

**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 5350 VC01 - The American West: Religion in the US West

Term:Winter 2019

Instructor:Dr. Rebekah Crowe

Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address**:** 806.291.1185; [rebekah.crowe@wbu.edu](mailto:rebekah.crowe@wbu.edu)

Office Hours, Building, and Location**:** Gates Hall #317 - 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. Monday/Wednesday/Friday; 12:00 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday; and by appointment

Class Meeting Time and Location**:** WBUonline

Catalog Description**:** Examines the social, cultural, political, gender, and racial history of the American West; may be repeated for credit when the topic changes.

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

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

* Kerstetter, Todd. *Inspiration and Innovation: Religion in the American West*. Wiley-Blackwell: 2015. ISBN: 978-1-11884-838-8.
* Turabian, Kate. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9th Edition. University of Chicago Press, 2018. ISBN: 978-0-22643-057-7.

Optional Materials**:** Other materials will be available on Blackboard and/or chosen from a list.

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

* Demonstrate an understanding of the political, social, social, economic, religious, and intellectual events peculiar to the American West
* Identify and describe the significance of notable persons and people groups in the American West, including ethnic minorities and women
* Analyze and explain the impact of geography on the history of the American West
* Describe the historical scholarship associated with events occurring in the American West
* Demonstrate the ability to write graduate-level essays, reports and research papers

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.

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**:**

*Weekly Discussion Boards* (165 points)

Each student will contribute original discussion threads for each weekly assignment (varies by week) and comments on classmates’ discussion threads for a total of 15 points per week based on the assigned reading. Original posts will be due by **11:59 p.m. (Central Time) on Wednesdays**. Comments will be due by **11:59 p.m. (Central Time) on Sundays**. Late posts will be penalized 1 point per every 24 hour period past the due date. Late comments will not be accepted.

*Book Reviews* (50 points each, 200 points total)

Each student will submit four 1,000-1,500 word (double spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins) reviews of a book from the choices given weekly on Blackboard. Review summaries will be made available to the class via the discussion board. Reviews will be due by **11:59 p.m. (Central Time) on Saturdays**. Late papers will be penalized 5 points per 24 hour period after the due date. Reviews should be formatted and cited in *Turabian* Notes-Bibliography style and utilizing the Submission Guidelines. I will add 3 points back to papers taken though the Writing Center.

***Final Project***

*-Project Proposal* (40 points)

Each student will choose a particular topic within our course as the basis for all elements of the final project. First, each student will submit a one page (double-spaced) proposal and 3-5 suggested works in a bibliography. Late assignments will be penalized 5 points for every 24 hour period past the due date **(Tuesday, December 3, 11:59 p.m., Central Time)**. This assignment should be formatted and cited in *Turabian* Notes-Bibliography style, utilizing the Submission Guidelines.

*-Rough Draft of Historiographical Paper* (100 points)

Each student will prepare a ten to fifteen page historiographical essay on his/her chosen topic. Papers must contain at least 20 scholarly sources, including at least five books from academic presses and at least five articles from peer-reviewed journals; both should range in date of publication balancing older works with newer works to give a complete reflection of historiographical trends. The rough draft is due by **Tuesday, January 21, at 11:59 p.m., Central Time**. Late papers will be penalized 5 points per 24 hour period after the due date. This assignment should be formatted and cited in *Turabian* Notes-Bibliography style, utilizing the Submission Guidelines.

*- Writing Center Appointment & Feedback Response* (45 points)

Each student will make and keep an appointment with the Writing Center between the submission of the Rough Draft and the final Historiographical Paper. After that appointment and Dr. Crowe has returned the graded Rough Draft, each student will write a one page response to the feedback received from the Writing Center, comparing it to Dr. Crowe’s comments and expressing how he/she intends to incorporate these notes/suggestions into the final version of the paper. This assignment is due on **Tuesday, February 4, at 11:59 p.m., Central Time**. No late work accepted.

*-Final Version of Historiographical Paper (50 points)*

Incorporating all feedback, students will create the final version of the historiographical paper. The bibliography of the paper will be made available to the class via the discussion board for that week. The paper and the bibliography are due by **Wednesday, February 12, at 11:59 p.m., Central Time**. Late papers will be penalized 5 points per 24 hour period after the due date. This assignment should be formatted and cited in *Turabian* Notes-Bibliography style, utilizing the Submission Guidelines.

Method of determining course grade:

* Weekly Discussion Boards 165 points
* Book Reviews 200 points
* Project Proposal 40 points
* Rough Draft 100 points
* Feedback Response 45 points
* Final Paper 50 points

**600 points total**

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 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.

Communication Policy:I communicate via the course Blackboard site and through Wayland email. It is your responsibility to check both forms of communication on a daily basis. I will not respond to correspondence from non-WBU email addresses. Blackboard works best with Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome. Using other browsers may result in technical difficulties, for which you are responsible.

[**http://catalog.wbu.edu**](http://catalog.wbu.edu)

Tentative Schedule**:**

Date Topic Assignments\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Week 1: Nov 11-17 Intro/What is the West? **Book Choices**

Week 2: Nov 18-24 Religion in the United States **Topic Ideas**

**Thanksgiving Break: November 25-December 1**

Week 3: Dec 2-8 Indigenous Religions & the West Ch. 1/**Reviews**

**Project Proposal**

Week 4: Dec 9-15 Missions to New Worlds Ch. 2/**Reviews**

Week 5: Dec 16-22 Migrations & Manifest Destiny Ch. 3/**Reviews**

**Christmas Break: December 23-January 5**

Week 6: Jan 6-12 Mormonism Ch. 3 & 4/**Reviews**

Week 7: Jan 13-19 The West & Religion: 1860-1890 Ch. 4/**Reviews**

Week 8: Jan 20-26 Religion in the Modern West Ch. 5/**Reviews**

Week 9: Jan 27-Feb 2 Religion in the Cold War West Ch. 6/**Reviews**

Week 10: Feb 3-9 Creativity & Controversy after 1965 Ch. 7 & Conclusion/**Reviews**

Week 11: Feb 10-15 Final Projects **Historiographical Paper due**