HIST 3301: History of Texas
Fall 2019, Angelo State University
Instructor: Michael Shane Powers, PhD
MWF, 1:00 – 1:50pm
Academic Bldg 227
Email: michael.powers@angelo.edu  Twitter: @Prof_MSPowers
Office Hours: Academic Bldg 239B 2:15 – 4:15pm MW (or by appointment)

Course Description
This course will familiarize students with the history of the region we call ‘Texas’ from the period before European contact until the present. This course will emphasize the cultural encounters, exchanges, and contestations that characterize Texas with a particular emphasis on the social, political, and economic history through which the Lone Star State attained its persistent multiracial and multiethnic character. Students will read a variety of primary and secondary sources that reveal the ways European, indigenous, and African people created and navigated Texas. Additionally, the place of Texas in the growing global context will be emphasized. Thus, the place of Texas in a dynamic transnational setting will be a central theme.

Course Objectives

General

• Critical Thinking: This skill is the process of examining assumptions, discerning hidden values, evaluating evidence, and assessing conclusions. Students will learn an essential vocabulary for critical thinking, how to structure good arguments, and how to evaluate the arguments of others while comprehending contingency, nuance, and the interaction/exchange of ideas.

• Historical Thinking: Thinking historically implies jettisoning our preconceived notions when analyzing other people and ourselves and using contextual information to draw conclusions. For example, when we study human sacrifice among the Mexica (Aztecs), students will see the value in resisting modern moral condemnations — writing the Mexica off as heartless (literally!) murderers. Thinking historically means granting people the benefit of the doubt by casting doubt on our ability to know them as easily as we know ourselves. Thinking historically also means recognizing historical arguments in places where we might not expect to find them (e.g. film, popular culture, news media, politics, etc.) Students will learn the value in recognizing that history is a debate and a dialogue.

• Interpretation of Evidence: Students will learn to analyze primary sources to think about how they reflect the culture, politics, and society from the time in which they were created as well as assessing motivation, bias, and audience.

Specific
To both learn about historical events in the landmass that became Texas and to learn about history as a discipline we will

- Become familiar with the events, people, and ideas in the landmass that became Texas
- Trace how those events, people, and ideas changed over time
- Place Texas history within a comparative and global context
- Understand key historical questions and arguments
- Analyze primary and secondary sources
- Generate a collaborative learning environment

Course Requirements

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Grade Scale

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Course Materials

All required readings will be designated “BB” and posted on Blackboard:
- In other words, you do not have to buy anything to take the course.

Optional Text:
PURCHASE: Top Hat. Students will be required to use Top Hat to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. Visit the Top Hat Overview (https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide) for a brief overview on using the system. Information regarding pricing and Angelo State’s partnership with Top Hat can be found here. Register by simply visiting our course website: https://app.tophat.com/e/975708. Our Course Join Code is 975708.

Plagiarism & Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is utilizing someone else’s writings, ideas, or works without providing due credit or proper citation. Quotation marks and, if instructed by me or in the assignment criteria, footnote/endnote citations should be utilized in order to note the source of a work or idea. If you are unsure about a citation, contact me with your question. Read this helpful tool to avoid common plagiarism pitfalls.

Plagiarism is a serious offense that could result in failure of the course, among other penalties. Submit only original work, complete with proper citations. There is no excuse for plagiarism. It is your responsibility to plan your semester and time effectively to avoid putting yourself in a situation where you might turn to plagiarism. A digital plagiarism detection program (SafeAssign) will be used to check your work.

Academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. It also includes forgery, cheating, signing attendance sheets for another student, and disruptive or disrespectful behavior. Although discussing your work with classmates may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct.

Plagiarism cases will result in a 0 on an assignment for the first offense and a 0 in the entire class for subsequent offenses. In-class forms of plagiarism, such as signing in for another student, will be considered on a case by case basis. All academic integrity violations will be referred to the Executive Director of Student. The Executive Director of Student Affairs will review the case and may impose additional sanctions if warranted as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. Once a student has been notified of an academic integrity allegation, the student may not drop the course until the academic integrity processes are complete. If a student drops or withdraws, the student will be reinstated to the course.

As a core part of its mission, Angelo State University provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Achieving this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail. Each student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University’s Honor Code. You can find a copy of the ASU Student Handbook online at the ASU website (under “Current Students” and “University Publications”) or at the
Student Life Office (located in the University Center). You may view the university’s honor code at the following website:


Exams
Multiple Choice: 40 points
- 20 questions
Essay: 60 points
- One Blue Book-written essay

Semester Project:
Option #1 – Primary Source Project
The Primary Source Project will be based on ASU’s West Texas History Collection. You will work with the archivists to identify a collection of primary sources to use and write a 4-5 page word paper using both primary and secondary sources. Visit the ASU Library website here for tips and help from librarians on how to conduct historical research.

Option #2 – Lesson Plan Project
Texas history is taught in 4th and 7th grade. You must choose a topic in Texas history to write a sample lesson plan for students in one of these grades, but specify which grade you are choosing. Base your lesson on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards. Prepare a 4-5 page narratively written lesson plan that you would use in the classroom for students. This plan must explain what materials you want to use (textbook, websites, primary sources, etc.) in class, how they relate to Texas history standards, what the student learning outcomes would be, and how those outcomes would be assessed.

Class Attendance
Attendance will be recorded for each class. Forgery on an attendance sheet is classified as academic dishonesty.

Students may have up to three unexcused absences without penalty. For each unexcused absence after the first three, I will lower the attendance grade 10%. An entire letter grade for the course will be dropped if a student misses 20% or more of the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to sign the attendance sheet each day they are present for class.

It is important that you come to class on time and you are mentally present in class. You will be marked absent if you: 1) are more than 5 minutes late, 2) use an unsanctioned electronic devise in class 3) leave class before it is over 4) do work for another class or job during our class 5)

I reserve the right to count class participation as attendance credit.
An excused absence is correlated to university sponsored events (ie athletics, conferences, etc.), medical issues, or personal/family emergencies requires both official documentation and email notification within 7 days of the missed class.

**Reading Journals/Discussions**  
At 7 points in the semester, students will be prompted with a discussion question based on a reading and will then respond via Blackboard by the start of class.  
Sufficient notification and specific requirements will be given prior to each Journal prompt. No late Reading Journals will be accepted.

**Top Hat**  
At least once a week, students will answer several questions that will register as that day’s attendance. These quizzes will demonstrate the extent of student comprehension, analysis of course content, and prepare students for exams.

**Late Assignments**  
Unless otherwise noted, Assignments turned in after the due date will be docked one letter grade each 24 hours after the due date.

**Extra Credit**  
All Extra Credit opportunities are due via e-mail by 11:59pm the Friday before your Final Exam

1.) Historical Podcasts  
5 bonus points will be awarded to students who listen to a historical podcast and write a 300 – 350 word response that relates what you saw at the museum to a course topic or theme.

2.) [Fort Concho, San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts](#) or any historically significant site  
5 bonus points will be awarded to students who visit Fort Concho, the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, or any historically significant site, and write a brief response. [Clio](#) is an excellent smartphone app to help connect you to the culture and history around you. A picture of yourself there along with a 300 – 350 word response that relates what you saw to a course topic or theme.

Additional Extra credit assignments are at my discretion. Students will be notified in advance if any opportunities arise.

**Emergency Procedures & Inclement Weather:**  
Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for specific emergencies such as severe weather, active shooter, or fire can be found [here](#).
It is the policy of the university to remain open regardless of weather conditions. However, when inclement weather occurs, designated university officials assess weather and road conditions and decide whether it is necessary to close the offices and cancel classes. If the university remains open, students should make every attempt to get to class within the bounds of personal safety.

It is the student’s responsibility to ascertain whether the university will be open during class times in the event of inclement weather.

**Special Accommodations:**

From the ASU accommodation website: “ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA.”

You are encouraged to make this request within the first week of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Faculty members are not allowed to provide accommodation for a student’s disability needs without approval from the Office of Student Life and requests sometimes take a while to process.

**Exam Makeups**

I reserve the right to handle test make-ups on a case-by-case basis in extenuating circumstances.

There is no make-up exam for Exam #3.

**Electronic Devices:**

Laptops are NOT permitted in class unless for a CEA accommodation. Students must be prepared to take detailed class notes by hand. All cell phones must either be turned off or put into silent mode during class. Smartwatches must be used during class as a watch only. Any student caught texting or engaging in any other form of illicit cell phone activity will be kicked out of class for the day.
Recording and Course Content Restrictions
Audio recording is permitted but requires email permission from the instructor. Video recording is expressly forbidden in any form.

All course content is the professor’s intellectual property and students are strictly prohibited from distributing in any form or fashion Power Points, course notes, study guides, etc. If you violate any of these rules, you will be immediately turned into the Academic Integrity Board, and you will be removed from my class. Your continued enrollment in this class will count as your acceptance of these terms.

Email Etiquette
Adapted from Purdue Writing Owl https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/636/1/

Emails to the instructor, or to anyone in a professional setting, should follow appropriate email etiquette. The following are a few important points to remember when composing an email, particularly when the email's recipient is a superior and/or someone who does not know you.

- Be sure to include a meaningful subject line; this helps clarify what your message is about and may also help the recipient prioritize reading your email
- Just like a written letter, be sure to open your email with a greeting like Dear Dr. Jones, or Ms. Smith:. When e-mailing anyone in an academic position, assume they have a doctorate and address them as Dr. rather than Mr. or Ms. unless you are certain otherwise.
- Use standard spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. Do not write colloquially or in text message lingo – no ttyl or thnx
- Write clear, short paragraphs and be direct and to the point; professionals and academics alike see their email accounts as business. Do not write unnecessarily long emails or otherwise waste the recipient's time
- Be friendly and cordial, but do not try to joke around (jokes and witty remarks may be inappropriate and, more commonly, may not come off appropriately in email)
- Allow for at least 72 hours over business days without a response to send a reminder e-mail. Pestering and insistent e-mails will only hurt your cause.

Course Aids
1.) Student Hours
I am here to help you succeed in this class and in your education. The assignments are not tricks. They are not designed to lower your grade or hurt you. They allow you to apply the skills you have learned in class. If at any time you need help or are wondering about anything, please talk to me! I want to help you succeed. Student hours are a chance for you to get help on homework, go over class or reading material, and talk about some connections between class and other interests you may have. My office is the Academic Building 239B, if you cannot make my scheduled student hours I will be happy to set up an appointment.
2.) Academic Tutoring
Angelo State University provides free tutoring, writing support, and supplemental instruction to all ASU students. The ASU Tutor Center is located in the Library 3rd floor Room 328, 325-486-6369. Students are seen on a walk-in basis, no appointments are necessary. If you cannot make it into the Tutoring Center, you can even schedule an online tutoring session. The Writing Center is staffed by specially selected and trained graduate assistants and peer tutors who offer one-on-one conferences about writing and reading. The Writing Center serves all ASU undergraduate and graduate students. We work with students from any discipline, at any skill level, and on any stage of the writing or reading process. The Writing Center tutors also provide feedback on scholarship, job, or graduate school applications.

Visit ASU’s Academic Tutoring website and the Writing Center website for more information.

3.) Academic Advising
Angelo State University encourages you to attend an advising session to ensure that you are taking courses that will allow you to progress toward graduation.

Visit ASU’s Undergraduate Academic Advising website for more information.

In addition, ASU’s Students with a Goal (SWAG) promotes lifelong student success by providing innovative resources to ASU students. SWAG is committed to helping students picture, plan, prepare, and pursue their academic goals to become successful students and professionals. Visit the SWAG website for more information.

4.) First Generation Programs
ASU’s First Generation Rams program helps students who will be the first in their family to graduate from college. The purpose of the program is to help them make a smooth transition from high school to college life as well as get adjusted to Angelo State University and San Angelo.

The program helps track students’ academic progress and addresses any needs that arise so they stay on the path to graduation. We promote campus involvement and encourage participation at campus events and activities.

Students have the opportunity to be paired with a mentor and have one-on-one or group meetings with the program coordinator. Student workshops are also held periodically to provide more information on academic success topics.

Visit their website and program guide for more information.

5.) Counseling Services
Counseling Services at Angelo State University provides short-term therapy to ASU students. Whether you are suffering from issues like depression, anxiety, adjustment issues, relationship problems, academic concerns, emergencies or trauma, Counseling Services are here to help. Visit their website for more information.

Walk-in counseling hours are available at the University Health Clinic, appointments can be made by calling 325-942-2371, or students can contact the 24/7 ASU Crisis Helpline free of charge at 325-486-6345.

**Personal or Family Emergencies Affecting Academic Performance**
If issues arise that will cause you to miss assignments or substantial portions of class and you would like to request extensions or make-up dates, you must contact me immediately.

In case of an illness requiring an absence from class for more than one week, the student must notify his/her academic dean and/or the Executive Director of Student Affairs before I will allow for significant make-ups. Angelo State University Operating Policy 10.04, Academic Regulations Concerning Student Performance provides complete information regarding class attendance and reporting student illness and emergencies.

**Religious Holy Days:**
Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19 so don’t make stuff up!) must tell me 48 hrs prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe that I determine. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

**Undocumented Students**
I strive to uphold the educational rights of undocumented students. I will not disclose the immigration status of any student who shares this information with me unless required by a judicial warrant, and I will work with students who require immigration-related accommodations as I equally do for students with disability accommodations.

**Title IX at Angelo State University:**
Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment,
nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

**Online:** www.angelo.edu/incident-form

**Face to Face:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

**Phone:** 325-942-2022

**E-Mail:** michelle.boone@angelo.edu

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**University Policies:**

For additional general university policies, consult the university student handbook. Here is a handbook link for you:


**Course Schedule**

Readings and Assignments are organized weekly in the “Weekly Course Content” tab on Blackboard

- **Week 1** – August 26, 28, 30
  - M: Introduction
  - W: The First Texans
  - F: New World Encounters

- **Week 2** – September 2, 4, 6
  - M: NO CLASS - Labor Day Holiday
  - W: Spanish Tejas
  - F: Spanish Tejas

- **Week 3** – September 9, 11, 13
  - M: Spanish Tejas
  - W: Age of Revolutions
F: Age of Revolutions

Week 4 – September 16, 18, 20
M: Mexican Tejas
W: Texas Independence Struggles
F: Texas Independence Struggles

Week 5 – September 23, 25, 27
M: Exam #1
W: Republic of Texas
F: Republic of Texas

Week 6 – September 30, October 2, 4
M: Mexican American War
W: Antebellum Texas
F: Antebellum Texas

Week 7 – October 7, 9, 11
M: Antebellum Texas
W: Texas and the U.S. Civil War
F: Texas and the U.S. Civil War

Week 8 – October 14, 16, 18
M: Texas and the U.S. Civil War
W: Texas and Reconstruction
F: Texas and Reconstruction

Week 9 – October 21, 23, 25
M: Texas and Reconstruction
W: A Frontier Society in Transition
F: A Frontier Society in Transition

Week 10 – October 28, 30, November 1
M: **Exam #2**
W: Texas in the Gilded Age
F: Texas in the Gilded Age

**Week 11 – November 4, 6, 8**
M: Texas in the Progressive Era
W: Texas in the Progressive Era
F: Texas in the Progressive Era

**Week 12 – November 11, 13, 15**
M: Texas, the Great Depression, and the New Deal
W: Texas, the Great Depression, and the New Deal
F: Texas, the Great Depression, and the New Deal

**Week 13 – November 18, 20, 22**
M: WWII, Prosperity, and Modernization
W: WWII, Prosperity, and Modernization
F: WWII, Prosperity, and Modernization

**Week 14 – November 25, 27, 29**
M: **Semester Project Due**
W: NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK
F: NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK

**Week 15 – December 2, 4, 6**
M: Texas in Transition
W: Texas in Transition
F: Into the New Millennium

**Final Exam:** Wednesday, December 11, 1:00 - 3:00pm

**DISCLAIMER**
I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus, including the schedule of assignments, readings, and lecture topics. Make careful note of any changes announced in class and via e-mail.