



**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES  
WBU Online**

**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 2019

**Instructor:** Ms. Heather Gerszewski

**Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:** (806) 291-1170; [heatherg@wbu.edu](mailto:heatherg@wbu.edu)

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Available by email Monday-Friday; other times by appointment

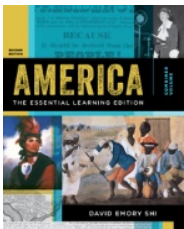
**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Online via Blackboard

**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:**

Shi, David E. *America: The Essential Learning Edition*. Combined 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2018. (ISBN #9780393640960)



**Additional Materials:** Book/Movie Review Material. Students will need to access, through personal collection, library request, purchase, or streaming service, one book or movie from the list provided in class. The Review list is fairly extensive and most items should be readily available.

**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:**

WBUonline (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.

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

Instructor’s Note: Any student suspected of cheating and/or plagiarism may be given a warning on the first offense and may receive zero credit for any assignment(s) in questions. Students will receive zero credit on ANY assignment in which cheating and/or plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is obvious. Please see Plagiarism Policy in Blackboard for more details.

**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:**

**Exams** – Five (5) @ 30 points each. Each timed Exam will have 30 multiple choice questions, worth 1 point each, covering chapters from the assigned textbook. For more information, please see the FAQ sheet in the Blackboard course site and the Course Schedule on the syllabus.

**Discussion Boards** – Five (5) @ 25 points each. Discussion Boards in this class will require an Initial Post from each student (worth approximately 15 points) and Response Posts to at least two (2) different students (worth approximately 10 points). Late posts/responses will result in a deduction of points.

**Response Journals** – Five (5) @ 20 points each. Based on videos, primary documents, and/or lectures from the instructor, Response Journals are geared towards reader response. The goal of each journal is to see how the reader interacts with more focused snippets of history. Students should respond to journal questions in their own words, keeping in mind that this exercise is about seeing students engage with the material.

**Book or Movie Review** – One (1) @ 50 points. The Book/Movie Review is an alternative way to learn about history by comparing the perception of popular culture with the evidence of historical events. Students will need to select either a book or a movie from the “Book/Movie Review List” posted in Blackboard, read/watch their selection, and then answer the assigned questions.

**Chapter Reading Quizzes** – Fifteen (15) quizzes @ 5 points each. Chapter Quizzes will be available each week for each chapter covered. Students may attempt each Chapter Quiz twice, dropping their lowest score.

**Extra Credit Opportunities:**

Email the Instructor – Students should use their Wayland email address for all email communication with their professor. To encourage that process, during the first week of class students can earn 10 extra credit points by emailing me at [heatherg@wbu.edu](mailto:heatherg@wbu.edu) from their WBU email. Please tell me your name, your degree and major, and at least one thing you’re hoping to get out of this class. This extra credit opportunity expires at 11:59 p.m. CDT on Sunday, August 25, 2019.

Reflective Journal – Students will have the option at the end of the term to provide feedback about the course setup, design, content, etc. This is in addition to the Course Evaluation requested by Wayland.

**Grading Criteria:**

|   |                           |                   |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Exams</b>                              | <b>5 @ 30 points each</b> | <b>150 points</b> |
| <b>Discussion Boards</b>                  | <b>5 @ 25 points each</b> | <b>125 points</b> |
| <b>Response Journals</b>                  | <b>5 @ 20 points each</b> | <b>100 points</b> |
| <b>Book/Movie Review</b>                  | <b>1 @ 50 points</b>      | <b>50 points</b>  |
| <b>Reading Quizzes</b>                    | <b>15 @ 5 points each</b> | <b>75 points</b>  |
| <b>Total Points Possible = 500 points</b> |                           |                   |

**Extra Credit Opportunities: up to 35 points possible**

Email the Instructor from your Wayland Email – 10 points  
Reflective Journal – up to 25 points

Note: The instructor must be notified in advance of any request to submit late assignments and reserves the right to award partial credit for late submissions. As a general rule, late coursework is not accepted.

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.

**For this class, the grade scale breaks down as follows:**

**A = 450-500, B = 400-449, C = 350-399, D = 300-349, F = 299-below.**

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 Vice President of Academic Affairs 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 (all assignments due by 11:59 p.m. Central Time, unless otherwise specified):**

**Week One (August 19 – 25):**

- Read Chapter 1
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Discussion Board #1 – Initial Response due by Thursday @ 11:59pm, Response Post due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Extra Credit Opportunity: Email the Instructor – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Two (August 26 – September 1):**

- Read Chapters 2 & 3
- Reading Quizzes due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Response Journal #1 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Three (September 2 – 8):**

- Read Chapters 4 & 5
- Reading Quizzes due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Discussion Board #2 – Initial Response due by Thursday @ 11:59pm, Response Posts due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Exam 1 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Four (September 9 – 15):**

- Read Chapter 6
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Response Journal #2 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Five (September 16 – 22):**

- Read Chapters 7 & 8
- Reading Quizzes due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Discussion Board #3 – Initial Response due by Thursday @ 11:59pm, Response Posts due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Exam 2 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Six (September 23 – 29):**

- Read Chapter 9
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Response Journal #3 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Seven (September 30 – October 6):**

- Read Chapters 10 & 11
- Reading Quizzes due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Discussion Board #4 – Initial Response due by Thursday @ 11:59pm, Response Posts due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Exam 3 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Eight (October 7 – 13):**

- Read Chapter 12
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Response Journal #4 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Book/Movie Review – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Nine (October 14 – 20):**

- Read Chapter 13
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Discussion Board #5 – Initial Response due by Thursday @ 11:59pm, Response Posts due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Exam 4 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Ten (October 21 – 27):**

- Read Chapter 14
- Reading Quiz due by Sunday @ 11:59pm
- Response Journal #5 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

**Week Eleven (October 28 – November 2) NOTE: CLASS ENDS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>:**

- Read Chapter 15
- Reading Quiz due by Saturday @ 11:59pm
- Exam 5 – Due by Sunday @ 11:59pm

*The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus, as needed.*

[WBU Catalog](#)