Instructor: Dr. James Wall  
Office: Academic Building 210C  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 11am-12pm, and by appointment  
Email: james.wall@angelo.edu  
Phone: 325.942.2120

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will explore the development of Texas from its earliest settlements through the twenty-first century. We will focus on the interactions between different peoples—Indians, Spaniards, Frenchmen, Mexicans, Mexican Americans, African Americans—who shaped and reshaped Texas over several centuries. Lectures and readings will concentrate on the broad political, economic, and social development of Texas, while placing the region within larger historical trends that shaped the United States and Mexico. The course is intensive in both reading and writing, focused on developing analytical thinking skills.

REQUIRED TEXTS
There are no required textbooks to purchase for this course. You will, however, have to read. Your required readings will be posted each week to Blackboard to our “Weekly Readings” folder. The readings are essential to success in the course and will be indispensable for performing well on the papers.

Optional Textbook
This optional text is the best one-volume textbook of Texas history available, and I highly recommend it.
ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Grade Breakdown
Exam 1: 16 percent
Exam 2: 16 percent
Exam 3: 16 percent
Paper 1: 16 percent
Paper 2: 16 percent
Quizzes: 10 percent
Participation: 10 percent

Final Grade Scale
A: 100-90
B: 89.99-90
C: 79.99-70
D: 69.99-60
F: 59.99-0

Exams
You will have three exams in this course, each worth 16 percent of your final grade. The exams will include matching/multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

Papers
There will be two paper assignments. For each you will write an analytical essay answering a historical question based on the course readings and using an online archive of digitized historical Texas newspapers and oral history interviews.

- **Late Papers**
  - Any written assignment turned in late will be penalized 5 points (one half letter grade) for every 12 hours past due. If you submit any written work 96 hours (i.e., 4 days) past the due date, or do not submit it at all, you will automatically receive a zero (0) on the assignment.

- **Uploading Papers**
  - Please note that I will only accept electronic submissions of your papers via Blackboard (i.e., do not email me your paper); paper copies are not necessary and will not replace the digital copy that is required for every assignment. Please upload your papers in either .doc or .docx format. If you use OpenOffice or Apple's Pages software, please export your file to one of the approved file types before uploading.

Quizzes
There will be 7 “quizzes” given randomly throughout the semester. These quizzes may be given as in-class reading responses, or as online quizzes via Blackboard. At the end of the semester, your two lowest quiz scores will be dropped. Because you are given these two “freebies,” there will be no make-up quizzes offered for any reason.

Reading Due Dates
If you have readings for the week, they will be posted to Blackboard under the “Weekly Readings” folder by Sunday at 5pm for the upcoming week. You are expected to have those documents read by the beginning of our Thursday class.
Participation
You are expected to be an engaged and active member of the class. After each class period, I will make notes on that session’s participation. The sum total of these notes will determine your class participation grade (which accounts for 10% of your final grade). I will employ the following criteria when determining scores:

- **A**—especially thoughtful and insightful comments on a regular basis
- **B**—good comments and questions on a regular basis
- **C**—good comments and questions but only sporadically
- **D**—rarely offering comments or questions
- **F**—never vocally participating

ATTENDANCE

I expect students to attend and participate at every class session and, accordingly, I will take attendance every day. I will call roll for the first few weeks of class. After that, an attendance sheet will be passed around at the beginning of each class session. Make sure that you sign the sheet, even if you arrive late, or you will be counted as absent for the day.

If you miss class, get notes from a classmate and come to me with any questions after you’ve reviewed the material. I will allow you to have up to four (4) absences without any penalty and you do not need to provide a note or reason that you did not come to class. After four absences, I will begin taking points off your final grade. On the other hand, should you have two or less absences this semester, you will be rewarded.

Please consult the following chart for more details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absences</th>
<th>Consequence for Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>1 percentage point added to final grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Points neither added nor subtracted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>5 percentage points subtracted from final grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9+</td>
<td>1 full letter grade subtracted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every 3 absences after your 9th</td>
<td>Another letter grade subtracted</td>
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</tbody>
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Effort
Your experience in this class will be determined primarily by the amount of effort you put into it. If you do the required reading, attend class regularly, participate regularly in discussions, take good notes, review your notes, develop independent insights into the course material, and treat the in-class writing assignments as opportunities to think critically and carefully, you will receive a grade commensurate with your effort. Please note that on Blackboard I have posted helpful tips on how to take notes, improve your studying, and develop the skills needed to get an A in this class. (See: "How to Get an A" on our Blackboard “Content” page)

Things You Need To Do Outside Of Class
The online home for this class is on Blackboard. This is where I will post announcements, study guides, required readings, and grades. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard at least once a day. You will also be expected to check your university email regularly. Speaking of email...
How To Get In Touch With Me
Email is the best way to get in touch with me. Of course, you may drop by during office hours, but I always prefer that you email me beforehand so I can better prepare for your questions. Between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, I aim to answer student emails within 24 hours. Generally, emails sent after 4:00 p.m. will be answered the followed day. Emails sent over the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be answered on Monday. I will not respond to email on university holidays. If you have not heard from me and 24 hours have passed, you may send the email again and in the subject line put “Second Notice”, “Second Attempt” etc.

Make Up Policy
All students are expected to turn in all assignments on time and attend all exams at their regularly scheduled times. It is vitally important that, in the event you are absolutely unavailable to take an exam, that you inform me prior to the exam. Please note that make-up exams will never be given without a good reason. A “good reason” is essentially limited to University-sanctioned absences, certain overlapping exams, deaths in the family, and severe illness or injury. Additionally, I will require written evidence for a makeup exam which meets the above conditions, and I cannot allow make-ups to accommodate work or vacation schedules, “oversleeping” and missing part/all of an exam, non-functioning alarms, car trouble, etc.

Electronics Policy
There will be no laptop or cell phone usage allowed during class. If you have a disability that requires usage of a laptop computer, contact the Office of Student Affairs (studentaffairs@angelo.edu) and have them furnish written documentation stating your required need.

Disruptive Behavior
I have the right and responsibility to maintain classroom order and to make public or private requests that you refrain from any actions that I regard as disruptive behavior. If you disrupt class, I may ask you to leave, mark you absent, and penalize you for work missed as a result of that absence. This includes disruptions caused by devices such as laptops, tablets, and cell phones. Ask permission before using such devices in class, use them only in class-appropriate ways, and silence them while class is in session.

HELP OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Office Hours
No one ever comes to office hours, it’s sad. And yet, they can be incredibly helpful. I’m in my office every day from 11am-12pm (and by appointment, just email me to find a different time), ready to answer any questions about course policies, help fill in the blanks from the notes you just took, provide a nudge in the right direction when you’re confused about a term on a study guide or a requirement on an assignment, to look at first, second, or third drafts of an essay, or to discuss how to improve on future test scores. Whatever it is, I’m here. I highly encourage every student to visit during office hours early on in the semester to introduce yourself so I can put a face with a name and answer any questions you may have about the course.
**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 (located in the Porter Henderson Library, Room 324) 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Exemplary Educational Objectives for Social and Behavioral Sciences

The objective of a social and behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase student knowledge of how social scientists discover, describe, and explain the interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will allow you:

• To examine historical processes across a range of time periods and cultures
• To analyze the effects of social, political, economic, and global forces on this nation
• To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world
• To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course you should be able to:

• Identify, explain, and contextualize key figures, events, and trends in Texas history.
• Place the evolution of Texas within the larger context of the development of the United States and Mexico.
• Analyze historical information, evidence, and arguments.
• Conduct historical research and write an effective analytical essay.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft. In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.
ASU Student Handbook
The ASU Student Handbook contains important information about campus services, programs, policies, and procedures, including such areas as the campus disciplinary rules and the Academic Honor Code. All students are expected to be familiar with this publication and to comply with the policies contained therein, among them maintaining complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits according to the Academic Honor Code. The ASU Student Handbook is available via the ASU website at https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/. Large print versions are available in the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
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. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Absences for Religious Holy Days
“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Texas Tax Code 11.20. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. A student who is excused under Section 2 may not be penalized for the absence; however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.
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

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

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

CLASS SCHEDULE

*Changes to the Syllabus/Schedule*
The course syllabus and schedule are subject to change. When such changes occur, I will notify you as far in advance as practical and, if applicable, will explain how the changes will affect the calculation of your final grade. If you miss class time, it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate and find out if you missed any announced changes to the syllabus or important deadlines while you were away.

Week 1: Beginnings, Explorers, Settlers (January 14, January 16)

Week 2: Indian Country (January 21, January 23)

Week 3: Mexico’s Far North (January 28, January 30)

Week 4: Revolution and Republic (February 4, February 6)

Week 5: Annexation and The Mexican War (February 11, February 13)
  • EXAM 1 in class on February 13th

Week 6: Slavery and Expansion (February 18, February 20)

Week 7: Secession and Civil War (February 25, February 27)
Week 8: Reconstruction and Redemption (March 3, March 5)
  • PAPER 1 due on March 5

Week 9: SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS (March 10, March 12)

Week 10: Cattle Drives and Indian Wars (March 17, March 19)

Week 11: Cotton, Farmers, Rebellion (March 24, March 26)
  • EXAM 2 in class March 26th

Week 12: Oil, Cities, Reform (March 31, April 2)

Week 13: Great Depression and New Deal (April 7, April 9)

Week 14: World War II and Texas Transformed (April 14, April 16)
  • PAPER 2 due April 16th

Week 15: Civil Rights in Black and Brown (April 21, April 23)

Week 16: Modern Texas (April 28, April 30)

EXAM 3: TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1-3 PM (IN OUR REGULAR ROOM)