**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Virtual Campus**

**School of Behavioral and Social Sciences**

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

**HIST 2301-VC 01 and VC 02 - United States History to 1877**

**Term: Spring 2014**

**Instructor**: Mr. Travis Jaquess

**Contact Information**: Cell: 806.786.4162  **Email**:travis.jaquess@wayland.wbu.edu (DO NOT use the Blackboard messaging system.)

**Office Hours**: By appointment

**Class Time and Location**: Virtual Campus

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

**There is no prerequisite for this course**

**Textbook : America: A Concise History,** James Henretta, et al 5th edition, Benford/ St. Martin’s Press, 2012 ISBN: 9780312364327

**Other Materials:**

1. Documents of US History (available on the Blackboard course site)

2. You will also be required to read a work of non-fiction of your choice. You can choose to buy a book, or borrow one from a local library, or simply use a book you already own but have not yet read. You must email your choice to the professor by the first exam for his approval.

**Blackboard:**  Your Blackboard course site has a copy of the syllabus, the reading quizzes, and instructions for submitting your essay through the safe assign feature. All of these items are in the “course content” section of the course site. Students will be able to see quiz and test grades in their gradebook as soon as they have been posted each time. Students can see the quizzes themselves by clicking on the grade. Announcements that apply to the class will appear on the front page of the course site. Students may also receive information about this course via their Wayland.wbu.edu email account. Students who have not activated that account should do so at once by going to hotmail.com. Their email address will be firstname.lastname@wayland.wbu.edu. The default password is the first four letters of your first name (lower case) + the first four letters of your last name (upper case) + the last four digits of your social security number (example: travJAQU1234). Students should change their password to something they can remember and keep it confidential. Also remember to check this email account frequently. It is the official communication method the university uses for all correspondence. The Wayland email address is the only one to which most faculty will have access, and it is the only one Blackboard contains.

**Course Outcome Competencies: At the conclusion of this course, the student will understand and be able to 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**: Students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings.  All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up.  When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus dean.  Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course.  Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy. This is an online class – your attendance is monitored by your participation in the discussion boards.

**Service for the Disabled:**  In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified disabled 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. At the first class meeting, students should inform the instructor of any existing disability for which they’re applying for an accommodation.

**Course requirements:** The University is an institution of higher education. Students are assumed to have the appropriate academic skills and maturity to act responsibly for their education and conduct. You are responsible for the posted timelines, assignment dates, questions and your ISP and computer.

Discussion Board: Student will participate in weekly discussion sections. The student must submit **one substantial original post** and at **least two replies** to other students for a **total of three posts** each week. Your original reply is due no later than Wednesday of the week by 23:59 Central time. Your two subsequent posts are due no later than Saturday of the week by 23:59 Central time. Each discussion week is worth 15 points (9 for the original post and 3 points for each “reply” post) for a total of 150 points or 16% of your grade.

Quizzes: There will be a weekly quiz covering the assigned chapters (except the weeks when there is an exam). There are NO make-ups – for any reason please do not ask – the answer really is no. The Quiz will be open for the entire week, so you can take it when it is convenient for you. These (total) are worth 20 points each or 120 points total or 13% of your final grade

Exams: Every student will be required to take three (3) exams on the dates indicated on the schedule. The exams will contain from 25 to 60 questions and may consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching and essay questions. The exams will be worth 150 points each or 16% each of your final grade for a grand total of 46% of your final grade. **All exams are PROCTORED**.

Book Review: each student will turn in a book review and this is worth 11% of your final grade. Additional book review instructions are attached. **Student will need to clear book title with instructor by the 2nd week of class, just before the first exam, via email.** Please email me your book title at travis.jaquess@wayland.wbu.edu. The book has to be a non-fiction US history book that is substantial in nature. Your book must correspond with the time period of this course (1492-1877). Pictorial histories need not apply. In the assignments folder are specific instructions. ALL Book Reviews WILL BE TURNED IN VIA SafeAssign.

Writing Assignment: This is worth 11% of your grade.  You need to complete 2 required writing assignments. The details of these assignments are posted on Blackboard. There are always choices, choose only one writing assignment per week for a total of 3 for the semesters. (The third writing is bonus points.) Each writing assignment is worth 50 points (for a total of 100 points or 11% of your grade).   These posted readings will require you to think critically about a historical question. Usually, they will give you two points of view on a particular historical topic and you must choose which opinion you most agree and explain your reasoning. These assignments will be turned in electronically via Blackboard. You have the option to do a third writing assignment which will add an additional 25 points to your overall score.

 **Late Work:**

If you fail to turn in an assignment on the due date, you may turn it in the next calendar day (including weekends) and we will still accept it, but with a ten percent penalty. If you turn in an assignment two days after it was due, we will dock the assignment twenty percent. After that, it is a zero. So to sum up, up to one day late equals a ten percent reduction, two days late equals a 20% reduction. After that, it is a zero! DON’T ASK US TO MAKE EXCEPTIONS

M**ethod of determining course grade:** The course grade will be determined from the following breakdown:

Exams 450 points (150 points each)

Quizzes 120 points (20 points each)

Writing Assignment 100 points (50 points each)

Book Review 100 points (100 points each)

Discussion Board 150 points (15 points each)

Total – 920 points

Extra Credit 25 points (writing assignment 3)

Discussion Board 11 15 points

828-920 A

736-827 B

644-735 C

554-643 D

<553 F

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.

**Instructor’s po licy on Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty means cheating on a quiz or plagiarizing part or all of an essay assignment. Plagiarism means using someone else’s words or ideas directly without enclosing those words in quotation marks and properly identifying the source in a footnote or endnote and bibliography. Students who choose to research their topic for the reflection essay should use only scholarly sources—that means **NO Wikipedia**, for example—and then correctly cite the source in a footnote or endnote (example: Abraham Lincoln, “Gettysburg Address,” *Papers of Abraham Lincoln,* ed. by Roy Basler, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1969,vol. I, p. 244) and give proper credit for someone else’s words or ideas. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for that quiz or writing assignment, with no chance to make it up. No make up work will be allowed to replace this score, and there will be no second chance to correct and submit it again. The message here is DON’T DO IT. I may not catch every instance of dishonesty or be able to prove it, but that doesn’t make a cheater any less a cheater, a liar, and a thief. Cheating and getting away with it is not a mark of cleverness; rather, it says that a cheater has a deep-seated character flaw and lack of ethics. Such moral flaws inevitably come back to haunt one, maybe not today, but some day.

**YOU NEED TO SWITCH DISCUSSION 6 AND 7 IN BLACKBOARD. THE CHAPTERS DO NOT MATCH UP TO THE QUIZZES.**

**Schedule**: ALL DATES /TIMES are Central Time Zone!!!!!

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date Open** | **Date Closed (23:59 CT)** | **Type of assignment** | **Reading Assignment**  |
| **02/24** | **03/01 (Saturday)**  | **Personal Bio** | **Chapter 1** |
| **03/02 (Sunday)**  | **03/08 (Saturday** | **Quiz 1** | **Chapters 1 – 3** |
| **03/16** | **03/22** | **Quiz 2** | **Chapters 4 - 6** |
| **03/02** | **03/22** | **Writing Assignment 1** | **Readings on Blackboard**  |
| **03/24 (Monday)** | **03/29 (Saturday)**  | **Exam 1** | **Chapters 1 - 6** |
| **03/30 (Sunday)**  | **04/05 (Saturday)**  | **Quiz 3** | **Chapters 7 -9** |
| **04/06** | **04/12** | **Quiz 4** | **Chapters 10 – 12** |
| **03/30** | **04/17 (Thursday)** | **Writing Assignment 2** | **Readings on Blackboard**  |
| **04/21(Monday)** | **04/25(Monday)**  | **Exam 2** | **Chapters 7 - 12** |
| **04/27 (Sunday)** | **05/03 (Saturday)**  | **Quiz 5** | **Chapters 13 – 14** |
| **05/04** | **05/10** | **Quiz 6** | **Chapters 15- 16**  |
| **1/5** | **05/14 (Wednesday)**  | **Book Review**  | **Non-fiction work of your choosing**  |
| **1/20** | **05/17** | **Writing Assignment 3** | **25 bonus points!!! Optional** |
| **05/12 (Monday)** | **05/17** | **Exam 3** | **Chapters 13 - 16** |

**All Exams are proctored – please secure your proctor and time early!!!**

**Additional Comments:**

Note to students: Please understand this is a college course. I expect you to be prepared and a self-motivator in this course you should be prepared to spend about 10 hours per week on this class (no different from a classroom course). Late work is not accepted – you have had plenty of time to get things done but if you wait until the last minute then things may prevent you from completing an item but that is a choice you made. Quizzes will not be reset as a matter of routine and missed quizzes are zeroes. Quizzes cannot be made up for any reason (that really means “not for any reason”). I realize some of you may find theses statements ridiculous and I do as well but you would be amazed at how many people think they have a unique circumstance. Remember, **all Exams are proctored** – that means that you have to go to an approved proctor and location to take the exam. Please schedule this early. Below is the link for finding approved proctors.

**For complete information on acquiring a proctor visit** [**http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online\_programs/proctor/proctorrequest.htm**](http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online_programs/proctor/proctorrequest.htm)