

# **HISTORY 2301**

## **Texas History**

**W 12:30-1:45pm (Section 902-11417)**  
**Classroom Hall 203**  
**Texas A&M University-San Antonio**  
**Fall 2025**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Dolph Briscoe IV

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**OFFICE TELEPHONE:** (210) 784-2211

**OFFICE HOURS:** Central Academic Building 313J, Mondays, 2:00-4:00pm, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:00pm, and by appointment.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a study of the history of Texas. It examines the major developments in the political, economic, social, and cultural history of Texas and its people from pre-colonial times to the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Evaluate the major political, economic, social, and cultural developments in Texas history.
2. Conduct research in primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
4. Learn to create a thesis argument through the use of historical evidence.
5. Develop analytical writing skills.

**COURSE METHODOLOGY:** This course is classified as hybrid or blended instructional method, meaning that it consists of both face to face and online elements.

### **COURSE READINGS:**

Robert Calvert, Arnolde De León, and Gregg Cantrell, *The History of Texas*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

Char Miller, *San Antonio: A Tricentennial History*.

(Both books are available electronically through the University Library.)

**COURSE GRADING:** The grading scale for this course will be 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 60 and below=F

Midterm Exam:	30%
Final Exam:	30%
Map Quiz:	10%
<i>San Antonio</i> Book Essay:	10%
Discussion Board:	10%
Participation:	10%

Grades for course assignments will be posted on Blackboard.

**EXAMS:** There will be two exams in this course: a midterm and a final. Exams will consist of two short essay questions. The instructor will provide a list of study questions for each exam and post them on Blackboard. On the exam day, the instructor will select three or four of the study questions for the test, and students will then choose two questions from these to answer. Students will need to bring a blue or green book to write their exam answers. Exams will cover information from lectures, readings, assignments, and class discussions. Make-up exams only are allowed for emergencies such as debilitating illness, a death in the immediate family, and religious or school functions. In any case, documentation must be provided in order for the student to be allowed a make-up exam.

**MAP QUIZ:** In order to secure a better understanding of the geography of Texas, students will complete a map quiz. The instructor will provide a blank map of Texas and a list of key places and features to label. Make-up map quizzes only are allowed for emergencies such as debilitating illness, a death in the immediate family, and religious or school functions. In any case, documentation must be provided in order for the student to be allowed a make-up exam.

Students should be prepared to identify:

Cities: Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, College Station, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Houston, Laredo, Lubbock, McAllen, Midland, Nacogdoches, Odessa, San Angelo, San Antonio, Texarkana, Tyler, Waco, Washington-on-the-Brazos, Wichita Falls

Rivers: Rio Grande, Pecos, Nueces, San Antonio, Guadalupe, Colorado, Brazos, Trinity, Neches, Sabine, Red, Canadian

Geographic Features: Balcones Escarpment, Big Bend Park, Chihuahuan Desert, Davis Mountains, Edwards Plateau, Gulf of Mexico, Llano Estacado, Permian Basin, Rio Grande Valley, Trans-Pecos

**SAN ANTONIO BOOK ESSAY:** Students will complete a critical book essay of *San Antonio: A Tricentennial History* by Char Miller in class. The instructor will provide students with an

essay prompt at the beginning of class. The short essay will be completed within the first 30 minutes of class, with time following devoted to discussing the book. Students will need to bring paper and pens to class. The essay should include a strong thesis statement supported by evidence from the text to illustrate the student has completed the assigned book. Make-up essays only are allowed for emergencies such as debilitating illness, a death in the immediate family, and religious or school functions. In any case, documentation must be provided in order for the student to be allowed a make-up essay.

**DISCUSSION BOARD:** By the beginning of class each week, students will submit a short response to a post created by the instructor on a Blackboard discussion forum. Students should provide thoughtful replies and engage with previous insights posted by their classmates. Replies submitted late will not be accepted.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY AND PARTICIPATION:** Punctual and regular attendance is required. The instructor highly encourages students to attend each class meeting, as exams will include material from both lectures and the textbook. Students should read the noted chapter for each day before the class meeting. The instructor will base students' participation grades upon attendance, involvement in class discussions, and access of online materials.

**STUDENT MISCONDUCT:** Appropriate conduct is essential to the effective functioning of the University. University policy defines unacceptable conduct, both academic and non-academic misconduct, and penalties for such behavior in The Student Handbook and The Student Code of Conduct.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY:** Students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic Dishonesty for which a student is subject to penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submissions, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, and ethical misconduct. This includes holding other students to the same standards and reporting any incidents of alleged violation of the honesty policy to the instructor involved or, if necessary, to the appropriate academic department head. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Dishonesty Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook.

University policy prescribes serious consequences for acts of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, a grade of 'F' on the particular paper or assignment or a failing grade in the course. Also, a referral may be issued to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities where the sanctions can vary up to possible expulsion from the University. Considering the potential consequences of academic misconduct, it is obviously in students' best interests to avoid even the appearance of such behavior. If you are ever unclear whether a specific act might constitute academic misconduct, please contact your instructor for an assessment of the situation. All

student term papers and other written assignments are subject to analysis by anti-plagiarism software.

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY:** History 2301 assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

**IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES:** See handout.

**ONE FINAL NOTE:** The instructor encourages active discussion in class and online of topics studied in this course. Oftentimes students may disagree with one another and have a variety of opinions on subjects. This is vital to academic freedom, the foundation for higher education. The instructor welcomes strong debate and asks that everyone treat each other with respect.

The instructor hopes that students will enjoy and learn much from this course. I welcome you to visit me during my office hours to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the class or just to talk about historical topics you find interesting.

## **COURSE CALENDAR:**

The course calendar is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. The complete university academic calendar is available online:

<https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/index.html>

### **Week 1 (August 25-29)—Introduction to Course and to Texas History**

### **Week 2 (September 2-5)—Land and Life in Early Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 1

### **Week 3 (September 8-12)—Spanish Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 2

### **Week 4 (September 15-19)—Mexican Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 3

**Beginning of Class Session—Map Quiz**

### **Week 5 (September 22-26)—The Texas Revolution**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 3

**Week 6 (September 29-October 3)—The Republic of Texas; Annexation and Statehood***The History of Texas*, Chapter 4**Week 7 (October 6-10)—Slavery and the Civil War in Texas***The History of Texas*, Chapter 5**Week 8 (October 13-17)—The Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas***The History of Texas*, Chapters 5 & 6**Week 9 (October 20-24)—Midterm Exam****Week 10 (October 27-31)—Texas in the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century***The History of Texas*, Chapters 7 & 8**Week 11 (November 3-7)—Texas in the Progressive Era***The History of Texas*, Chapter 9**Week 12 (November 10-14)—Texas, the Great Depression, and the New Deal***The History of Texas*, Chapter 10**Week 13 (November 17-21)—Mid-20th Century Texas and the Civil Rights Movement***The History of Texas*, Chapters 11 & 12**Week 14 (November 24-25)—Mid-20th Century Texas and the Civil Rights Movement***The History of Texas*, Chapters 11 & 12**Study Day/Thanksgiving Holiday—No In-Class Meeting This Week****Week 15 (December 1-4)—Recent Texas History***The History of Texas*, Chapters 12, 13, & 14**Beginning of Class Session—*San Antonio* Book Essay****Final Exam: Wednesday, December 10, 10:00-11:50am**