

## Common Course Syllabus History 2381

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Discipline:** History

**Course Number:** HISTORY 2381

**Course Title:** African American History I

**Credit:** 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

**Foundational Component Area of Core Curriculum:** American History

**Prerequisites:** TSI compliance in Reading

**Available Formats:** Conventional, INET, ITV **Campus:** Levelland, Reese, ATC, Plainview

**Textbook:** Varies according to instructor.

**Course Specific Instructions:** Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

**Course Description:** This course is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural and intellectual history of people of African descent in the formation and development of the United States to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. African American History to 1877 includes the study of African origins and legacy, trans-Atlantic slave trade and the experiences of African Americans during the Colonial, Revolutionary, Early National, Antebellum, and the Civil War/Reconstruction Era. This course presents African American history as an integral part of U.S. History.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. **critical thinking:** demonstrates creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **communication:** demonstrates effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **social responsibility:** demonstrates intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **personal responsibility:** demonstrates 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 student knows.

**Course Requirements:** To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, they 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: Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should demonstrate familiarity with the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. This would include the following themes:

- Identify the Ancient civilizations of Africa.
- Identify the major western Sudanese empires and the forest civilizations of the Guinea coast.
- Describe West African society and culture prior to European contact.
- Examine the European Age of Exploration and Colonization.
- Discuss the origins and development of the Atlantic Slave trade.
- Describe the origins of American slavery.
- Examine 18th century slavery in the Chesapeake colonies, the Northern colonies and the southern colonies.
- Identify the effects of the American Revolution on Africans in America.
- Discuss the emergence of Free Black communities.
- Compare and Contrast slave labor on tobacco, rice, sugar, and cotton plantations.
- Describe the major features of the Domestic slave trade.
- Examine the rise of African American institutions.
- Analyze the role Black and White Abolitionists played in the struggle toward emancipation.
- Identify the major causes and events of the Civil War.
- Examine the Emancipation Proclamation and African American participation in the Civil War.
- Evaluate American attempts to Reconstruct the nation after the Civil War.

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 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.

**SPC Standard Disability Statement** - Any students who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make and necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations until appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office has been provided. For more information, you may contact the Disability Services Office (located in the Health & Wellness Center) at 806-716-2529 or visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/health/disabilityservices.php>.

**Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Non-Discrimination Statement:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360. South Plains College is dedicated to providing a safe and equitable learning environment for all students. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the college. The Health and Wellness Center offers confidential support (806-716-2529) and Voice of Hope has a 24-hour hotline: 806-763-7273. You are encouraged to report any incidents online at <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/about/campussafety/complaints.php>.

**SPC Tutors:** Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! Visit the link below to learn more about how to book an appointment, view the tutoring schedule, and view tutoring locations. <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with Tutor.com each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, click on the tools option from the left-hand menu bar. Click on the Tutor.com link and you will automatically be logged in for free tutoring. You may access tutor.com tutors during the following times: Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am and 6pm Friday – 8am Monday morning For questions regarding tutoring, please email [tutoring@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:tutoring@southplainscollege.edu) or call 806-716-2538.

**Pregnancy Accommodation Statement:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. Students who wish to request accommodations must contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 to initiate the process.

**Campus Concealed Carry:** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: [http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php))

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Covid Policy:** If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test for COVID-19:

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches

- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu). A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

Early African American History  
Course Instructions

Instructor: Christina Bearden-White

Office: SS 115

Email: [cbeardenwhite@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cbeardenwhite@southplainscollege.edu)

Telephone: 806/716-2646

Office Hours: M, T, R, F 1 – 3pm. Or by appointment. Please email me 24 hours in advance for a virtual or in-person meeting outside of the times stated above.

**Required Texts:** (This is also the correct bibliographic entry for the Works Cited page of your essays.)

Horton, James Oliver and Lois E. Horton. *Hard Road to Freedom: The Story of African America*. Vol. 1, *From African Roots through the Civil War*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022. Print.

Blaisdell, Bob and Christine Rudisel. *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*. NY: Dover Press, 2014. Print.

**Grading of Course work:**

Essay on <i>Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad</i>	10%
Exam Essays	80%
Discussions/Participation	10%

**Primary Document Essay (20% of your grade)**

A prompt for the essay over the book *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad* is available in the Weekly Assignments folder in Blackboard. This is a formal 3 – 5-page essay and should conform to MLA standards.

**Exams (80% of your grade)**

There will be 4 Exam essays approximately four weeks apart. Each exam will cover materials for those weeks. For example, the first exam will cover weeks 1 – 4 and the final exam will cover week 13 – 15. This will include assigned readings, discussion questions, and videos. The essays are not timed and can be completed in advance, however, there will be no essays accepted after the due date. These essays will connect specific information from the readings with the broader themes of the course. All essays for this class are formal, persuasive essays. They should conform to MLA format. We will talk about this one day in class. Please review the rubric and the sample paper posted in Course Documents. **Do not use outside sources;** the assigned readings will be all that you need to complete the essays.

## Weekly Discussions (10% of your grade)

You should come to class each week, prepared to discuss the readings assigned in your weekly folder in Blackboard. I will call on students to answer a question from the readings in a random order prepared before our class begins. Students can, of course, volunteer to answer the questions posed, but everyone will get an opportunity to participate.

## Important Dates and Deadlines

Discussions/Participation	Each week, prepared to discuss the readings.
Exam Essays	Weeks 4, 8, and 12, due in Blackboard on Thurs. by 11 pm.
Essay over <i>Slave Narratives</i>	December 5, due in Blackboard by 11 pm.
Final Exam	Due in Blackboard, <b>Tuesday</b> December 10 <sup>th</sup> , by 11 pm.

## Course Rules

**Late Assignments:** Please let me know before the due date and time, if there is a problem completing the assignment on time. There may be a 5-point penalty for each day an assignment is late after the original due date.

**Feedback:** I will reply to all messages or emails within 24 hours during the week. I will grade your short essays in one week. I will grade exams within two weeks. I typically grade Discussion Board posts in 1 week. I will not respond to every discussion post, rather, I might add something or emphasize a point made in the post. Sometimes I ask for clarification if I am unsure what the poster was trying to share.

**Discussion Boards:** Most of your weekly assignments will use the Discussion Board in Blackboard. Those will be indicated by date and appear in the weekly folder for the week they are due. During the semester, I will also post links in the Discussion Board to address any questions you might have about the Syllabus. Please post any question you might have on the Discussion Board. Please do not hesitate to email me or message me through Blackboard with any issues of a more personal nature or if the discussions do not fully answer your questions. I check my messages and emails for the last time each weekday before 5 pm; please do not expect an answer after 9pm, on the weekends or during holidays, or while I am in a class.

**Netiquette:** Netiquette is the etiquette used online. Remember, every poster on Blackboard is a living, breathing human being. It should be a positive exchange of ideas. Remember to treat people with the same respect as you would in person. Please don't use ALL CAPS; this is the same as yelling. **Simply put – be polite.**

**Blackboard Messages:** The best way to contact me is through Blackboard Messages. Messages are private, and all correspondence about the course should go through Messages. Please only use my email if Blackboard is unavailable. Do not send assignments through email; **I will not accept any assignment through email.**

**Plagiarism will not be tolerated:** I consider academic dishonesty (cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, interference with another student's work) to be serious misconduct. Anything that is plagiarized will receive an automatic Zero (0) and possible expulsion from the course or disciplinary action through the school. Simply stated, plagiarism is claiming another author's work as your own; it is theft. **If you quote or use another author's work, you must cite that author.** You can find information about proper citation here: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/library/cslibrary/vl/plagiarism.php> If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please email or meet with me as soon as possible.

**Other concerns:** I strongly encourage you to meet with me, meet on Collaborate, or email to discuss any circumstances that might affect your performance in this class. I cannot assist you if I do not know you have a problem.

## Course Schedule

**Week 1, August 26 – 30, Welcome and introduction to the Kingdoms of Africa** Readings: Chapter 1, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Week 1 Assignments, complete by Thursday by 11 pm.

### **Week 2, September 2 - 6, The Kingdoms of Africa**

No office hours on the 6<sup>th</sup>. They are rescheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Readings: Chapter 1, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard.

Week 2 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

### **Week 3, September 9 - 13, The Atlantic Slave Trade**

No office hours on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They are rescheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Readings: Chapter 2, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard.

Week 3 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

### **Week 4, September 15 - 19, Enslavement in Early Colonial America**

Readings: Chapter 2, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard.

Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Exam Essay 1 due in Blackboard on Thursday by 11 pm.**

### **Week 5, September 23 – 27, The Evolution of Enslavement in the Colonies**

Readings: Chapter 3, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard.

Week 5 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

### **Week 6, September 30 – October 4, Slavery and Freedom in the Age of Revolution**

Readings: Chapter 3, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Week 6 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Week 7, October 7 - 11, The Early Republic and the Changing nature of Enslavement**

Readings: Chapter 4, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Please read the introduction and first 20 pages of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 7 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Week 8, October 14 – 18, The Rise of King Cotton**

**No office hours on October 18, all campuses are closed for Fall Break.**

Readings: Chapter 4, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 21 – 43 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 8 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

**Exam Essay 2 due in Blackboard on Thursday by 11 pm.**

**Week 9, October 21- 25, Building Community**

Readings: Chapter 5, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 44 – 65 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 9 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Week 10, October 29 - November 1, Resistance within the Slave Community**

Readings: Chapter 5, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 65 - 94 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 10 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11pm

**Week 11, November 4 – 8, Free People of Color and the Fight against Slavery**

Readings: Chapters 6, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 95 -137 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 11 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

Registration opens for Winter Interim and Spring 2022 on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Week 12, November 11 - 15, Abolitionist News Papers**

Readings: Chapter 6, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 138 - 166 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

**Exam Essay 3 due in Blackboard on Thursday by 11 pm.**

**Week 13, November 18 - 22, Uneasy Peace to Bitter Conflict**

Readings: Chapter 7, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 167 - 190 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

No Assignments this week. Extra Credit is due on Friday. Happy Thanksgiving!

**Week 14, November 25 – 29, The American Civil War and Emancipation**

**No office hours or class on November 27 – 29, Thanksgiving Break.**

Readings: Chapter 7, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard. Read pages 191 - 202 of *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*.

Week 14 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Week 15, December 2 - 6, Reconstruction, the Second American Civil War**

Day to Drop a Class – Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Readings: Chapter 7, *Hard Road to Freedom* and documents available in the weekly folder in Blackboard.

Week 15 Assignments, complete by Thursday at 11 pm.

**Essay on *Slave Narratives of the Underground Railroad*, due on December 5 by 11 pm in Blackboard.**

**Week 16, December 11 - 14, Final Exam Week**

No regular class meetings this week in any course.

**Final Exam, Due in Blackboard on Tuesday, December 10th by 11pm.**

Your final grade will be available by 10 am on December 13<sup>th</sup> on MySPC.