

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: HISTORY 1301**  
**Revised 1/21**

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Discipline:** History

**Course Number:** HIST 1301

**Course Title:** United States History I

**Available Formats:** conventional, internet, hybrid

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

**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.

**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:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor 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 instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively 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 that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**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, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
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
4. 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. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**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.

**Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** 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 non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations 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. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

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

**Syllabus: HISTORY 1301**  
**History of the United States to 1877**  
**South Plains College**  
**Spring 2021**



Instructor: Abel Rios

Office: RC 318B, Reese Campus, Building 3; AD 128, Levelland Campus, Admin. Building

Office Hours: Wed. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Fri. 9:00-1:00 pm; Mon./Wed. 4:00-5:00 pm

(Levelland). To allow for social distancing, I may move a meeting with a student to another location.

E-mail: [arios@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:arios@southplainscollege.edu)

Class Meets: **Monday and Wednesday 1:00-2:15 pm – Levelland Admin. 327 (1301.002)**

**SPC Face Covering Statement:**

It is the policy of South Plains College for the Spring 2021 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation. Students who believe they have been exposed or may be COVID-19 positive, must contact Health Services, DeEtte Edens, BSN (806) 716-2376 or [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu).

**Employee PPE [Personal Protective Equipment] Statement:**

Face shields may be utilized by faculty during a lecture where social distancing (6 feet) can be achieved, but they should not be used as a substitute for a mask when interacting with students in the classroom or throughout the day.

Employees will be required to wear a face mask when social distancing is not achievable.

See the SPC COVID-19 Response website for more information:

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/return-to-campus-plan.php>

## **Required Texts:**

OpenStax College. *U.S. History*

This is a FREE online textbook located here: <https://openstax.org/details/us-history>

If you want to order a hard copy you can do so online or at the South Plains College Bookstore. Here is the ISBN#: 978-1-938168-36-9

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. Please use a recommended browser, like Google Chrome, and sign in with your SPC login information to <http://southplainscollege.blackboard.edu>.

## **Grades:**

*Frederick Douglass* Quiz – 40 points  
Quizzes (3 X 20 points each) – 60 points  
Exam 1 – 100 points  
Exam 2 – 100 points  
Final Exam – 100 points  
Total – 400 points

## **Final Grade:**

**A** (100-90) = 400-360 points  
**B** (89-80) = 359-320 points  
**C** (79-70) = 319-280 points  
**D** (69-60) = 279-240 points  
**F** (59-0) = 239-0 points

## **Course Work Descriptions:**

### **Quizzes**

There will be three quizzes. Each quiz will cover material for the weeks prior to the quiz. For example, the first quiz will cover weeks 1-4, the second quiz will cover weeks 5-9, and the third quiz will cover weeks 10-14. Quizzes will include lecture material and assigned readings.

## **Exams**

There will be three exams also. Each exam will cover material from the weeks prior to the exam and will be the week after the quiz. 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 11-16. Exams will include lecture material and assigned readings. Exams will include multiple choice and fill-in-the blank questions. Also, there will be an essay question.

## ***Frederick Douglass Quiz***

A quiz will be given over *Frederick Douglass* at the end of the semester. See the syllabus for the exact date.

## **South Plains College and Class Policies:**

**Attendance:** 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 instructor.**

- Material relevant to an overall understanding of history as well as material that will appear on examinations will be presented in class, and much of that information may NOT appear in your text or supplemental readings. Material presented in class will NOT be repeated during office hours or any other communication forum such as e-mail.
- FOUR missed assignments (at any time; for any reason) will result in you being dropped from the course.

## **Dropping the course:**

- If you are considering dropping the class you should speak with me first. YOU must drop this course at the SPC Registrar's Office (there is **no online drop system**, so online students must take care of this in person at the Registrar's Office). This is an official procedure which is described in the SPC Catalog. ONLY the student can initiate the drop and it must conform to the procedure for dropping a course. Failure to initiate and finalize the drop procedure will result in an "F" grade on your transcript. The drop cannot be made retroactive. 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 Instructor.
- 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.

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1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill.
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2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given.
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4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage.
5. Taking an examination for another.
6. Altering grade records.
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
8. Rewriting another student's work to the point that the original student's writing is absent.
9. 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, and paste it into a Google search 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 your e-mail within two business days from receipt. I will selectively respond to emails after 5:00 pm and on the weekends. In addition, I am your professor and expect a certain level of respect when addressed via electronic or face-to-face communiqué. Your e-mails should begin with a proper salutation (i.e. Dear/Hello Professor Rios). Informal or familiar language (i.e. “Hey,” “What’s up,” or writing text with no salutation or context) should be avoided when addressing your professor. You should identify yourself and your class. Professors teach several sections and are not always familiar with each student, especially in large sections.

**Classroom Conduct:** All students are expected to act responsibly and respectfully. Below you will find some general guidelines covering some actions that are to be avoided during this course, but as a general rule any behavior that disrupts the class 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.**
- **Students who use their cell phone in class will be counted absent for the class.**
- **Students who disrupt the class may be asked to leave.**

See the “Student Conduct” section within the *South Plains College Student Guide* ([http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=53&navoid=1549#penalties\\_misconduct](http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=53&navoid=1549#penalties_misconduct)).

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

\* *SPC Return to Campus Plan* - To allow for adequate social distancing and to maintain campus safety, the number of students in a physical class will be reduced to approximately 50% of classroom capacity

(<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/SPCReturnToCampusPlans.pdf>.)

## **Course Schedule**

### **Week 1**

Read Chapter 1, *U.S. History*

Wed., January 20 – Introduction. The Pre-Columbian Americas, Europe, and Africa  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

### **Week 2**

Read Chapters 2 & 3, *U.S. History*

Mon., January 25 – Europeans Colonize North America, 1500-1650  
Wed., January 27 – Europeans Colonize North America, 1500-1650  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

### **Week 3**

Read Chapters 3 & 4, *U.S. History*

Mon., February 1 – Establishing the Colonial Societies, 1650-1720  
Wed., February 3 – Establishing the Colonial Societies, 1650-1720  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

### **Week 4**

Read Chapter 5, *U.S. History*

Mon., February 8 – Becoming America: Colonial Life and Religion, 1720-1763  
Wed., February 10 – Becoming America: Colonial Life and Religion, 1720-1763  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Quiz 1** (The first quiz will cover weeks 1-3.)

### **Week 5**

Read Chapter 5, *U.S. History*

Mon., February 15 – A Treaty, Protests, and the Transformation of America, 1754-1774  
Wed., February 17 – A Treaty, Protests, and the Transformation of America, 1754-1774  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Exam 1** (The first exam will cover weeks 1-4.)

### **Week 6**

Read Chapter 6, *U.S. History*

Mon., February 22 – The American Revolutions, 1775-1783  
Wed., February 24 – The American Revolutions, 1775-1783  
See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 7**

Read Chapter 7, *U.S. History*

Mon., March 1 – Federalist America, 1783-1800

Wed., March 3 – Federalist America, 1783-1800

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 8**

Read Chapter 8, *U.S. History*

Mon., March 8 – Jeffersonian America, 1801-1823

Wed., March 10 – Jeffersonian America, 1801-1823

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 9**

Read Chapter 9, *U.S. History*

Mon., March 15 – Race, Slavery, and the South

Wed., March 17 – Race, Slavery, and the South

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Quiz 2** (The second quiz will cover weeks 5-8.)

**Week 10**

Read Chapter 10, *U.S. History*

Mon., March 22 – The Northern Industrial Revolution, 1800-1850

Wed., March 24 – The Northern Industrial Revolution, 1800-1850

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Exam 2** (The second exam will cover weeks 5-9.)

**Week 11**

Read Chapter 11, *U.S. History*

Mon., March 29 – Politics, Expansion, and Slavery in a Democracy, 1824-1860

Wed., March 31 – Politics, Expansion, and Slavery in a Democracy, 1824-1860

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 12**

Read Chapter 12, *U.S. History*

Mon., April 5 – America’s Westward Expansion

Wed., April 7 – America’s Westward Expansion

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 13**

Read Chapter 13, *U.S. History*

Mon., April 12 – The Civil War, 1860-1865

Wed., April 14 – The Civil War, 1860-1865

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Quiz 3** (The third quiz will cover weeks 10-12.)

**Week 14**

Read Chapters 14 & 15, *U.S. History*

Mon., April 19 – The Civil War, 1860-1865

Wed., April 21 – The Civil War, 1860-1865

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**(Make-up day – Assignments will not be accepted after this date)**

**Week 15**

Read Chapter 16, *U.S. History*

Mon., April 26 – Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865-1877

Wed., April 28 – Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865-1877

***Frederick Douglass Quiz***

**Last day to drop course (April 29)**

See *Blackboard* for additional “Course Material.”

**Week 16**

**Final Exam Schedule:**

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

HIST 1301.002 (MW 1:00-2:15 pm):

**Wednesday, May 12 at 10:15 am-12:15 pm (Final Exam)**

