**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.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: HIST 3379X VC 01 – KILILNG THE PRESIDENT: POLITIAL VIOLENCE & PRESIDENTIAL ASSASSINATIONS IN US HISTORY

**Campus**

: WBUOnline

**Term/Session**

**:** XXXX

**Instructor**

**:** Dr. Autumn Lass

**Office Phone Number**

**:** Communicate via Email and Zoom meetings

**WBU Email Address**

**:** lassa@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** Online via Zoom

Office Hours:

Scheduled Zoom meetings and appointments

Zoom Link: Posted in Blackboard

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** Blackboard

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:** The American historical experience with presidential assassinations and political violence.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:**

* Feinman, Ronald. *Assassinations, Threats, and the American Presidency: From Andrew Jackson to Barak Obama*. Rowman and Littlefield, 2017.
* Martinez, J. Michael. *Political Assassinations and Attempts in US History*. Carrel Books, 2017.

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Course Outcome Competencies**

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

1. Acts of political violence committed against the President of the United States.
2. Assassination and Political violence committed against political leaders and icons in U.S. history.
3. Cause, course, and impact of political violence in U.S. History.
4. Social, economic, and political changes in the United States.
5. Political movements and Party Politics in US History.

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

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 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, 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 session 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.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

**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 Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

**Overall Requirements and Grade Allocation (1000-point scale)**

* Weekly Study Logs – 300 points (6 @ 50 each)
* Weekly Quizzes – 300 points (6 @ 75 points each)
* Social Media in History Discussions – 150 points (6 @ 25 points each)
* Research Project & Presentation – 200 Points
* Saving the President Escape Room – 50 points

**Course Grading Scale:**

* 900 – 1000 = A
* 800 – 899 = B
* 700 – 799 = C
* 600 – 699 = D
* 0 – 599 = F

**Assignment Descriptions:**

* *Weekly Study Logs:* Students submit a **weekly log** summarizing key takeaways from lectures. Logs must be handwritten and legible. Students must use the template provided on Blackboard. Study logs may ONLY include information from the online lectures. Any information included that is not featured in the online lecture will result in an immediate zero. Students post upload their notes as an image or PDF File.
* *Weekly Quizzes:* Each week, students will complete a **50-minute** content quiz featuring objective questions that reflect the themes of the week's unit. Students will have one attempt to take the quiz.
* *Weekly Most Interesting Thing Learned Video Discussions:* Students will record a 5-minute video identifying what they learned this week that was most interesting to them and explain why. Students will then watch the videos of at least 2 different students and provide meaningful feedback to their colleagues’ videos.
* *Social Media in History Discussions:* Each week, students will be assigned to read a section from the textbook and one primary source, then participate in a discussion forum that mirrors a social media platform. Students will create posts reacting as if they were witnesses, journalists, or historical figures.
* *Saving the President Escape Room* is an engaging alternative to a final exam that challenges students to apply what they’ve learned interactively. The goal is to solve a series of puzzles, challenges, or riddles that require critical thinking, problem-solving, and subject knowledge.
* *Bonus Opportunities:* The course includes a variety of bonus activities, which will be announced and scheduled by the instructor. **Since bonus opportunities are offered throughout the semester, final grade totals will not be rounded up, and no additional opportunities will be provided after final grades are posted.** Students who engage in academic dishonesty will forfeit the privilege of earning any further bonus points in the course.

**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, within the last week of an 8-week session, 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 16-week term or 8-week session, 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 are 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**

| **Week** | **Unit Topic & Assigned Readings** | **Assignments Due @11:59 pm CST on Due Date** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week 1** | Class Introduction  Political Violence Intro  Andrew Jackson Readings | * Complete RFA ASAP!!! * Bonus Syllabus Quiz - Due Wednesday * Meet and Greet Zoom - Zoom – Thursday @ 7:00 pm CST * Bonus Introduction Discussion – Due Sunday * Study Log - #Bonus – Due Sunday * MITL Discussion #Bonu – Due Sunday * Social Media in History Bonus–Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #Bonus– Due Sunday |
| **Week 2** | Abraham Lincoln  James Garfield  William McKinley | * Study Log #1- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #1– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #1– Due Sunday |
| **Week 3** | Theodore Roosevelt  Franklin Roosevelt  Huey P. Long | * Study Log #2- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #2– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #2– Due Sunday |
| **Week 4** | Harry S. Truman  John F. Kennedy  Robert F. Kennedy | * Study Log #3- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #3– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #3– Due Sunday |
| **Week 5**  **]** | George C. Wallace  Richard Nixon  Gerald Ford | * Study Log #4- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #4– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #4– Due Sunday |
| **Week 6** | Ronald Reagan  21st Century  Attempts & Other Rumors | * Study Log #5- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #5– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #5– Due Sunday |
| **Week 7** | Political Violence Outside of POTUS | * Study Log #6- Due Sunday * Social Media in History #6– Due Sunday * Weekly Quiz #6– Due Sunday |
| **Week 8** | ***FINAL WEEK*** | ***SAVING THE PRESIDENT ESCAPE ROOM***  ***RESEARCH PROJECT & PRESENTATION*** |

**Additional Information**

**Instructor’s Academic Honesty Statement:**

Any student caught cheating – whether it be cheating on an examination, plagiarism of a published or unpublished work, plagiarism of online materials, inappropriate contact or collaboration with a fellow student, use of AI or ChatGPT to craft responses or any other action that prevents the students’ ability to produce an honest, original work – will receive a **ZERO** on that assignment and will not be allowed to redo or retake the assignment. Repeated incidents of cheating will lead to **FAILURE OF THE COURSE** and could lead to punishment from the university up to and including expulsion. **I DO NOT TOLERATE** cheating or plagiarism.

**Disciplinary Outcomes for Academic Dishonesty Violations:** If a student is involved in any form of academic misconduct and it is proven that the action took place, the following disciplinary outcomes could occur:

* First Violation: The instructor will issue an immediate zero for the assignment and the student will not have the option to redo or make-up the assignment. Their final course grade will also be penalized one letter grade at the end of the semester. Finally, if a student engages in academic dishonesty, they forfeit the ability to earn additional bonus points in class.
  + - **If a student is caught in his/her first violation, the instructor reserves the right to review all previously submitted work and if another violation is found the student immediately goes to the second violation penalty.**
* Second Violation: If a student is caught cheating or is engaged in any form of academic dishonesty a second time, they will receive an "F" for the entire course.
* In both instances, the instructor has the right to document the instance and send copies up the appropriate chain of command. This process can include the Dean of the School of Behavioral Social & Sciences, External Campus Director, and eventually the Vice President of Academic Affairs. It could also ultimately result in expulsion from Wayland Baptist University.

**Workload:**

**This course is formatted to fit into 8 weeks. Due to its truncated nature, the workload for this course will be more fast-paced and intense. Students should expect to multiple hours of reading/lectures as well as multiple assignments per week. Deadlines are hard and fixed. It is imperative you keep track of the deadlines, manage your time wisely, and reach out immediately if you have questions or concerns.**

**Class Materials & Computer/Software Requirements**

* Computer Access:
  + Each student is required to have regular (daily) computer access, preferably a home computer with broadband Internet access. This course can be completed using public computers at a library or other public access areas. However, be aware that using public computers may create a hardship. All course requirements remain the same regardless of your computer access.
* Technical Skills: Students who take this course must be comfortable with the following
* using a word processor
* using email for communication
* using a webcam
* sending emails
* navigating the Internet, websites like Blackboard, and search engines
* downloading appropriate software and or plug-ins
* Required Software: Students who take this class will need the following free software installed on their computer. (See [WBU Technical Requirements](https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/current-students/technical-requirements.htm) for a complete list of technical requirements)
  + A web browser like Internet Explorer (least preferred), Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari.
  + Adobe Flash Player & Adobe Reader
  + QuickTime
  + JAVA
  + A word processor such as Microsoft Word
  + Zoom
* Blackboard: ([WBU Blackboard](http://wbu.blackboard.com/)) In order to successfully complete this course, students must log on to the course blackboard page regularly in order to complete assignments and exams.

**Communication:**

* The instructor will regularly post class announcements/reminders on Blackboard. Therefore, students will need to log-in to Blackboard every day.
* ***Do not use the Course Messaging to contact the professor. Instead, use your WBU email address.***
* Please send all emails to [lassa@wbu.edu](mailto:lassa@wbu.edu) to avoid confusion.
  + When emailing your instructor please use the proper salutation, grammar, and signature. The instructor may ignore emails that are considered “ **text- message” emails**. Please address and write your emails to the instructor in a polite, respectful manner.
  + When emailing your instructor, you should give the instructor at least 24 hours on the weekdays to respond and 48 hours on the weekend to respond to your email.
  + Emails sent after 5pm on the weekdays will not be responded to until the following day. Emails sent after 5pm on Friday will fall into the weekend category.
  + **Due to email responses, students are *highly* encouraged to not wait until the end of the week to review assignments and check in on Blackboard. If there is confusion about an assignment or if there is a problem with Blackboard, students are not guaranteed to receive a response from the professor until the start of the next work week. Unless there is a system wide problem with Blackboard, it will be up to the professor’s discretion on how to deal with Blackboard/technological issues.**
* The instructor will only use students’ email listed as his/her official email address provided by Wayland Baptist University. It is the student’s responsibility to use/check/maintain that email account. All emails from the instructor will only go to that email address.
* **Office Hours** will be held using Zoom. Passcodes and Links posted in the Blackboard course.
* All communication with the instructor and with fellow classmates must be respectful and reflect the values of WBU. Disrespectful communication will not be tolerated. For more information on student conduct please visit [WBU Student Conduct](http://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=826&fbclid=IwAR230Wi-PsDXrIxE3u6DhQvWkSenf4oaGAeZm8JPwO_PkZXkvdA3l6rfYgE#Student_Conduct).
* ***24/7 Day Policy:*** Students have 7 class days following the 24-hour waiting period after a grade is given back. **After the 7 days have passed all grades are FINAL.**
  + If a student requests that the instructor reevaluate a grade, the instructor will completely reevaluate the assignment, which means the grade for that assignment could increase or decrease based on re-evaluation.

**Deadlines, Missed and Late Work**

* Unless otherwise noted, **all unit assignments must be completed by the end of the unit due date at 11:59pm CST. Any work that is not received by that time will be given a grade of zero**. There is no exception to this policy unless specifically approved by the instructor.
* If a student needs to reschedule an exam, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor before the exam. Make-up exams will be given only if arranged in writing with the instructor at least one week before the date of the exam. Make-up exams after the official exam date will be given at the discretion of the instructor and only in cases of absence due to emergency (travel/vacation plans do not count as emergencies). Petition for a make-up exam due to emergency must be made in writing and provide official documentation as soon after the missed exam date as possible. Students have **7 calendar days** to make up a missed exam. Students should not assume their excuse will be accepted.
* Absence Excuses – It is up to the discretion of the instructor to decide if an absence/assignment excuse is acceptable.