

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. You are expected to attend class, arrive on time, and remain for the entire class period. **Absences will only be excused with acceptable documentation provided in a timely manner, and at the sole discretion of the course professor.**

- **FOUR (4) missed assignments OR absences** (at any time; for any reason) will result in the student being dropped from the course.
- Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records.
- A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from the course by the official census date of the semester may be administratively withdrawn from that course. The student will receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the professor.
- When a class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college, the professor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the professor.
- Class attendance is recorded by the professor or on a sign-in sheet. The sign-in sheet will be available until the scheduled time of the class.
- Tardiness is disruptive to the classroom setting. If you arrive **AFTER** class starts, then you will be counted absent.
- A student should plan to be in class for the entire period. A student who leaves class **regularly** will be marked absent for that class period.
- Class material will NOT be repeated during office hours or any other communication forum such as e-mail. **If you are absent, request class notes from another student.**

Dropping the course:

- If you are considering dropping the class, you should speak with me first. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. If you decide to drop the class, then you should submit a [Student Initiated Drop Form](#) online from the SPC website. Failure to complete the drop procedure will result in an "F" grade on your transcript. The drop date can be found on the SPC calendar.

Late or make-up work:

- Your work must be turned in on schedule to receive credit.
- If a student is absent for a quiz or exam, it is your responsibility to contact the professor.
- **All work must be turned in BEFORE the Final Exam week. There are no exceptions.**

Academic integrity:

- Anything that borders on cheating, plagiarism, or affects the academic integrity of the assignment or of the course will be dealt with -- the least thing that could happen to the student is dismissal from the class roster with a failing grade.
- Your work must be *in your own words*, and it must be original (cheating and plagiarism --that is, copying someone else's work or copying from another source). Students who cheat or plagiarize will be dropped from the class with an "F".

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student. This includes a paper generated by AI (artificial intelligence) technology such as ChatGPT, OpenAI, or similar programs.
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation.
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion.
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given.
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment.
4. Taking an examination for another.
5. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
6. Rewriting another student's work to the point that the original student's writing is absent.
7. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Remember this: to check for plagiarism, the professor can take a random phrase from an essay, copy it, paste it into a Google search or an AI detection software, and the source will appear. The internet has made plagiarism much easier, but it has also made catching it much easier, too.

The consequence of plagiarism in my classes is this: the offender(s) will receive zero credit for the entire assignment or exam or will be dropped from the class with an F.

SPC Policy regarding “standard English”: All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in “academic English,” a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.

Student Privacy: South Plains College is bound by the Texas Open Records Law and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information regarding these topics can be found in the South Plains College Catalog. As far as this class is concerned, I will NOT release or discuss your class performance, grades, averages, or attendance with anyone but you. This means that your parents, class counselors, principals, or any other interested party will not gain this information from me – if they need this sort of information they must ask you for it. This provision does not apply to student-athletes or those for whom a grade check is part of their scholarship support.

Tobacco Policy: South Plains College prohibits the use of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette, or vapor device throughout all indoor areas and within a 25 foot perimeter around all facility entrances, exits and HVAC air intake vents under the control of SPC, including sporting facilities and SPC vehicles. Included in this ban are tobacco products of all types (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both). This ban also includes herbal tobacco products and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, pipes or other types of inhalation devices.

E-mail Etiquette: I will respond to e-mails within two business days. I will selectively respond to emails after 5:00 pm and on weekends. In addition, I am your professor and expect a certain level of respect in electronic or face-to-face communication. Your e-mails should begin with a proper salutation (i.e., Dear/Hello Professor Rios). Informal language (i.e., “Hey,” “What’s up,” or writing text with no salutation or context) should be avoided when addressing your professor. Identify yourself and your class. Professors teach several sections and are not always familiar with each student, especially in large sections. Please include what course you are enrolled in (Example: HIST 1301.156).

Classroom Conduct: All students are expected to act responsibly and respectfully. Below are general guidelines covering actions to avoid during the course. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

- The use of tape recorders, cell phones, laptops, or any other electronic recording devices in class is prohibited without permission.
- You are expected to take adequate notes on the lecture material. You are strongly encouraged to take notes by hand. **Personal laptop computers, tablets, and/or similar electronic devices may be used only to type lecture notes.** Playing games, searching the internet, or communicating on social network sites in class is unacceptable.
- Turn off or silence cell phones and other communication devices before entering the classroom. **Texting in class is not acceptable and is considered a class disruption.**
- **A student who uses a cell phone in class may be dismissed from class and/or will be notified with a warning e-mail. After the first warning, each time the student uses their phone, the student will be notified by email, and there will be a deduction of ten (10) points from the student’s final grade for each violation. For example, the final grade was 95 (A) and was reduced to 85 (B). The student was notified twice (the warning e-mail and a second e-mail).**
- **A student who disrupts the class may be asked to leave and counted absent.**
See the “[Student Conduct](#)” section within the *South Plains College Student Guide*.

Note: The professor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Suggested online reading, chapter 1, *The American Yawp*; suggested reading, *Mexicanos*, pgs. 10-30

Mon., August 24 - Introduction of Mexican Americans and U.S. History

Wed., August 26 - Indigenous America: Pre-Columbian Societies, prehistory to 1521

Week 2

Suggested online reading, chapter 2, *The American Yawp*; suggested reading, *Mexicanos*, pgs. 33-43

Mon., August 31 – Early Continental America: European Colonization, 1521-1650

Wed., September 2 - Early Continental America: European Colonization, 1521-1650

Mexicano Quiz 1 (pgs. 10-30) is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Film Analysis Project: First Watch Film Analysis is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 3

Suggested online reading, chapter 3, *The American Yawp*; suggested reading, *Mexicanos*, pgs. 43-52

Mon., September 7 – Labor Day

Wed., September 9 - Colonial America and the Atlantic World, 1650-1720

Mexicano Quiz 2 (pgs. 33-43) is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 4

Suggested online reading, chapter 4, *The American Yawp*; suggested reading, *Mexicanos*, pgs. 52-62

Mon., September 14 - Colonial America and the Atlantic World, 1650-1720

Wed., September 16 - Spanish and British America - Colonial Society and Religion, 1720-1763

Mexicano Quiz 3 (pgs. 43-52) is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 5

Suggested online reading, chapter 4, *The American Yawp*

Mon., September 21 – Colonial Resistance in British and Spanish America, 1754-1774

Wed., September 23 - Colonial Resistance in British and Spanish America, 1754-1774

Mexicano Quiz 4 (pgs. 52-62) is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 6

Suggested online reading, chapter 5, *The American Yawp*

Mon., September 28 – The American and Mexican Revolutions, 1775-1821

Wed., September 30 - The American and Mexican Revolutions, 1775-1821

Exam 1 (The first exam will cover weeks 1-5).

Week 7

Suggested online reading, chapter 6, *The American Yawp*

Mon., October 5 - Federalist America, 1783-1800

Wed., October 7 - Federalist America, 1783-1800

Week 8

Suggested online reading, chapter 7, *The American Yawp*

Mon., October 12 - Jeffersonian America, 1801-1823

Wed., October 14 - Jeffersonian America, 1801-1823

Week 9

Suggested online reading, chapter 8, *The American Yawp*

Mon., October 19 - The Northern Industrial Revolution, 1800-1850

Wed., October 21 - The Northern Industrial Revolution, 1800-1850

Film Analysis Project: Research Annotated Bibliography is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 10

Suggested online reading, chapters 12 & 13, *The American Yawp*; suggested reading, *Mexicanos*, pgs. 95-125

Mon., October 26 - America's Westward Expansion into New Spain/Mexico, 1800-1860

Wed., October 28 - America's Westward Expansion into New Spain/Mexico, 1800-1860

Week 11

Suggested online reading, chapter 11, *The American Yawp*

Mon., November 2 - The Antebellum South

Wed., November 4 - The Antebellum South

Exam 2 (The second exam will cover weeks 6-10).

Week 12

Suggested online readings, chapters 9 & 10, *The American Yawp*

Mon., November 9 - Jacksonian America, Expansion, and Reform, 1824-1860

Wed., November 11 - Jacksonian America, Expansion, and Reform, 1824-1860

Mexicano Quiz 5 (pgs. 95-125) is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 13

Suggested online reading, chapter 14, *The American Yawp*

Mon., November 16 - The Civil War, 1860-1865

Wed., November 18 - The Civil War, 1860-1865

Film Analysis Project: Narrated Digital Exhibits is due Sunday at 11:59 pm

Week 14

Suggested online reading, chapter 14, *The American Yawp*

Mon., November 23 - The Civil War, 1860-1865

Wed., November 25 - No class

Thanksgiving Break (Nov. 25-27)

Week 15

Suggested online reading, chapter 15, *The American Yawp*

Mon., November 30 - Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865-1877

Wed., December 2 - Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865-1877

Last day to drop the course (Dec. 3)

Week 16

Final Exam Schedule

All work must be turned in BEFORE the Final Exam week. There are no exceptions.

HIST 2327.601 (MW 11:00 am - 2:15 pm):

Monday, Dec. 7, 10:15 am - 12:15 pm Final Exam (The exam covers weeks 11-15.)