HIST 1301: A History of the United States to 1877  
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COURSE INFORMATION  
Course Number: HIST 1301  
Texas Coordinating Board Number: 54.0102.51 25  
Credit Hours: 3 (3 Lecture)  
Class Location: http://ecampus11.dcccd.edu  
Drop Date: As provided in the academic calendar of the term in which you are enrolled.  
Course Title: A History of the United States to 1877

COURSE DESCRIPTION  
United States History I (History 1301) is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Age of Exploration to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. This first half of American history includes the colonial, revolutionary and early national periods, and such major issues as Jacksonian democracy, sectionalism, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Themes that may be addressed in the course include American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration, the sectional controversy, and the creation and evolution of the federal government.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES  
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:  
1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence  
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources  
5. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of American history.

DCCCD CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES  
Knowledge and Understanding—to diffuse knowledge of the subject at hand so as to refute error, combat ignorance, and understand concepts, relationships between situations, choices, intention or goal, results and consequences, reception or effect, and significance.  
Critical Thinking Skills—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information  
Communication—to include effective written, oral, and visual communication  
Social Responsibility - to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

SPECIFIC COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The primary goal of this course is to increase your knowledge and understanding of how and why the United States came to be what it is today. In doing so, you will develop habits of critical thinking that will allow you to live more competent and interesting lives in your local communities and in the nation at large.

The competencies, objectives, and learning outcomes will be accomplished through the use of reading assignments, video programs, instructor/student interaction, written assignments, projects, and examinations.

After successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Examine the social, political, and economic developments in the major colonial regions in North America.
2. Analyze and explain the social, economic, and political causes and consequences of the American Revolution.
3. Describe and evaluate the political, diplomatic, social, and economic developments occurring in the United States during its early national period.
4. Describe and assess the significant causes and consequences of the Civil War and Reconstruction.
5. Apply historical perspective to contemporary issues in the United States.
6. Assess the significance of geography in shaping America to 1877.
7. Analyze the meanings of freedom, equality, and American identity to 1877.

READING MATERIALS

It is utterly and absolutely imperative that you acquire the following book:


OR


NOTE: You must obtain either the 6th or 7th edition of this book above Volume 1. Do not buy a concise or value edition as the pagination for the reading assignments will be completely different.
COURSE OUTLINE and DUE DATES FOR EXAMINATIONS

This course is divided into four units over which there will be a 60 question multiple choice exam. The units are as follows:

UNIT I: COLONIAL AMERICA TO 1760 – "A CITY ON A HILL?"
Lessons 1-6
Short Written Analysis: Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus
Test I: Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus

UNIT II: REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA, 1754–1801 – "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL?"
Lessons 7-12
Test II: Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus

UNIT III: AMERICA IN TRANSITION, 1801–1848 – "AMERICAN DEMOCRACY?"
Lessons 13-17
Test III: Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus

UNIT IV: AMERICA IN CRISIS, 1848–1877 – "A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM?"
Lessons 18-25
Test IV: Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus

Notice the deadlines above. If you fail to take an examination by the deadline provided, you will not take that test at all.

*Specific Lesson Assignments are indicated in eCampus under the tab that reads LESSONS. There you will find video lessons from the series “Shaping America” and the specific reading assignments from the textbook American Promise that you will read before and after you take copious notes and think deeply about each video lesson.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

These include four exams based upon your knowledge and understanding of the assigned readings from the textbook American Promise, Volume ONE 6th edition. Be sure that you buy VOLUME ONE and the 6th Edition of this textbook. In addition to the textbook, you will also watch the video series entitled “Shaping America” from the direct link that you can access from the LESSONS tab. This will supplement what you read in the textbook to clarify major points and developments in American history.

Moreover, you will submit one short written analysis. That assignment is provided further down in the syllabus.

EXAMINATIONS

These Tests will be available to you through E-CAMPUS. You will have exactly 60 minutes to take each of these 60 question multiple choice exams. Each question is worth 1.7 points.

Exams are not open-book or open-note. You may not expect to read your textbook as you take the test. You will not have enough time. You must master the material—that is, notes you take based on your reading of the textbook and notes that you take when watching video lessons from “Shaping America.” Try to synthesize the two.

Also, you may not hit the back key when you take a test; you may not hit the forward key; you may not minimize a window; you may not maximize a window; you may not open up another window; you may not look at e-mails; you may not open up another program. In other words, the only thing you may do as you take an exam is to answer each question and hit submit. That is it.

NOTE: For every 5 minutes which you take past the 60 minute deadline, you will see 5 points deducted from you final score.

NOTE: What happens if you fail to take a test by the deadline? You will not take the test at all, and you will forfeit that ENTIRE percentage of your grade. Which is why, if you are smart, you will take each test ahead of time in the event of some emergency-like, your computer crashing, the "system" (any system) going down, etc.

GRADE CALCULATIONS

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

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GRADE SCALE
A (superior work) = 90 & above; B (pretty good) = 80-89; C (average) = 70-79; D (unsatisfactory) = 60-69; F (failure) = 59 and below.

SHORT WRITTEN ANALYSIS
You will find under the LESSONS tab under Unit One COLONIAL AMERICA TO 1760 in a PDF File excerpts from a critique written by a Dominican friar who attacked the Spanish for their abuse of native peoples. You will read additionally an official response on behalf of the King of Spain entitled the Requerimiento in which the Spanish crown (the government) offers a justification for Spain’s conquest.

Write on a word processor a short paper of between one to two pages in which you explain what you think about the critique that the friar made? To what extent are you surprised that anyone came out and criticised Spanish abuses of native peoples?

What do you think about the Spanish government’s response offered up on behalf of King Ferdinand? What do you think about how the King’s justification for conquest was framed?

How might a native person like Montezuma have responded to the Requerimiento?

I want to see your reactions, thoughts, and analysis.

WHEN IS YOUR SHORT WRITTEN ANALYSIS DUE?

No LATER THAN:  Due dates are posted in the syllabus available on e-campus

You are expected to e-mail papers to me in Microsoft Word on time. No late paper can be accepted unless you discuss with me why the paper might be late prior to its due date. Such a paper will be penalized 10 points for each day in which it is late.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
The fact that you are taking an on-line course does not at all exempt you from North Lake College's policies. This includes-among all other policies-North Lake's policy on Academic Dishonesty. The Student Code of Conduct prohibits academic dishonesty and prescribes penalties for violations. According to this code, which is printed in the college catalog, "academic dishonesty", includes (but is not limited to) cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and collusion".

Academic dishonesty may result in the following sanctions, including, but not limited to:
1. A grade of zero or a lowered grade on the assignment or course. (In this course, your total course grade will be lowered to an F)
2. A reprimand.
3. Suspension from the College.

More information is available at: http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0406/ss/code.cfm

INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES
Institutional policies for your course can be located at http://www.northlakecollege.edu/syllabipolicies

WITHDRAWAL POLICY
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by the date provided at the very top of this document. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F."

If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a "W" (Withdraw) in each class dropped.

DISCLAIMER
This syllabus is a set of guidelines for HIST 1301, U.S. History to 1877. The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this class. The intent of the instructor is to promote the best education possible within prevailing conditions affecting this class. You are responsible for contacting the instructor and seeking clarification of any requirement that is not understood.

LATE WORK POLICY
This is not a self-paced class. You MUST keep up with the work in the class. Students have the responsibility to complete all requirements on time. With respect to book journals, I repeat that no late paper can be accepted unless you discuss with me why the paper might be late prior to its due date. Such a paper will be penalized 10 points for each day in which it is late. With respect to examinations, please see the note above under EXAMINATIONS.

E-CAMPUS
The Dallas County Community College District uses eCampus as the software platform for facilitating communication among students and the instructor in this course. Course announcements, documents, tests, grades, and other information will be posted on

It is your responsibility to become familiar with eCampus and check it regularly. Go to the web site and follow the procedures indicated. Please note that if you have trouble with eCampus, you must call technical support at 1-866-374-7169 or 972-669-6402.