Hist 1301: United States History to 1865.

“Not to know what happened before one was born is always to be a child.” Cicero, ca. 80 B.C.

“If you know your history, then you would know where you’re coming from. Then you wouldn’t have to ask me, ‘Who the hell do I think I am?’” Bob Marley’s “Buffalo Soldier” from Confrontation, 1983.

History 1301, Sec 070
Room: A 221
MWF: 1:00-1:50pm

Dr. Jason Pierce
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Office A210B
Office Hours: MTWThF: 10:00am-11:00am
Or by appointment

Course Objectives
The discovery and settlement of the New World was one of the most important events in world history. In 1492 the entire continent of North America belonged solely to indigenous peoples, but gradually they lost control of their lands before the onslaught of European invasion. Eventually, a new nation emerged, a nation founded on ideas of liberty and individual freedom. But freedom was only given to whites, and millions of African-Americans lived as slaves until the Civil War and American Indians fought to hang on to their land and culture against the new expanding nation. Always there is a tension in America between its ideals and the sometimes unpleasant legacy of the past. While no survey can possibly include every aspect of U.S. history, this class will attempt to introduce students to the most important events in U.S. history, and it will provide some perspective on where we have been as a people and how we got where we are today. The class will be set up as primarily a lecture class. At the end of this syllabus you will find a tentative schedule. We may, or may not, actually stick to this, but it will give you an idea of what to expect.

Format
Because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, this course will be taught in a hybrid format. PowerPoints and online lectures explaining the PowerPoints will be posted to Blackboard weekly. In addition, textbook chapters will also be posted to supplement the PowerPoints and lectures from the American Yawp (http://www.americanyawp.com)

The class will be broken into two groups. Group 1 will meet in the classroom on Wednesday and Group 2 will meet in the classroom on Friday. Monday will be set aside
to watch the online lectures and PowerPoints as well as to prepare for the face to face sessions on Wednesday and Friday. Face to face class time will be used to discuss readings, lectures, and for tests.

Students who opt to attend fully online (for example, if students are required to quarantine or have opted to attend online for health reasons) will be provided online opportunities to contribute to discussions and to take alternative assignments online.

Above all else: **If you feel sick, stay home.** I’m happy to help you catch up if you miss a day for illness.

Seating Chart: A seating chart will be required. This is so ASU can conduct contact tracing of potentially infected students rather than as an attendance tracking tool.

**Covid-19 and Face Masks**
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](#) to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

**Wellness Check**
Students must fill out the wellness check daily. It is available on Ramport or the ASU App. Please take a photo of your daily app as you’ll be asked to display it to enter the buildings.

**Provision to move course online.** Depending on the situation, Angelo State may be required to move all courses online. The instructor may modify class requirements or format as necessary should this occur.

The course may also go online if the instructor is infected with COVID-19 and isolated or forced to quarantine from having been in proximity with a positive case.

**Assignments and Grades**
Your final grade for this class will be based on three in-class exams, and weekly discussions and responses of primary source readings (total of 100 points). The exams will be multiple choice and essay. The first two tests will each be worth 100 points and the final worth 200 points. A study guide will be provided.
The readings and discussions. Students must bring in a roughly one page reaction to the primary source readings. Students will turn these in following the discussion. Each reading is worth 10 points (5 points for written work and 5 points for discussion) for a semester total of 100 points.

Grading Scale:
500-450 = A
449-400 = B
399-350 = C
349-300 = D
299 and below = F

Required Readings
Provided on Blackboard.
Optional Free Online Textbook: American Yawp (http://www.americanyawp.com)

Inclement Weather Policy
Basically, if the university if closed, we won’t have class.

Makeup of Exams
You must come to me within two class days to schedule a makeup exam or you will receive a zero.

Plagiarism
Cheating of any sort will not be tolerated, and cheaters will automatically fail this class and be reported to the administration.

The Learning Environment
Please be courteous to your classmates and respectful during discussions. Wear your mask and do your part to help us get through this trying time.

Students with Disabilities
Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to their implementation. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Instructor reserves the right to change or alter the syllabus as necessary.

Helpful Links

Advising: https://www.angelo.edu/dept/advising/ Be sure to set up an advising appointment when advising for Spring begins.
Counseling Services: https://www.angelo.edu/services/counseling/index.php
Confidential Counseling is provided to all students free of charge.

Student Handbook: https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/ Outlines the policies students need to know

Title IX: https://www.angelo.edu/services/title-ix/ 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:

www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022 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.

Tutoring Center: https://www.angelo.edu/dept/freshman-college/academic-tutoring.php

Questions?
Please feel free to contact me or stop by during my office hours.

Student Learning Outcomes: History 1301
This course will examine American history from the colonial era through the Civil War. We will study the ethnic, cultural, religious, racial, and class foundations of American society and politics. Students will demonstrate the Core competency requirement for Critical Thinking Skill. The Student Learning Outcomes for Critical Thinking Skills are explicated below. Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills–Student Learning Outcomes will be by a standardized pre- and (embedded) post-test, as well as by a writing rubric, included at the end of this syllabus.
• Students will be able to analyze cause and effect in the history of the United States to the Civil War.
• Students will be able to analyze the relationship among American economics, politics, demography, and social structure to 1865.
• Students will be able to construct an in-class essay which synthesizes assigned readings and lectures into a coherent, fact-based narrative that demonstrates critical thinking skills.
Tentative Class Schedule.
Week 1 (August 17-21) America before contact and Spanish Exploration
    Face to Face: Reading 1: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 2 (August 24-28)
    Jamestown and English Colonization
    Face to Face: Reading 2: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 3 (August 31-Sept 4)
    The New England Colonies
    Face to Face: Reading 3: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 4 (Sept 7-11)
    University is closed on Monday, September 7th for Labor Day.
    Great War for Empire and Pontiac’s Rebellion
    Face to Face: Test Review

Week 5 (Sept 14-18)
    Test 1: Group 1: Wednesday
            Group 2: Friday

Week 6 (Sept 21-25)
    Growing Colonial Resentment and Intolerable Acts
    Face to Face: Reading 5: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 7 (Sept 28-Oct. 2)
    The American Revolution
    Face to Face: Test Review and Discussion

Week 8 (Oct. 5-9)
    Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.
    Test 2:
        Group 1: Wednesday
        Group 2: Friday

Week 9 (Oct. 12-16)
    Washington, Adams, Jefferson
    Face to Face: Reading 6: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 10 (Oct. 19-23)
    War of 1812
    Face to Face: Reading 7: See Blackboard for the week’s reading
Week 11 (Oct. 26-30)
   Andrew Jackson and Jacksonian America
   Face to Face: Reading 8: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 12 (Nov. 2-6)
   Slavery and American Society
   Face to Face: Reading 9: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 13 (Nov 9-13)
   The Politics of Slavery and Western Expansion
   Face to Face: Reading 10: See Blackboard for the week’s reading

Week 14 (Nov 16-20)
   The Civil War
   Face to Face: Final Review and Discussion

Final Exam: Monday, November 23rd, 1:00pm