

# HISTORY 2301

## Texas History

**T 3:30-4:45pm (Section 901-23433)**  
**W 3:30-4:45pm (Section 900-23432)**  
**Classroom Hall Building 209**  
**Texas A&M University-San Antonio**  
**Spring 2025**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Dolph Briscoe IV

**EMAIL:** dolph.briscoe@tamusa.edu

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

**OFFICE HOURS:** Central Academic Building 313J, Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00pm, Thursdays, 11:00am-12:00pm, 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, Arnoldo 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.

**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 (January 21-24)—Introduction to Course and to Texas History**

#### **Week 2 (January 27-31)—Land and Life in Early Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 1

#### **Week 3 (February 3-7)—Spanish Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 2

#### **Week 4 (February 10-14)—Mexican Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 3

**Beginning of Class Session—Map Quiz**

#### **Week 5 (February 17-21)—The Texas Revolution**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 3

**Week 6 (February 24-28)—The Republic of Texas; Annexation and Statehood**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 4

**No Class Meeting This Week**

**Week 7 (March 3-7)—Slavery and the Civil War in Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 5

**March 10-15—Spring Break—No Class Meeting****Week 8 (March 17-21)—The Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas**

*The History of Texas*, Chapters 5 & 6

**Week 9 (March 24-28)—Midterm Exam****Week 10 (March 31-April 4)—Texas in the Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

*The History of Texas*, Chapters 7 & 8

**Week 11 (April 7-11)—Texas in the Progressive Era**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 9

**Week 12 (April 14-18)—Texas, the Great Depression, and the New Deal**

*The History of Texas*, Chapter 10

**Week 13 (April 21-25)—Mid-20th Century Texas and the Civil Rights Movement**

*The History of Texas*, Chapters 11 & 12

**Week 14 (April 28-May 2)—Mid-20th Century Texas and the Civil Rights Movement**

*The History of Texas*, Chapters 11 & 12

**Beginning of Class Session—*San Antonio* Book Essay**

**Week 15 (May 5)—Recent Texas History**

*The History of Texas*, Chapters 12, 13, & 14

**TBA—Final Exam**

## IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

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.

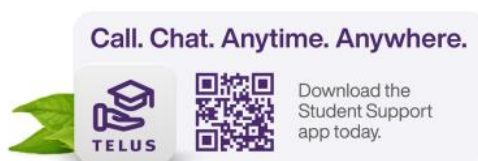
Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *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>).