

History 1301  
United States History I  
Asynchronous Course  
Texas A&M University - San Antonio  
Spring 2025

**Instructor:** Margaret Yvette Rizzo

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**Class Modality:** On-line Asynchronous

**Class Duration:** 1/21/25 – 5/13/25

**Preferred Method of Communication:** Email - If you have any questions or need help with anything, please contact me through my email address above, not through Blackboard messenger. I will respond to email messages within 24-48 hours. Please email me ahead of time so that I can plan to meet with you if needed or have time to respond to your questions.

**Course Description:** A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

**Course Readings:** Textbook: The American Yawp Available Online for Free:

<http://www.americanyawp.com/>

**Additional Required Reading:** Thinking Through the Past (Vol. 1), Hollitz, John, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2015, Cengage Learning (Will need to be purchased)

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.
4. Appraise the choices, actions, and consequences of ethical decision making in a historical context.
5. Analyze the influence of civic engagement on the development of regional, national and global communities within the context of U.S/ during the time period examined in this course.

**Course Grading: Grades will be determined by your performance on weekly quizzes, short answer response, discussions, and a final exam.**

**Final Grade Breakdown:**

<b><u>Assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Percent of Final Grade</u></b>
<b>Discussion –</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Quizzes -</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>Final –</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Short Answer Response -</b>	<b>30%</b>

This course will consist of 13 quizzes, 6 discussions (discussion board), 5 short answer responses, and a final. All modules will open January 21st. You may work ahead of time if you would like. Please know that I will not grade ahead of schedule. Any assignments due will be graded by the end of the week they are due.

**Late and Missing Work:**

**I do not accept late work. Refer to the syllabus for due dates and plan ahead. We all have occurrences that interrupt our daily schedules, so being prepared in advance will help ease any frustrations with having to deal with late or missing work. Assignments that are not submitted by the due date will receive an automatic zero that cannot be recovered. However, I do allow students to submit late or missing assignments if they prove that an extenuating situation (e.g. family emergency, serious illness, etc.) interfered with the submission of their assignment. Try your best not to wait until the day of a due date to submit an assignment because the chances of something interfering with your assignment's completion increase.**

**COURSE WORK:**

**Quizzes:** Students will take 13 quizzes during the semester as indicated in the Course Schedule. Each quiz will cover assigned readings for the week. They will consist of ten multiple choice questions and will have a thirty-minute time limit to complete.

**Readings:** Primary and secondary source readings will come from two textbooks this semester. The American Yawp is a free and online, collaboratively built American History textbook. <http://www.americanyawp.com>. It will give valuable context to the primary sources that can be found in Thinking Through the Past, Volume I. The primary sources will provide first-hand accounts of events and offer original thinking during that period. They are created at the time the event occurs. The secondary sources offer an interpretation or evaluation of the primary sources.

**Short Answer Response** – Students will complete 5 short answer responses during this semester. Documents will be assigned in the readings. Each response will focus on a specific theme. You may refer to the resource, “How to Create a Short Answer Response,” in module 1. Each response must include at least two quotes from the reading to support your argument. Responses will be submitted by the due date in the module.

**Discussion Board** – Students will submit their own response to a discussion question and must respond to a peer’s post. As this is an asynchronous course, discussion is critical in understanding the different viewpoints of others. Class discussions (via discussion board) enable us to appraise the choices, actions, and consequences of ethical decision making in a historical context.

**Final:** The final for this course will be a fifty-question multiple choice exam. You will have a time limit to complete the test. Make sure that you have a strong internet connection and a quiet place to complete the exam. Do not wait until the end to submit. You will be given one attempt to complete the test. The exam will cover all readings in the American Yawp for the semester.

## **University Procedures/Policies:**

**Academic Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities:** Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is located in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us <https://www.tamusa.edu/Disability-Support-Services/index.html> or email us at [dss@tamusa.edu](mailto:dss@tamusa.edu). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

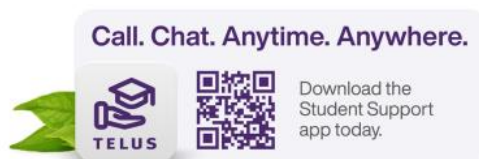
**Academic Learning Center:** The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing [tutoring@tamusa.edu](mailto:tutoring@tamusa.edu), calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

**Counseling/Mental Health Resources:** As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information on SCC services visit [tamusa.edu/studentcounseling](http://tamusa.edu/studentcounseling)

*Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').*

Additionally, the TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including support for in the moment distress, an anonymous peer to peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.



**Emergency Preparedness:** JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/emergency-management/>.

Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

**Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance:** According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

**Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center:** The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students

enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on “Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center” to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://www.tamusa.edu/academics/>.

**Meeting Basic Needs:** Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE referral (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

**Military Affairs:** Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots’ Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at [military.va@tamusa.edu](mailto:military.va@tamusa.edu) or (210)784-1397.

**Religious Observances:** Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

**The Six-Drop Rule:** Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student’s GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as “F” grades and will impact the student’s GPA.

**Statement of Harassment and Discrimination:** Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator ([titleix@tamusa.edu](mailto:titleix@tamusa.edu), 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

**Pregnant/Parenting Students:** Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide such reasonable accommodations to pregnant students as would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status ([titleix@tamusa.edu](mailto:titleix@tamusa.edu); 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.

**Students' Rights and Responsibilities:** The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which

is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

### ***Students' Rights***

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and pregnancy/parenting or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

### ***Students' Responsibilities***

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty, and administration.
2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, [Student Code of Conduct](#), on our website, and University Catalog, and to comply with them, as well as with federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notifications.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or disability. Conduct that infringes on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student->



[rights-and-responsibilities/documents/Student-Handbook-2022-23.pdf](#)) or visit the resources available in the OSRR website (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-integrity.html>).

### **Use of Generative AI**

History 1302-602 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 Dates:**

January 20	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	No classes
January 21	Tuesday	First class day	
January 28	Tuesday	Last day to register	
February 5	Wednesday	Census Date	
February 6	Thursday	Drop for non-payment	
February 24-March 7	Mon-Fri	Midterm	
March 10-March 15	Mon-Sat	Spring Break	
April 21	Monday	Last day to drop with an automatic grade of "W"	
April 28	Monday	Last day to withdraw from the university	
May 7-13	Wed-Tues	Final examinations	
May 13	Tuesday	End of term	

### **Course Calendar:**

The course calendar is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

**Week 1** – (*January 21*) Thinking Through the Past, Ch. 1, The Truth About Textbooks: Indians and the Settlement of America. Short Answer Response

**Week 2** – (*January 27*) The American Yawp, Ch. 2, Colliding Cultures. Quiz.

**Week 3** – (*February 3*) The American Yawp, Ch. 3, British North America. Quiz. Video on The Atlantic Slave Trade: What Too Few Textbooks Told You. Discussion Question.

**Week 4**- (*February 10*) The American Yawp, Ch. Colonial Society. Quiz.

**Week 5** – (*February 17*) The American Yawp, Ch. 5, The American Revolution. Quiz. Chapter 4, Thinking Through the Past, pgs. 76-84, Evaluating One Historian's Argument: The "Hidden Side" of the American Revolution. Short Answer Response.



**Week 6** – (*February 24*) The American Yawp, Ch. 9, A New Nation. Quiz. Read Thinking Through the Past, Ch. 5, Motivation in History: The Founding Fathers and the Constitution. Short Answer Response.

**Week 7** – (*March 3*) The American Yawp, Ch. 7, The Early Republic. Quiz. Ch. 6, Thinking Through the Past, Ideas in History: Race in Jefferson’s Republic, pgs. 118-130. Discussion Question.

**Week 8** – (*March 10-15*) ***Spring Break***

**Week 9-** (*March 17*) The American Yawp, Ch. 8, The Market Revolution. Quiz. PDF Readings, Short Answer Response.

**Week 9** – (*March 24*) The American Yawp, Ch. 10, Democracy in America. Quiz. Short Answer Response.

**Week 10** – (*March 31*) The American Yawp, Ch. 11, Religion and Reform. Quiz

**Week 11** – (*April 7*) The American Yawp, Ch. 12, The Cotton Revolution. Quiz. Discussion Question.

**Week 12** – (*April 14*) The American Yawp, Ch. 8, Grand Theory and History: Democracy and the Frontier, pgs.176-181. Discussion question.

**Week 13** – (*April 21*) The American Yawp, Ch. 14, The Sectional Crisis. Quiz.

**Week 14** – (*April 28*) The American Yawp, 15, The Civil War. Quiz. Read Thinking Through the Past, Ch. 12, Grand Theory, Great Battles, and Historical Causes: Why Secession Failed, pgs. 287-295. Discussion Question.

**Week 15** – (*May 5*) The American Yawp, Ch. 16, Reconstruction. Quiz. Read Thinking Through the Past, Ch. 13, The Importance of Historical Interpretation: The Meaning of Reconstruction, pgs. 315-333.

**Week 16** – (*May 13*) Final