



HIST 3303 VC01 Texas History Syllabus Spring 2014

Wayland Baptist University Virtual Campus
History Department
School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Course Syllabus:

WBU 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.

Instructor: Professor Linda Charmaine Powell

Primary Email: BB Course E-mail located on Left-Hand Menu

ALL communication between Student and Professor **MUST** take place within the **Course Homepage e-mail tab on the Left-Hand Toolbar within BB** NOT via the Microsoft Outlook system, because the standard Outlook programs can/do filter out what it may determine is a spam message. This could lead to a student's attempt to contact the Professor to disappear into the void. More importantly, it also keeps a permanent record of our conversations, thus protecting both the Professor and Student if there is any question about communication. Finally, given the huge volume of e-mails that we all receive each day, and with the Filtering system used, it is highly likely that your effort to contact the Professor may never be seen, or not viewed until it is too late to help you with whatever problem you wrote about in the first place if it sent to the Hotmail where it may be sent to spam or junk folders. So Please take this seriously and write only via the Course Homepage e-mail system on BB to guarantee a response from the Professor.

Remember that this is an Online course, and traditional telephone messages may take longer to be returned since they are outside of the normal communication chain. If you reach your Professor's voice-mail, leave a message explaining the trouble and contact information where you can be reached. Expect an e-mail response via the Course Homepage as the primary means of return contact, not a telephone call, since students are enrolled from around the world, and may, in fact, be on Active Duty in a military combat zone, or live in Alaska or Hawaii and so on. This makes telephone communication problematic to say the least. If necessary, a Chat Room can be created as a temporary method to discuss material that is too complex for a standard e-mail.

CONTACT Information: Ordinarily, your Instructor will respond to any e-mail within 48-72 hours. If you need immediate assistance, or do not receive a response within 3 days, send a follow-up e-mail. Be sure to check your Course Homepage and its e-mail often for messages from the Professor. It is also a good habit to send a Blind Copy of your message to yourself to confirm that the message did indeed go through the system. You can then just delete it after confirming that it is enroute to the Professor.

Catalog Description: Texas prior to statehood as well as cultural, intellectual, social, economic and religious development of the state. The course also covers the impact of geography and how Texas affected and was affected by the broader U.S. experience.

Prerequisites: HIST 2301 and 2302, or consent of instructor.

Course outcome competencies:

- The Native cultures of Texas prior to the arrival of non-Indian settlers
- The major aspects of Spanish colonization and its lasting effect in Texas.
- The growth and development of the region under the Republic of Texas
- The impact of slavery on the economic and political development of Texas
- The various cultures and major issues of the Antebellum era.
- The impact of the Civil War in Texas and the states role in the great conflict.
- Major issues during Reconstruction in Texas
- The major events and people of the Populist Movement and Progressivism in Texas
- The impact of the 1930s Depression and Dust Bowl
- The growth of Texas during the Second World War and the Cold War
- The shift from Democratic to Republican party dominance

This course offers students a study of Texas from prehistoric times through the present. Students should gain an understanding of the Spanish, Mexican, Confederate, and U.S. influence in shaping the history of the state, as well as the history of the states' indigenous peoples. Emphasis will be placed on an understanding of the geography, the history of Texas through statehood, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and trends in Texas to the present. Also, through the written exams and papers, students will be challenged to improve their analytical and writing skills.

Required Textbooks:

Campbell, Randolph B. *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*. 2nd Edition. Oxford University Press, 2012.

ISBN: 0-19-977940-6 or ISBN-13: 978-0-19-977940-6

NOTE: Students may use the 1st edition (2003) at their own discretion but it is highly discouraged. It is very probable that learners will come across complications such as page numbering, information in a different chapter, added materials and chapters etc. that could adversely affect a student's ability to do well on assignments and/or pass the course. You can view the changes between editions here:

http://www.us.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/HistoryAmerican/Southern/?view=usa&ci=9780199779406#Product_Details

Where to Purchase Textbooks:

Students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to purchase the textbooks from WBU Virtual campus where the books are in stock. Internet bookstores and other places may not have these books which will require further cost from the student or possibly a delay in receiving your book. This delay is unacceptable in a 12-week class because it places students too far behind to realistically keep up in the class.

NOTE: Please remember that each student is responsible for purchasing the **CORRECT** Textbook for this course. It is very easy in the hectic early days of a new term to rely on the bookstore and select the wrong books. It is also possible for a student to get conflicting advice from others, including bookstore personnel who mean well, but may be misinformed about the correct books for the proper Professor. So be sure to go online, print-out-a-copy of the Syllabus and bring it with you or have it near you when buying your books. If in doubt, buy what is listed on the Syllabus, then sort out any issues later. The Syllabus is the final word on which book is correct, so read it carefully and buy accordingly.

Log-on and Meeting Times:

Students should purchase textbooks and receive them **prior** to the first day of class. In addition, students need to log in on or before the first day of class through the **WBU Virtual Campus** (<http://virtualcampus.wbu.edu/>) to begin the course. This class is conducted completely online and does **NOT** require proctors for exams. All

quizzes and assignments are submitted online through the course website. (See more details under "Attendance" requirements.)

Course Outline:

(Date-specific calendar provided below).

(Details on Assignments provided on/before first day of class on the course.)

Course requirements: Weekly Quizzes, Writing Assignment(s), and Student Interaction

Quizzes:	Weekly reading quizzes with questions in any format (multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, maps, etc.) For preparation and study, practice exams will be provided. Students may drop 5 of the 19 chapter quizzes. No proctor required -- all exams are completed online.
Student Participation:	Students are expected to participate in the course interactively. This may be in the form of traditional discussion forums, course blogs, or course wikis. Students may drop 1 of the 4 student interactions. Details provided later.
Project Assignment:	<p>Your last assignment will be a multi-media presentation on a <i>Texas History issue</i> allowing you to trace a major event with photos, maps and a short written summary. This project is aimed at those who plan on a career in education since most students today are visually stimulated, and so much material is available online. Inclusion of all kinds of multi-media is encouraged including the use of film clips from major Hollywood films, documentaries, YouTube links, maps, etc. Use of the Library of Congress (http://www.nara.gov), Texas State Library Treasures, TSHA Historical Documents, major University libraries, museum libraries, etc. that are available through the Internet are encouraged.</p> <p>The multi-media presentation will be measured by your ability to choose and present a cogent summary of the topic using non-traditional materials in a clear, concise and entertaining fashion. The students of tomorrow are increasingly driven by visual stimulation, so as the saying goes, "we fight like we train" and this project is intended to expose you to the challenges ahead..</p>

Method of determining course grade:

Course grade will be determined by the student's total accumulated points divided by the total possible points available. For example, if the student has accumulated a total of 360 points from all assignments (after drops), then the student's course grade would be 360/450 for a grade of 80 or a B for the course. Approximate percentages are given to assist students who prefer to determine their grade through that method.

By Point Value:

- 14 quizzes (after 5 drops) worth 15 points each for a total of 210 points.
- Project worth 150 points.
- 3 discussion boards (after 1 drop) worth 30 points each for a total of 90 points.

By Percentage (Approximate):

- 14 quizzes (after 5 drops) worth 47% of course grade.
- Project worth 33% of course grade.
- 3 discussion boards (after 1 drop) worth 20% of course grade.

Total Point Value: 450 points

Final Grade based on Total Points:

- A 450-405 points
- B 404-360 points
- C 359-315 points
- D 314-270 points
- F 269 or less points

Make-up Policy:

Since you are given the chance to drop several grades (see above), then **I DO NOT allow any Make-Up assignments -- for any reason so do not ask.** The second reason for not granting Make-Ups is that they tend to be more work for an already over-stressed student, and by allowing the Drop option instead, I feel that everyone benefits while still protecting your opportunity to succeed in this class. So, the rule is -- there are **NO** make-up exams or assignments under any circumstances. A missed quiz or discussion will simply become a dropped score -- **no exceptions** and there is NO extra credit offered. Therefore, it is imperative that students keep track of due dates for assignments.

Again, there is NO extra credit offered--so Please Do Not Ask. This Syllabus is much like a Contract between the student and professor and alterations are not allowed. Experience has demonstrated that Make-Up work is often just more to do for an already swamped student, so I have chosen to use the Drop score option to relieve the pressure and prevent students from trying to do extra work while still keeping up with up-coming work that is still due on time. Remember, each student is being allowed several drop scores to assist those who must miss a Quiz or Discussion because of outside obligations. So there is no Extra Credit allowed.

The University has a standard grade scale:

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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.

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. The same rule of Participation applies to ALL Online courses as well.

Class Attendance (Online Students):

The University has adopted a revised online attendance policy which requires students to be actively participating in their online course to be considered in attendance.

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.

1. 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.
2. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.

Any questions regarding this policy may be directed to the Director of the Virtual Campus.

NOTE the new Attendance Policy enacted for Online Students by WBU above or at http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online_programs/help%20desk/attendance.html

Regular log-on is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Students must log into the course daily, or at minimum of every 48 hours. This requirement is based upon the student's need to be informed on many issues that can arise, including changes in their course, any WBU announcement posted for the entire class, and in order to stay in contact with their Professor, who may feel that important information is not being understood by the students enrolled in the Virtual Campus, or WBU. Experience has demonstrated the important role played by the Professor's Blog postings in assisting students in successfully completing the class. So, remember to check the Homepage on a regular basis.

It is the responsibility of each student to keep track of their assignments. Students must have daily access to a computer and a reliable Internet connection to enroll in, and to succeed in this course. Technical problems with a Student's computer or Internet provider are not valid excuses to miss Assignments, Exams, or other Due Dates. Students should plan ahead to have access to a back-up computer at a family member's home, friend's location, local school, or local city library. If a technical problem does occur, students should immediately send an e-mail to the Virtual Campus Help Desk, where specialists in this technology can provide assistance. You must also send a note to your Professor via the Course Homepage explaining the difficulty and the Date, Time and Steps taken to solve the issue. Should the problem not be addressed by the Help Desk, they will provide the Professor with a detailed report of ALL actions taken and the Professor will then decide if the Student can be allowed to complete the work in another fashion. If you cannot use e-mail, telephone your Professor as a last resort to explain the problem. Remember, however, that this is an Online course, and traditional telephone

messages may take longer to be returned since they are outside of the normal communication chain. If you reach your Professor's voice-mail, leave a message explaining the trouble and contact information where you can be reached. Expect an e-mail response via the Course Homepage as the primary means of return contact, not a telephone call, since students are enrolled from around the world, and may, in fact, be on Active Duty in a military combat zone, or live in Alaska or Hawaii and so on. This makes telephone communication problematic to say the least. If necessary, a Chat Room can be created as a temporary method to discuss material that is too complex for a standard e-mail.

Online students play by a slightly different set of rules than classroom based students. Because your Professors have no opportunity to meet you face-to-face, or to conduct any real discussions with the class as a group, you pay a penalty when it comes to the final class averages. Unlike those who are in a regular course, day-in and day-out for 15 weeks and who can participate in the give-and-take of the academic process, there is no room for leeway when it comes to averaging a student's grade. The nearest thing to classroom participation/discussions are found in the Discussion postings that are done by each student posted on the Calendar of Assignments. These are student led learning tools, but they also give your Professor a glimpse into how well you are learning the material, and substitute for the in-class debates found in the normal lecture format. So the Trade-Off for flexibility and not driving to class each week is that you must participate in these Discussions in order to give your Professor the best opportunity to assess your overall performance in the class. Failure to do these has often made the difference between a student earning an "A" instead of the "B" they got, and did not want. So please remember to take full advantage of both the learning process and the assessment tool provided by these Participation posts.

NOTE: Contact the Professor immediately if you have a family emergency such as an unexpected major illness or family death, are on Active Duty serving in a war zone and must be offline temporarily, or have any other justifiable reason why you are unable to meet the Due Dates. However, change of military assignments or TDYs, changing work schedules, or other occurrences caused by a busy life are not acceptable excuses for missing the assignments. Plan ahead.

Instructor's policy on Academic Dishonesty:

Occasionally a few students will attempt to cheat or plagiarize. Students caught will receive a grade of F (0 points) for that assignment. Additionally, such students may receive a grade of F for the Course and may be suspended from the College (penalties which become a permanent part of a penalized student's record and cannot be eliminated by the repeat-option). If you are unsure about the definition of plagiarism, see the links available to Students or visit with your Professor.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- downloading a free or purchased paper
- copying an article from the web or electronic database
- translating a foreign web article into English
- copy a paper from a local source
- cobbling -- cutting and pasting to create a paper from several sources (including web sites) even if properly cited
- excessive quoting (more than 20% even if properly cited)
- quoting less than all the words copied
- changing some words but copying whole phrases
- paraphrasing without attribution
- summarizing without attribution
- faking a citation

Review the plagiarism link located on the Syllabus web page located in this course.

Choosing Good Sources for Historical Research:

Students often search for additional information about historical events to supplement their understanding of the material in preparation for essays, discussions, and even quizzes. To correctly interpret historical issues requires an accurate knowledge of the facts, so you can also consult secondary sources such as the work of other historians. Students are, however, STRONGLY cautioned to choose these extra sources, particularly Internet sites, with care. Websites, such as Wikipedia or Yahoo, DO NOT necessarily contain reliable facts, documentation, or interpretations, and therefore, should not be used in a college course, without other means of corroboration. NEVER, cite these websites as official documentation even if you use them for a "Quickie" look at what they say about some topic. Remember that websites like Wikipedia even post disclaimers, informing users that their material may or may not be valid (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Disclaimers>). Students should, instead, choose sources from the WBU Virtual Library such as History Cooperative, JSTOR, or other refereed journals. For websites, learners should select places where the author can be identified as a scholar, historian, or other knowledgeable person. Such examples would include websites ending in .edu or .org. Websites helpful to students in this course already examined by the Professor are available via the "Web Resources" link through the Course Homepage.

BACKGROUND READINGS:

Students need a solid background on the major events of American history. If you need to acquire or brush-up on your American history, then consult the following:

Suggested General American history survey textbooks (may be available at a local Library):

John Faragher, et al., *Out of Many: A History of the American People*.

Alan Brinkley, *American History: A Survey*.

George Brown Tindall & David Emeory Shi, *America: A Narrative History*.

Robert A. Divine, et al, *America, Past and Present*.

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 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.

Etiquette:

The study of history is important and deserves respect from both the Professor and from Students. Everyone has an obligation to cultivate an environment for learning that enhances the ability to pursue the shared interest in history. Respect for one another and for their ideas and values are essential for a strong community for the study of the Human Story that is history. Respectful students bring a strong work ethic to the course and are expected to log-on to the class regularly, be prepared for each class, and be attentive to discussions and online chats. A shared respect for one another is essential to the academic integrity and a comfortable learning environment. Everyone must do their part to maintain a climate of openness and civility that encourages and honors intellectual achievement. If you need to review the standard for Net Etiquette rules, see the [Netiquette Rules](#) for more information.

******All students are required to review all course policies located on the "Syllabus" link.**

*****The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus and course calendar if circumstances warrant.**

Teaching & Learning Strategy:

The class is approached as an on-line instruction tool to learn about Texas History. The course was designed to be completed during a regular 11-week quarter. Thus students must schedule, on average, approximately 10-15 hours per week to accomplish the assignments required in an upper-division course of this complexity while reading material of 100-150 pages per week. It is recommended for the student to block out time in your day planner three times a week for completing reading, reviewing Internet sources, and course work, just as you would if you were on campus.

This course stresses interaction between the students emphasizing their ability to engage in what is known as "Active Learning" a form of the Socratic Method. The goal is to avoid the drudgery of traditional lecture formats and uses textbook chapters and supportive readings, mixed with primary documents usually found on Internet sites to support the historical material. Students should view and/or print off the Course Syllabus and Calendar of Assignments regularly to keep track of posting dates for exams, and other graded assignments. In addition, regularly check the Course Homepage and Course e-mail for notices about any changes in the class or content materials. Participation in this course is crucial to success in any student driven learning process.

Since this course is offered as an online class, individualized learning is the key. Your ability to read the textbook and additional material and learn on your own to identify major theses and link material together into a complete history of Texas is crucial. The Professor is, however, available by via email to discuss in-depth any material you do not understand. Never hesitate to write me and ask questions, even if they are only for your edification and not tied directly to an assignment. But the burden of learning falls upon the individual student.

Copyright of Course:

Courses and course presentations/materials shall not be reproduced, distributed, re-used, or revised without prior knowledge and consent of the Professor. Copyright of courses and course presentations are owned by the Professor just as in the case of traditional materials such as books or articles.

Computer Requirements:

Regular log-on is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to keep track of their assignments. Students must have regular access to a computer and a reliable Internet connection to enroll in this course. I repeat, these are minimum requirements for all students in every online course. Technical problems are not an excuse to miss a posted Quiz or other Due Date. Students should plan ahead to have all work submitted earlier than the last Due Date in the event of a computer malfunction, and everyone should also have access to a back-up computer at a family member's home, friend's location, local school, or local city library so they may still meet all assignment dates. This is one of the trade-offs for the convenience of a Virtual class. When technical problems occur, students need to send an e-mail to the WBU Help Desk explaining the difficulty, and copy your Professor as well. If you cannot use e-mail, call the Help Line and not your Instructor to explain the difficulty. You should only then leave a summary of your trouble and response on your Professor's e-mail. I will then contact the Help Desk for a summary of their efforts to diagnose and fix the issue.

WANT TO AVOID PROBLEMS WITH GRADED QUIZZES ON BLACKBOARD (Virtual Campus)? GETTING KNOCKED OFF of GRADED QUIZZES?

READ THESE SUGGESTIONS!

Since some of you are new to the Virtual Campus and Blackboard online environment, here are some helpful hints to consider before taking the Graded Quizzes. Remember, that each Quiz must be **completed and submitted** prior to the 2355/11:55 p.m. deadline. If you begin your Quiz at 2350/11:50 p.m. on the final due date, you will have only 5 minutes to complete the assignment before the test is automatically submitted by the Blackboard Program. All Quizzes are set to close at 2355 (11:55 pm) local time (Central Time), so if your location is in a different time zone or even date/time zone, be sure you make the appropriate adjustment. For best results and to guard against any unforeseen Internet difficulties, begin your Quiz at the earliest date/time available for best results. **Once you open the Exam,**

you must complete it as the Blackboard Program allows for only ONE (1) Test attempt and all are timed. Pick a quiet place with adequate time and a reliable, preferably a **Wired** fast Internet connection for best results. So do not answer your door, or the telephone if it rings, banish your spouse, children or significant other while testing, and be aware of weather related issues that may develop, meaning do not start a Quiz during a thunderstorm or when one is anywhere near! **The Graded Quizzes have a time limit** so remember to watch your time because when the time limit runs out, **the Quiz will automatically close and submit.**

Blackboard is restrictive about the environment in which a student takes the Exam. To avoid any problems such a time-outs or losing access in the middle of a Quiz, note these suggestions:

- Check out some common problems on the FAQs page.
- Using a **wireless or satellite internet** service provider may cause problems with a continuous connection, causing a student to be booted from a test. Both typically have drops in signal strength known as Micro Power Blips, which we may not "see" visually but the program is so sensitive it will detect them as an indication that you have finished and will close and submit your Test. A student booted from the exam will be unable to complete it, or will not be able to submit the exam once completed. Consider using a **WIRED** connection for all graded quizzes!
- Do not double click any button (save, next, submit). Because the Quizzes are set to present the questions one at a time pulling from a pool of questions, double-clicking is DEADLY. When a student clicks to move on, and the computer runs a algorithm to pull the question for the student it often appears that the computer is frozen.... so the student clicks again (do not do this... wait!). This interrupts the computer and it ultimately shuts down. It just takes a few seconds (or what to a student seems forever), to locate the next question and move on. So be Patient!
- Be sure your computer is NOT set to do automatic updates! Many of these require a restart of your machine and it will do so no matter how hard you try to halt the process. Once it begins, you are done with that Test.
- Do NOT skip a question and try to return (It is is a one at a time test, answer the questions in the order presented).
- Do NOT click SAVE after every question. It is a one at a time test, do not worry about saving answers, moving to the next question will automatically save the question for you.
- If you do accidentally click the Save button, do not click any other button or move to the next question until the "Answer Saved" box has appeared.
- Do NOT click the Back Button on your browser, (not the same as a Backspace Button).
- Be careful when using the Backspace button on the keyboard. Pressing too many times may cause the browser to move back a page, thus booting a student from their Exam.
- Close ALL windows, including pop-up blockers and virus scan programs.
- Use ONLY the buttons (such as back, forward, submit) located within the Exam itself, never those from your Browser.
- Each Quiz must be **completed and submitted** prior to the time/date deadline or when the time limit runs out, or the Quiz will automatically close and submit.
- Read the Instructions carefully before taking the Exam (particularly if you are new to Blackboard). If you are unsure, check out the tutorials first or contact the WBU Help Desk for additional assistance PRIOR to opening your Test.
- **NOTE:** Students are not allowed to print and reproduce any question from this Quiz in any manner.
- Students may use their notes and/or textbook during the Exam but MAY NOT access the Internet, copy/print the Quiz, share the Test or other information about it with other students, etc. Violations, as recorded by Blackboard protocols, will result in a zero or worse.
- Keep a timer handy that ticks down your available time.
- In Blackboard, your answer is automatically saved as you move to the next question.
- A one-minute warning will be given by Blackboard. Keep track of your time and use it wisely.
- The Professor reserves the right to assign a grade for an Incomplete Exam as circumstances warrant.

NOTE the importance of a WIRED Connection can not be Emphasized Strongly Enough: A Message from a Blackboard IT Expert -- "If a students' Internet connection is interrupted anytime during a test, Blackboard regards that break as an ending of the test. WiFi connections are the worst because they often have micro-short blips in connections (as they process the signal from the source). Usually we do not even notice it....but Blackboard does. So a student might open a test, start the questions, and

notice that nothing is saving or moving along – this is because the connection has been broken. Blackboard simply continues running the timer on the Quiz, and when the time runs out it “submits” the test on the next cycle – usually 2-7 minutes after the timer ends citing 'abandonment' by the student as the explanation. In the end, a student may get to answer either none or only a few questions."

When this problem occurs, students will need to visit with the WBU Help Desk prior to the next Quiz to confirm that this was, in fact, the issue. Remember, however, that "Once in - Never out" is the Rule to keep in mind because the program is set to allow for student access only once. However, the Professor has built into the Course Average a solution called the Drop Option for Graded Quizzes. It allows for students to avoid spending large blocks of time and effort tracking down an obscure technical problem, and encourages them to move forward with the Learning Process by protecting your Class GPA and giving you the time to prepare for the upcoming Quiz which is often scheduled for the next weekend. Technical failures that occur during Quizzes should be documented via the WBU Help Desk, but there is no way to re-enter a Quiz already opened or submitted. But the Drop Option prevents this from harming anyone, and has proven to be far superior to Make-Ups on material that has already been covered by the class. Experience has shown that trying to retake Exams while simultaneously preparing for the next Block of Material often prohibits a student from focusing upon the more significant issue of what is due next. The result is frequently a poor performance on both Tests, rather than an improved grade for either. So remember those Drop Scores are there to protect you from any consequence from missed Exams, but still requires that you confirm the reason for any technical problem that prevented you from completing a Test.

The WBU Help Desk is available by e-mail, telephone, or Chat 24/7 should students run into any technical difficulties. If a technical problem occurs, particularly getting knocked off during a Quiz, students should immediately contact the WBU Help Desk where specialists in this technology can provide assistance in determining which of the above issues or other problem may have caused the break in the connection. (WBU Help Desk Contact Information and Hours: (866)-547-9192 or <http://BBhelp.wbu.edu> Additionally, contact your Professor to notify them of what happened and the steps taken to understand and prevent a future occurrence of the issue prior to the upcoming testing schedule bringing yet another possible headache for you. However, the Professor reserves the right to decide what action to take regarding any missed Quizzes as long as the solution fits within the stated Course Rules as found in the Syllabus.

Quizzes:

No proctor is necessary as all exams are completed online. Exams are scheduled on the calendar to begin at 12:00 p.m. Noon on the date listed (usually Friday) and ending at 11:55 p.m. Midnight (usually Monday) per the calendar. The **quiz will be timed**. You will only be able to **access the quiz once** for Credit and you **MUST** complete the quiz once it is opened. **You cannot view the exam and then return later to complete**. So do not answer your door, or the telephone if it rings, banish your spouse, children or significant other while testing, and be aware of weather related issues that may develop, meaning do not start a Quiz during a thunderstorm!

HIST 3303 ♦ Course Schedule ♦ Spring 2014

Assignments/Quizzes: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due before 11:55 p.m. (just prior to Midnight) Central Time (CT) on the final date listed. All dates refer to the 2014 calendar year and all times refer to the appropriate seasonal CT (Central Time).

Discussion Board: Unless otherwise noted, all discussions are due before 11:55 p.m. (just prior to Midnight) Central Time (CT) on the date listed. For rules governing late postings, see the Discussion Rules and/or FAQs.

Computer Problems and Assignments: Students must have regular access to a computer and a reliable Internet connection to enroll in this course. I repeat, these are minimum requirements for all students in every Online course. Technical problems are not an excuse to miss a posted Quiz or other Due Date. Students should plan ahead to have all work submitted earlier than the last Due Date in the event of a computer malfunction. Students should then have

access to a back-up computer at a family member's home, friend's location, local school, or local city library so they may still meet all assignment dates. This is one of the trade-offs for the convenience of a Virtual class. When technical problems occur, students need to send an e-mail to the Help Desk explaining the difficulty, and copy the Professor as well---but understand that Professors are not computer experts and do not have access to the Programs or Servers to repair any technical problems that may arise. Any message to me about a technical crisis is for Information Purposes only and not for me to attempt any repair. If you cannot use e-mail, call the Help Line and not your Professor to explain the difficulty.

Date	Week	Reading Assignment	Quiz(zes)	Discussion Board	Project
2/24/14	Week 1	Purchase books. Familiarize yourself with the syllabus, policies, welcome page, and other areas of the course			
2/24/14	Week 1	Chapters 1 & 2	2/28 - 3/4* (2 quizzes) *Extra Day Awarded to take exams due to quick start.	Disc. 1 Opens 2/28 Answers DUE 3/6 Replies DUE 3/7	
3/2	Week 2	Chapters 3 & 4	3/6 - 3/9* (2 quizzes) *NOTE: Altered Quiz Dates Due to Spring Break.		
3/10 - 14	Break	Spring Break			
3/16	Week 3	Chapters 5 & 6	3/21 - 3/24** (2 quizzes) **NOTE: Return to normal quiz due date of Monday.	Disc. 2 Opens 3/21 Answers DUE 3/27 Replies DUE 3/28	Project Topic Approval 3/17
3/23	Week 4	Chapters 7 & 8	3/28 - 3/31 (2 quizzes)		
3/30	Week 5	Chapters 9 & 10	4/4 - 4/7 (2 quizzes)		
4/6	Week 6	Chapters 11 & 12	4/11 - 4/14 (2 quizzes)	Disc. 3 Opens 4/11 Answers DUE 4/17 Replies DUE 4/18	
4/13	Week 7	Chapters 13 & 14	4/18 - 4/22* (2 quizzes) *NOTE: Altered Quiz Dates Due to Easter Holiday.		
4/20	Week 8	Chapter 15	4/25 - 4/28** (1 quiz) **NOTE: Return to normal quiz due date of Monday.		DUE 4/28
4/27	Week 9	Chapters 16 & 17	5/2 - 5/5 (2 quizzes)	Disc. 4 Opens 5/2 Answers DUE 5/8 Replies DUE 5/9	

5/2	Last Day to Drop	Please visit with advisor before dropping course.			
5/4	Week 10	Chapters 18 & 19/20* *Chapters 19 & 20 will be considered 1 quiz listed as Chp. 19).	5/9 - 5/12 (2 quizzes)		
5/11	Week 11	You have completed the course. Congratulations!	Complete Week 10 Quizzes DUE 5/12		