Welcome!
Welcome to HIST 1301! I am very excited to work with you this semester as we learn about the history of the United States to 1865. I look forward to hearing your ideas and the different perspectives you will bring. I know that you are all smart, capable people, and I will do everything I can to help you succeed in this course. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to share something with me, please get in touch. —Dr. Dickmeyer
Course Description
The survey focuses on the major themes, ideas, attitudes, institutions, and elements that are part of the early American national development both before and after the American Revolution and through the American Civil War. We will study the combustible mixing of three cultural groups–Indian, European, and African–in these early centuries and trace their influence on the formation of a single country that emerged in 1776. From there, we will explore the westward development of the nation, the influx of immigrants, and the debate over slavery, which eventually resulted in the bloody American Civil War.

A major goal of this course is to introduce you to historical thinking, which is evidence-based critical thinking. We will be doing this mostly through the analysis of primary sources (documents created at the time under study). The techniques you will learn will serve you well in any situation that requires you to think critically about a text or image.

Course Credits
3 credits

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
None

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, opening PDF files, and proficiency with Microsoft Word are expectations of this course.

Student Learning Outcomes
By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:
- Gain a basic understanding of major time periods and themes in US history
- Analyze primary sources (documents and artifacts created at the time under study) and see historical events from multiple, diverse perspectives
- Identify the significance of specific historical events

Course Delivery
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will be hybrid, meaning there will be both in-person and online components.
Lectures, readings, and other materials delivered online via Blackboard.

During weekly face-to-face meetings, discussions of primary sources, assigned reading, and/or lectures will reinforce online lectures. Half of the students will attend Monday in-person meetings, and the other half will attend Wednesday in-person meetings. There are no Friday meetings. The instructor will inform you via email and will post on Blackboard which day you are to attend.

Texts and Materials
I will provide you with materials to be analyzed during weekly class meetings. For reference and those unable to attend, all materials used in class will be uploaded to the week’s page on Blackboard.

The recommended, optional textbook for the course is *American Yawp*. It is available for free online at [http://www.americanyawp.com/](http://www.americanyawp.com/). This textbook is intended as a reference to reinforce material covered in class meetings.

Technology Requirements
To successfully complete this course, students need to have access to a computer to read emails and course announcements, access Youtube videos, open and read PDF files, and use a Word processor to compose assignments and exams.

To participate in one of ASU’s distance education programs, you need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
• Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: [Angelo State University's Distance Education Website](#)

## Communication

I will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section in the subject line and/or body of your email.

**In-person office hours:** In-person office hours will be held as long as in-person class meetings are taking place. Please see the time and place at the top of this document.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours and/or advising may be done via telephone (325-942-2325) or Zoom. Please email or speak with me in person to arrange a Zoom meeting.

## Grading

### Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent/Points of Total Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly In-Class Discussions/Make-Up Assignments</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Online Quizzes over Online Lectures</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Choose Your Own Adventure” Assignment</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grading System
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 89.5-100%
- B = 79.5-89.4%
- C = 69.5-79.4%
- D = 59.5-69.4%
- F = 0-59.4%

Please see the “Weighted Total” column on Blackboard for your updated grade in this course.

Teaching Strategies
Students are expected to view lectures and complete assigned readings before meeting in person. In-person meetings will be used to discuss these materials and do activities.

If you have questions about the content, please feel free to email those to the instructor at laurie.dickmeyer@angelo.edu and/or raise them during in-person discussion.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions
*Please note: Additional instructions and rubrics for all assignments and activities will be posted to Blackboard.

Weekly In-Class Discussions/Online Assignment (26%): Most weeks we will have in-person discussions about primary sources and/or online lecture material. In the event that you are unable to attend a particular in-person meeting, you may complete the make-up assignment for credit. Make-up assignments for the week are posted Wednesday afternoons and are due Sundays.

If you feel that you will be unable or would prefer not to attend in-person meetings, you may opt to take this course online at any point in the semester. Please let me know if this is your intention.

One in-person meeting or its online assignment equivalent can be skipped without penalty. This is a completion grade, so if you are present and actively participating, you will receive full credit. (Or alternatively, if you complete the make-up assignment, you will receive full credit for that particular week.)

Weekly Quizzes (26%): Each week there will be an online quiz (multiple-choice), which will include questions that will test your comprehension of the week’s lecture(s). If submitting your
quiz on-time, you will have two opportunities to take the quiz. You may want to do so because of technical difficulties or to have a chance to improve your grade. If you are submitting your quiz late, you will only receive one opportunity to take it.

**Exams (12% each x 3 = 36% total):** There will be three exams throughout the semester. These exams will be based on the material covered in lectures and activities from discussions. The best way to prepare for these exams is to review the learning goals of each lecture and discussion. Running study guides (updated weekly) will be provided on Blackboard. The format of the exam will include both multiple-choice and essay questions.

**Choose Your Own Adventure Assignment (12%):** This assignment is called "Choose Your Own Adventure" because you have several options for exploring an aspect of US history before 1865. You will be submitting a reflection paper of 400-600 words along with images documenting the activity. More information, including your options for this assignment, is available on the Blackboard website.

**Extra Credit Assignment (+1% each; for a total of +5% possible)** Listen to an episode from the podcast *Ben Franklin’s World* ([benfranklinsworld.com](http://benfranklinsworld.com)) from the past year (no episodes earlier than Episode 269) and write a half page summary (roughly 150 words) of what you learned and any thoughts you have about it. Does it raise any questions for you or make you reconsider anything you know about early American history? You may repeat this assignment with different episodes. Please email your extra credit assignments to me at laurie.dickmeyer@angelo.edu by Thurs., May 13, 11:59 pm. I will include an extra credit column in Gradebook with the extra credit points earned and add them manually to your final grade percentage at the end of the semester. You may only submit extra credit assignments if you are up-to-date with the main assignments of the course.

**Assignment Submission**
All assignments (except extra credit) must be submitted through the Assignment Submission link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes.

Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at laurie.dickmeyer@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets me know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.
Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

All due dates are posted on this syllabus and any revisions to this schedule will be announced via email and will be changed on the Blackboard “Course Schedule” page.

If you believe you will be unable to complete an assignment on time, please email me, and we can arrange for an extension.

Note: I want to emphasize that I realize that you all have lives outside of this class, and we are living through a particularly tough time, so please get in touch if anything comes up.

Supplemental Instructor (SI)

This course has a supplemental instructor, Sabrina Rankin (srankin2@angelo.edu). She has sat in on my HIST 1301 and 1302 classes several times now and is an excellent student of history. She is also a kind and patient supplemental instructor, who excels at explaining history simply and clearly. If you feel like you need additional support (and want to receive some extra credit toward your exams), she will be available to help you. Please see Blackboard for more details!

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Hybrid: This class is hybrid, meaning you there will be a weekly in-person class meeting paired with online coursework. There are readings and videos which you will have to view to be able to adequately participate in individual assignments and weekly discussions. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities, i.e. exams, in-class discussions/make-up assignments, online quizzes, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will

1. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials. For planning purposes, this class will probably require 6-9 study hours per week on average.

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University

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.

History Department Statement on Plagiarism & Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is utilizing someone else’s writings, ideas, or works without providing due credit or proper citation. Plagiarism is literary theft. 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 or visit this helpful website to avoid common plagiarism pitfalls. 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 (e.g. SafeAssign or Turn-it-in) will be used to check your work. Be intentional about submitting original work, complete with proper citations.

Academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. Academic dishonesty might also include copying somebody else's work, submitting somebody else's work as your own, failing to cite sources, or signing another student into class. Although discussing your work with classmates
may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct.

*The History Department’s policy is that violations of the academic honor code 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, and I reserve the right to fail violators from this course on their first violation in egregious cases of misconduct. All academic integrity violations will be referred to the Executive Director of Student Affairs, who 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.

**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](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/). 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

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3 [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
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.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

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.

Syllabus Changes
The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email and/or course announcements. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

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

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4 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
5 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of
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](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: 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](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

**Course Schedule**

**Note:** The topic titles for each week corresponds with chapters from the optional textbook American Yawp ([http://www.americanyawp.com/](http://www.americanyawp.com/)).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic/Readings/Assignments/Assessments DUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan. 25/27</td>
<td><strong>Course Introduction</strong>&lt;br&gt;● Jan. 31: Student Survey due</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Feb. 1/3</td>
<td><strong>Indigenous America</strong>&lt;br&gt;● Jan. 31: Week 2 Quiz due</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>Feb. 8/10</td>
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<td>Feb. 15/17</td>
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<td>Feb. 22/24</td>
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<td>May 3/5</td>
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**Grading Rubrics**

Grading Rubrics will be made available on the Blackboard website.

**Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course**

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

The evaluation for this course will be weighted to evaluate the success in acquiring the following skills:

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Developing knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, or other cultures

*End of Syllabus!*