

**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**Virtual Campus**

**Wayland Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title, Number, and Section:** HIST 2301-VC02 - United States History to 1877

**Term:** Fall 2017

**Instructor:** David Smith (Wally)

**Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:** Phone 907-356-2403

Email wallys@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Office Hours 8am – 2pm M, Tu, Th (AK time)

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Virtual Campus class

**Catalog Description:** European background, exploration and discovery, colonization, the War of Independence, the Constitution, early national period, Jefferson and Jackson, expansion, and the era of sectionalism culminating in the Civil War and Reconstruction.

**There is no prerequisite for this course**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Material(s):**

*America: Essential Learning Edition* Shi W. W. Norton & Co. 978-0-393-93587-5

Supplemental Material:

BOOK SUMMARY MATERIAL - Students need to have access to one of the following through purchase

or a library

* *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe
* *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* by Henry David Thoreau

Article Material **-** Peer reviewed, scholarly articles on various subjects will be available on the class

blackboard website under the "course documents" tab for use with discussion board questions.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to understand and describe:

* **Causes, process, and results of the exploration and settlement of the American colonies**
* **Causes, course, and results of the American revolutionary period**
* **Political, social, and economic events of the early national period**
* **Political, social, and economic transformation during the Jacksonian era**
* **Causes, course, and results of slavery and the era of sectional conflict**
* **Events and significant persons in the lives of ethnic minority and female Americans**

**Attendance Requirements:**

Virtual Campus

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

Exams – Two exams will be given via blackboard over the assigned textbook reading material. See the course schedule below for dates related to these specific tests. Exams will be open book/notes multiple choice questions which will test the student’s comprehension and retention of the textbook material. Each of the exams will comprise 25% of the course grade.

Book Summary / Review – One 3-4 page book summary will be written during the course of the term and submitted via blackboard’s safe assignment feature. This paper will be over one of two historically significant works of literature (*Uncle Tom’s Cabin* or *Walden: Life in the Woods*). Detailed instructions on what comprises a Book Summary / Review will be provided during the term (see materials under the "course documents" tab). This assignment will be used to illustrate the student’s writing ability as well as critical thinking skills. The Book Summary / Review will be 30% of the course grade. One letter grade (10 points) will be subtracted for each day the assignment is late. No late submissions will be accepted after 4 days past the due date.

Discussion Board – Ten discussion questions will be presented to the class, one each week of the term except for week 6 (Midterm week). Questions will be available each week by 1pm on Sundays (CST). Students will need to make their original post of 250 words by 11:59pm Wednesday. Replies to 3 other students should be made no later than 11:59pm on Saturdays. During the week students should also check back to see if the class instructor or other students have posed any questions for them to answer related to their original reply since this assignment represents a discussion and not simply the stating of one's ideas. No points will be awarded for posts made after the Saturday due date. Both original posts and subsequent replies should show critical thinking and application / citation of the reading material (textbook and selected academic articles), not simply personal opinion. Proper grammatical writing should also be exhibited in all posts / replies. Each discussion questions will be worth 10 points with a cumulative value of 100 points or 20% of the course total.

**Course Grading:** Exam 1 . . . . . . . . . . . 100 points . . . . . 25% of course grade

Exam 2 . . . . . . . . . . . 100 points . . . . . 25% of course grade

Book Summary . . . . . 100 points . . . . . 30% of Course grade

Discuss . . . . . . . . . . . 100 points . . . . . 20% of course grade

The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

Student grade appeals:

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule:**

Assigned readings to be completed prior to assigned week

Class Date Assignment Reading Material

Aug 21 - 26 Discussion 1 Course Syllabus (start reading Ch. 1-2)

Aug 27 - Sept 2 Discussion 2 America, Chapters 1-2

Sept 3 - 9 Discussion 3 America, Chapters 3-4

Article: Anne Hutchinson by Westerkamp

Sept 10 - 16 Discussion 4 America, Chapters 5-6

Sept 17 - 23 Discussion 5 America, Chapters 7-8

Article: Sacajawea by W. Pillow

Sept 24 - 30 **MID-TERM EXAM** -----------------------------------

Oct 1 - 7 Discussion 6 America, Chapters 9-10

Article: Andrew Jackson by F.P. Prucha

Oct 8 - 14 Discussion 7 America, Chapters 11-12

**BOOK SUMMARY / REVIEW DUE**

Oct 15 - 21 Discussion 8 America, Chapters 13-14

Oct 22 - 28 Discussion 9 America, Chapters 15

Article: Union Prisoners by G. Robins

Oct 29 - Nov 4 Discussion 10 **FINAL EXAM**

**Additional Information:**

1) Please note that Blackboard works off of Central Standard Time and all assignment due dates/times correspond to that time zone.

2) The syllabus should be read thoroughly prior to the beginning of the term.

3) This syllabus is to serve as a guide for the class but may change before or during the course of the term.

4) Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or issues. Email is probably the best method of contact.