

## **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 106

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**

This class will be in a traditional face to face format. I will post the PowerPoints online, roughly weekly. In addition, textbook chapters will also be posted to supplement the PowerPoints and lectures from the *American Yawp* (<http://www.americanyawp.com>). Students who are required to isolate can follow the class via the PowerPoints and the readings in the online textbook.

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

## **Angelo State Covid-19 Guidelines**

<https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>

### **Wellness Check**

Students must fill out the wellness check daily. It is available on Ramport or the ASU App.

**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 the journal of primary source readings discussions and responses of primary source readings. 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. Students will write an approximately one-page reaction to each journal entry, and turn the journal in twice a semester.

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

### **Assignments**

Test I: Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

First half of journals due Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

Test II: Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Second half of journals due Friday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>.

Final Exam: Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm

### **Required Readings**

Provided on Blackboard.

Optional Free Online Textbook: American Yawp (<http://www.americanyawp.com>)

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

Basically, if the university is closed, we won't have class. Check your email on bad weather days to see what the status of the university is.

### **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 Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

[www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022 michelle.miller@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).

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

**Religious Holidays.** Students may miss a day of class to observe a religious holiday, provided they inform the instructor in advance that they will be missing class.

### **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 23-27). America before contact and Spanish Exploration**

**Read American Yawp Chapter 1: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/01-the-new-world/>**

**Week 2 (August 30-Sept. 3)**

**Jamestown and English Colonization**

**Read American Yawp, Chapter 3: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/03-british-north-america/>**

**Week 3 (Sept. 6-10)**

**The New England Colonies**

**Read American Yawp, Chapter 4: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/04-colonial-society/>**

**Week 4 (Sept 13-17)**

**University is closed on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day.**

**Great War for Empire and Pontiac's Rebellion**

**Test I: Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Week 5 (Sept 20-24)**

**Growing Colonial Resentment and Intolerable Acts**

**Week 6 (Sept 27-Oct. 1)**

**The American Revolution**

**First section of journals due Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Week 7 (Oct. 4-Oct. 8)**

**The American Revolution**

**American Yawp, Chapter 5: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/05-the-american-revolution/>**

**Week 8 (Oct. 11-15)**

**Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.**

**American Yawp, Chapter 6: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/06-a-new-nation/>**

**Test II: Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Week 9 (Oct. 18-22)**

**Washington, Adams, Jefferson**

**Week 10 (Oct. 25-29)**

**War of 1812**

**Week 11 (Nov. 1-5)**

**Andrew Jackson and Jacksonian America**

American Yawp, Chapter 11: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/11-the-cotton-revolution/>

**Week 12 (Nov. 8-12)**

**Slavery and American Society**

American Yawp, Chapter 13: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/13-the-sectional-crisis/>

**Week 13 (Nov 15-19)**

**The Politics of Slavery and Western Expansion**

**Second half of journals due Friday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>.**

American Yawp, Chapter 14: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/14-the-civil-war/>

**Week 14 (Nov 22-26)**

**The Civil War**

**Thanksgiving Holiday: No class Wednesday or Friday**

**Week 15: (Nov. 29-Dec 3rd)**

**TBD**

**Final Exam: Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm**