

Fall 2025-HIST 1301-062-Souliman: US History to 1877 (Online)

Introduction:

This course will cover the history, social, and political changes in North America (and later the United States) from pre-colonization to the end of Reconstruction (1877). Since this class is completely online, feel free to send me an email with any questions or concerns.

Instructor: Meri Souliman, M.A.

Email: merisouliman@uttyler.edu

Office: N/A

Office Hours: By appointment. If you need extra help on a topic or simply have any questions, we can make accommodation to meet those needs. The best way to reach me is by email or through Canvas Inbox to set up virtual times to meet that will work with your schedule. During the week I will return emails within 24 hours and on the weekend within 48 hours.

Required Text: America: A Narrative History- Brief 12th Edition. Author: David Emory Shi.

ISBN: 978-0-393-88250-6

Course Objectives: Following the completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the role and impact of national and international conflicts on America from pre-colonization to Reconstruction
- Identify significant events that occurred in early America, along with important individuals.
- Recognize and analyze significant social, economic, and political changes from pre-colonization to Reconstruction

Expectations: It is expected that everyone on this course to always be respectful to one another, even if the class is completely online, It is also expected that all exams and discussion assignments be submitted on or before the due date.

Methods of Evaluation:

3 major unit exams 75% (25 points each)

2 Online discussion activities 25% (12.5 points each)

*Note on exams and assignments: Exams will be online in a timed manner. Additionally, you are not allowed to use any resources (textbook, notes, phone) on your exams.

If you miss a test, you must explain why and request a make-up test in writing, preferably through email. You will receive a score of zero for an unexplained or unexcused missed test, and I reserve the right to disqualify your excuse. Makeup tests without point deductions are given **only** in cases of documented illness, legal cases, mechanical difficulties, or other emergency circumstances. Makeup tests and assignments without a medical/emergency excuse, will have a percentage deduction of 25% if made up within 3 days, anything after that will result in a 50% grade deduction.

Makeup tests **must** be arranged by you, and you should contact me **through the Canvas Inbox or email** to excuse your absence, **no later than** the next weekday after the test deadline or at the end of your emergency.

Timeframes for Submitting Tests and Discussion Assignments

Check the Course Schedule for the availability and due dates for each exam and discussion assignment. No late testing is allowed. You have one attempt to take each test. Any late submissions will have a 25% deduction points.

Discussion Instructions

Discussion with your classmates is a vital part of learning. In this course, you will participate in 2 class discussions in this course. These discussions are a required part of the course.

Discussion Requirements

Your posts in the discussion area should portray careful thought and logical reasoning and provide evidence for your position. Each post should be at least one well-developed paragraph (approximately 100 words or more). Use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar. The discussions must be completed by the due dates specified on the Course Schedule in the Start Here Module.

Replying to Other Students' Posts

You are also required to read and reply to the posts of at least two other students for each discussion. Your replies should offer new substantiated ideas or thoughtful questions.

Grading

Each discussion topic is worth 12.5 points (12.5% each). The number of points you earn is determined as follows:

Grade Breakdown for Discussions

Your Post – Criteria	Points
Logical reasoning and evidence	6
Spelling and grammar	1.5
Length of post, approximately 100 words or more	1
Replies to Classmate Posts – Criteria	Points
New substantiated ideas or thoughtful questions	2.5
Spelling and grammar	1.5
Total Points for Each Discussion Topic	12.5

Grade Breakdown:

A: > 89.5

B: 79.5 - 89.4

C: 69.5 - 79.4

D: 59.5 - 69.4

F: 59.4 or below

Note: At the end of the semester, final grades will not be rounded up.

Course Calendar

Course Schedule

Deadline

Week 1 (August 25th-August 29th)

Read Syllabus Module

Submit Syllabus Quiz

Read: Chapter 1 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 1

August 31st

Week 2 (September 1st-September 5th)

Read: Chapter 2 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 2

September 7th

Week 3 (September 8th - September 12th)

Read: Chapter 3 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 3

September 14th

Week 4 (September 15th– September 19th)

Read: Chapter 4 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 4

September 21st

***Optional exam review will be uploaded for Exam 1**

Week 5 (September 22nd – September 26th)

Read chapter 5 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 5

September 28th

Take Exam 1 (over chapters 1,2,3,4,5)

September 28th

Week 6 (September 29th – October 3rd)

Read: Chapter 6 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 6

October 5th

Week 7 (October 6th - October 10th)

Read: Chapter 7 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 7

October 12th

Discussion #1 Due

October 12th

Week 8 (October 13th – October 17th)

Read: Chapter 8 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 8

Read chapter 9 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 9

October 19th

Week 9 (October 20th – October 24th)

Read chapter 10 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 10

*Optional exam review will be uploaded

October 26th

Take Exam#2 (covers chapter 6,7,8,9,10)

Week 10 (October 27th – October 31st)

Read chapter 11 and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 11

November 2nd

Discussion #2 Due

November 2nd

Week 11 (November 3rd- November 7th)

Read chapter 12 and 13, and listen to the recorded lecture for chapter 12 and 13

November 9th

Week 12 (November 10th – November 14th)

Read chapter 14 and listen to the recorded lectures for chapters 14

November 16th

Week 13 (November 17th – November 21st)

Read chapter 15 and listen to the recorded lectures for chapter 15

November 23rd

November 24th – November 28th (Thanksgiving Break)

Week 14 (December 1st – December 5th)

Study for Exam #3! *Optional exam review will be uploaded, as with above exams, I highly recommend that you look at it*

Week 15 (December 8th – December 12th)

Exam #3 (covers chapters 11,12,13,14,15)

December 12th

Resources to assist you in the course

- [UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)
- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#)
- [The Mathematics Learning Center](#)
- [UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)
- [Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)
- [Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)
- [Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unichack, and other software)
- Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)
- LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam
- [The Career Success Center](#)
- [UT Tyler Testing Center](#)
- [Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)
- [MySSP App](#) (24/7 access to Student Support Program counseling through phone or chat and online wellness resources available in a variety of languages)
- [Student Assistance and Advocacy Center](#)
- [Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (supports for our military-affiliated students)
- [UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)
- [UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [UT Tyler Student Business Services](#) (pay or set up payment plans, etc.)
- [UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Title IX Reporting](#)

- [Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class

Students may [withdraw](#) (drop) from this course using the [Withdrawal Portal](#). Withdrawing (dropping) this course can impact your Financial Aid, Scholarships, Veteran Benefits, Exemptions, Waivers, International Student Status, housing, and degree progress. Please speak with your instructors, consider your options, speak with your advisor, and visit the One-Stop Service Center (STE 230) or email enroll@uttyler.edu to get a complete review of your student account and the possible impacts to withdrawing. We want you to make an informed decision. UT Tyler faculty and staff are here for you and often can provide additional support options or assistance. Make sure to carefully [read the implications for withdrawing from a course and the instructions](#) on using the [Withdrawal portal](#)..

Texas law prohibits students from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career*. The six courses dropped includes those from other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress and other areas, such as financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and Enrollment Services for additional guidance. **CAUTION #1:** Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the [Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule](#). **CAUTION #2:** All international students must check with the [Office of International Programs](#) before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms. **CAUTION #3:** All UT Tyler Athletes must check with the Athletic Academic Coordinator before withdrawing from a course. **CAUTION #4:** All veterans or military-affiliated students should consult with the [Military and Veterans Success Center](#).

* Students who began college for the first time before 2007 are exempt from this law.

Artificial Intelligence Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the

guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy. Refer to the About This Course section of the UT Tyler Syllabus Module for specific information on appropriate use of AI in your course(s).

For this course,

AI is not permitted in this course at all.

I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.

Final Exam Policy

Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the Dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members must maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy

If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in place of a grade *only when **all** of the following conditions are met:* (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all coursework or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons before the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average. The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to meet all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has yet to be assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F, or NC. If the course was initially taken under the CR/NC grading basis, this may adversely affect the student's academic standing.

Grade Appeal Policy

Disputes regarding grades must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade by filing a Grade Appeal Form with the instructor who assigned the grade. A grade appeal should be used when the student thinks the final course grade awarded does not reflect the grades earned on assessments or follow the grading scale as documented in the syllabus. The student should provide the rationale for the grade appeal and attach supporting document about the grades earned. The form should be sent via email to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The faculty member reviews the rationale and supporting documentation and completes the instruction section of the form. The instructor should return the form to the student, even if a grade change is made at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the decision, the student may appeal in writing to the Chairperson of the department from which the grade was issued. In situations where there is an allegation of capricious grading, discrimination, or unlawful actions, appeals may go beyond the Chairperson to the Dean or the Dean's designee of the college from which the grade was issued, with that decision being final. The Grade Appeal form is found in the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

NOTE: The Grade Appeal Form is different from the Application for Appeal form submitted to the Student Appeals Committee, which does not rule on grade disputes as described in this policy.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical, and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with the Assistant Director Student Accessibility and Resources/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <https://www.uttyler.edu/disability-services>, the SAR office located in the Robert Muntz Library, LIB 460, email saroffice@uttyler.edu, or call 903.566.7079."

Military Affiliated Students

UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with your faculty member if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make your faculty member aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. Your faculty member is willing to work

with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. The [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC\)](#) has campus resources for military-affiliated students. The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Students on an F-1 Visa

To remain in compliance with Federal Regulations requirements you must do the following:

- Traditional face-to-face classes: Attend classes on the regular meeting days/times.
- Hybrid Classes: Attend all face-to-face classes convened by the instructor according to the schedule set for your specific course.
- Online course: Only one online course can count toward your full-time enrollment. Students are expected to be fully engaged and meet all requirements for the online course.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct

The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA

UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements to protect your confidential information.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for University Events or Activities](#) as noted in the Catalog.

Absence for Religious Holidays

This course follows the practices related to [Excused Absences for Religious Holy Days as noted in the Catalog](#).

Absence for Pregnant Students

This course follows the requirements of Texas Laws SB 412, SB 459, SB 597/HB 1361 to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Part of the supports afforded pregnant students includes excused absences. Faculty who are informed by a student of needing this support should make a referral to the Parenting Student Liaison. NOTE: Students must work with the Parenting Student Liaison in order to receive these supports. Students should reach out to the

Parenting Student Liaison at parents@uttyler.edu and also complete the [Pregnant and Parenting Self-Reporting Form](#).

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.