**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 2301 VC 01 – United States History to 1877

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Fall 2 2025

**Instructor**

**:** Dr. Eric Ash

**Office Phone Number**

**:** N/A

**WBU Email Address**

**:** ashe@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**: N/A**

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**: Online**

**Course Information**

**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.**

**Textbook Information**

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

**: *American Horizons*** Schaller, Greenwood, Kirk, Purcell, Sheehan-Dean, Snyder Oxford 5th 2025 9780197767382

*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.*

**Optional Materials**

**: N/A**

**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
* Causes, course, and results of the Civil War
* Political and social ramifications of Southern Reconstruction

**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 , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. Generative AI tools permitted in specific context and with proper citations.
   1. Students are allowed to use, reference, or incorporate generative AI tools into specific assignments for this course. When used, students must properly cite the generative AI tool in their submitted work.
   2. While there is no true substitute for direct help and instruction for your instructor, students may be allowed to use generative AI tools to provide further explanations of course content, readings, and other assignments. Any use of generative AI tools to help further explain or translate to content must be properly referenced and cited.
   3. Specific parameters for generative AI usage are provided by the instructor.
   4. Any use of generative AI tools outside of the approved instructor parameters will be considered a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

**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**

Essay: 10-15 pages, double spaced, not counting title page and bibliography/references pages. The essay is due at the end of week #7 (**NLT noon Friday 31 Oct**). The essay must be submitted two ways: attached as a Word document to an email to the instructor, and also submitted in Blackboard. Essays must be original, individual work of the student (not from another course, another student or family member, and definitely **not a product of AI**). The paper can be on any topic in US history during the timeframe of the course. It must make an argument (have a clear thesis statement) and must be researched from a sufficient number of scholarly/peer reviewed sources to cover the topic (probably 10-20 for a paper of this size).

Graded Work: 2 Quizzes: 100 points each/ total 200 points

1 Research Essay 200 points

Attendance/participation 100 points

Final Quiz 100 points

Course Total 600 points

Examinations: 2 Quizzes, and a final Quiz - (50% of the final grade)

Research Project: A scholarly essay on a specific topic, containing a definite thesis statement - (17% of the final grade)

Attendance and Participation (Discussion Board): (17% of the final grade)

**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**

< **Lesson Date Assignment**

1 13-18 Oct Text Chapts 1-2

Readings: xi; xiii; 1.2; 2.2;

2 20-25 Oct Text Chapts 3-4

Readings: 3.2; 3.4; 4.3

3 27 Oct – 1 Nov Text Chapts 5-6

***Quiz # 1***  (lessons 1-3) Readings: 5.3; 5.4; 6.2; 6.4; 6.6

4 3-8 Nov Text Chapts 7-9

Readings: 7.2; 7.4; 8.5

5 10-15 Nov Text Chapts 10-11

Readings: 10.6; 11.5

6 17-22 Nov Text Chapts 12-14

***Quiz # 2*** (lessons 4-6) Readings: 12.1; 12.5; 13.2; 14.4

7 1-6 Dec (***Papers due noon 5 Dec)*** Text Chapt 15

8 8-13 Dec ***Final Quiz*** (all lessons) ***due noon 12 Dec***

**Additional Information N/A**