

HIST 1301 US HISTORY TO 1865

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

Instructor: Cassie H. Clark

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:00 – 3:00 CAB Room 325

Course Description:

This survey course will cover the period of U.S. History from European Exploration to the Civil War. Throughout the course, students will identify the significance of political, economic, cultural, religious, and social contributions to the early settlements, continued migration to North America, the fight for American Independence, Westward Expansion, the Early Republic, and the Civil War. Additionally, students will learn about the critical roles of religion, economics, politics, war, and cultural change in U.S. History.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Students will engage in historical discussion that examines the evidence used to create and support educated arguments concerning events in U.S. History. Primary and secondary sources will be used to analyze historical events and interpret historiography. Understanding essential elements that affect U.S. History's historical, social, political, economic, and cultural aspects will broaden the student's understanding of how different methodologies can be applied to research. This will all be combined within lessons and discussions to assist students in forming an analysis of historical events using critical thinking skills, analytical reading, writing, effective communication, and collaboration with peers. Effective communication throughout the course is crucial to a successful experience and understanding of the course content.

Required texts

Primary text: Joseph L. Locke and Ben Wright. *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook, Vol. 1: To 1877*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2019. <https://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>

Attendance will be taken in every class and considered in the final grade. You are required to attend class, be on time, and participate in class discussions by completing the readings and assignments for each week. There will be no earbuds, cell phones, and students will be expected to be engaged in the course and the discussion. It amounts to class participation, which will enhance the student experience and the student's overall ability to complete the course successfully.

An absence from class for school-sponsored functions will be considered an excused absence. Students must notify the instructor in advance of the absence, with supporting documentation of the school-sponsored event. This applies to any potential make-up exams as well.

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism

We will discuss properly citing any primary or secondary sources you use in your work this term. Your work will be reviewed for plagiarism using institutional services, and if any failure to note work through citations is indicated, the grade for the work will be impacted. The instructor is always available if you have any questions about properly citing your work. You can also utilize the university Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center for assistance.

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

It will be assumed 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. Submitted work will be checked through Turnitin within Blackboard to check for plagiarism and AI-generated content.

Citation Writing Guide:

You are required to cite your sources throughout the course. Use the **Citation Styles Guide** provided by the TAMUSA library. MLA or APA is authorized, but be consistent and use the styles and formatting correctly. <https://libguides.tamusa.edu/citationstyles>

Grade Scale:

100%

A = 100-90; B = 89- 80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60; F = 59 and below.

Quizzes	10%
Discussion Posts	10%
Midterm	25%
Primary Source Analysis	20%
Final	25%
Attendance	10%

LATE POLICY

All graded assignments will be turned in by the deadline. Any late submissions will be counted as a zero at the end of the grading week. Late submissions will be considered on a case-by-case basis, with no guarantee of approval.

Important Dates to Remember:

January 20	First Day of Classes
February 23 – March 6	Midterm Grading Period
March 9 – March 14	Spring Break
April 3	Study Day – No Classes
April 17	Last day to drop class with an automatic grade of “W”
May 5	Study Day – No Classes
May 6 – 12	Finals Week
May 12	End of Term

Course Assignments: Additional notes on the Primary Source assignments will be available on Blackboard under Primary Source Paper instructions.

****The Primary Source Analysis will be submitted using **MS Word**. All Students have access to MS 365 through the university.****

1. *Discussion posts* will be assigned alternately throughout the course. For discussion posts, students are required to post at least 300 words on the topic assigned in the modules on Blackboard (BB). Any references to the course text or outside sources must be cited in your work.
2. *Quizzes* will be multiple-choice and posted on Blackboard. These assignments will serve as evidence of learning on the course subjects assigned throughout the term.
3. All students who take core curriculum courses such as HIST 1301 or 1302 must complete an individual assignment called the *CORE Curriculum Assessment*. The *Primary Source Analysis* is a written assignment due at midterm that will fulfill the CORE requirement. You will choose from a list of primary source documents provided to you in the instructions that pertain to the historical period covered in the class. You will examine and research the document and complete the assignment in accordance with the posted instructions on Blackboard. You will cite any resources used to complete this project using MLA or APA citations.
4. *Exams*, there will be two examinations during this course, the midterm and final. Both will be multiple choice/short answer exams taken in class on dates that will be provided to you.

Course Breakdown:

Module 1

Class introductions, syllabus review, and course expectations.
Chapter 1 Indigenous America – The first Americans, European Expansion, Spanish exploration and conquest.
Discussion post.

Module 2

Chapter 2 Colliding Cultures – Spanish America, Spain's rivals, English colonization, Jamestown, New England.

Quiz.

Module 3

Chapter 3 British North America – Slavery and the making of race, turmoil in Britain, new colonies, rebellions and riots.

Discussion post.

Module 4

Chapter 4 Colonial Society – Consumption and trade in British Atlantic, slavery and the Atlantic exchange, pursuing freedoms, the Seven Years' War, Pontiac's War.

Quiz.

Module 5

Chapter 5 The American Revolution – Origins, causes, Independence, the war, and consequences.

Discussion post.

Module 6

Chapter 6 The New Nation – Shay's Rebellion, the Constitutional Convention, ratifying the Constitution, rights and compromises, Hamilton and money, Whiskey Rebellion and Jay's Treaty, French Revolution, religious freedoms, and the election of 1800.

Quiz.

Module 7

Chapter 7 The Early Republic – Challenging slavery, Jeffersonian Republicanism, President Jefferson, Native American power, the War of 1812

Quiz

Midterm Feb 25 and 26 (based on class day)

Module 8

Chapter 8 The Market Revolution – Republic economic development, King Cotton, labor organizations, gender roles and family life, Industrial Labor in Antebellum America.

Discussion post.

Spring Break March 9-14

Module 9

Chapter 9 Democracy in America – the Early Republic, Missouri Crisis, Andrew Jackson, Nullification Crisis, the Eaton Affair, the Bank War, Panic of 1837, Whigs, Anti-Masons and Anti-Immigrants, Race and Jacksonian Democracy.

Quiz.

Module 10

Chapter 10 Religion and Reform – Revivals and Religious change, Reforms, The Benevolent Empire, Anti-Slavery and Abolitionism, Women in Antebellum America.

Discussion post.

Module 11

Chapter 11 The Cotton Revolution – The importance of cotton, Cotton and Slavery, South and the City, Southern Cultures, Religion and Honor in the Slave South.

Quiz.

Module 12

Chapter 12 Manifest Destiny – Western Migration and Indian Removal, Culture and life in the West, Texas/Mexico and the U.S., Manifest Destiny and the Gold Rush, Monroe Doctrine and Manifest Destiny.

Discussion post.

Module 13

Chapter 13 The Sectional Crisis – Sectionalism and the early Republic, crisis joined, Free Soil and Free Labor, Sectional to National crisis.

Quiz.

Module 14 and 15

Chapter 14 The Civil – The election of 1860 and Secession, A war for Union 1861-1863, war for Emancipation 1863-1865, Conclusion.

Week 16

Finals

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357). If you don't hear back within 48 hours, contact them again. They have many requests during the first part of the semester, so you may need to follow up with them.

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 at the [website](#) or email us at 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 academic accommodations with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. 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, calling (210) 7841307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202. Online tutoring is also available for after hours and weekend assistance.

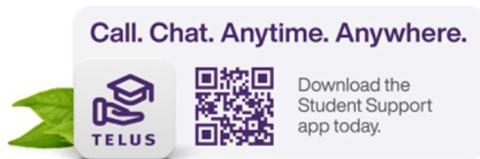
While tutoring hours may change based on tutor schedules and availability, the current tutoring hours for MATH in the ALC are as follows:

	Appointments available	Walk in Tutoring – No appointment needed
MONDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
TUESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
WEDNESDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
THURSDAY	8 am – 6 pm	9 am – 5 pm
FRIDAY	8 am – 5 pm	11 am – 4 pm

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, visit our website, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

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. Crisis support is available 24/7/365 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 or through the TELUS student support App.

The TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to including 24/7/365 support for in the moment distress, crisis support, 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 system. 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](#). 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 by the published Census Date (the first week of class). Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend prior to the published Census Date (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.

Jaguar Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center (WLDCC): The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Writing 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. The Writing Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. Students can schedule appointments with the Writing Center in JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. Students wanting to work in realtime with a tutor can schedule an "Online Appointment." Students wishing to receive asynchronous, written feedback from a tutor can schedule an "eTutoring" appointment. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our [website](#). The Writing Center can also be reached by emailing writingcenter@tamusa.edu.

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 report](#) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources. A food pantry is available on campus; click [here](#) for hours and contact information.

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 or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the wide variety 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 on our campus and within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees are to 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, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the University's Civil Rights Officer at 210-784-2061 or titleix@tamusa.edu.

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 discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking based on sex, 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 sex-based misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (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; 210-7842061; 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. Young Jaguars can support parenting students with daycare if students meet this criteria: (1) must be enrolled in classes at Texas A&M-San Antonio in the current semester, (2) must be Pell eligible or a single parent, (3) child(ren) must be aged 3 to 12-years-old, and (4) child(ren) must be enrolled in Pre-K-3 through 6th grade. For more information, please contact Young Jaguars at youngjaguars@tamusa.edu or call (210) 784-2636.

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, 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, 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](#) or visit the resources available in the [OSRR website](#).