

**University of Texas at Tyler**  
**HIST 1301.001, United States History I**  
**Administration Bldng Rm 127**  
**MWF, 9:05-10:00**  
 Spring 2016

**Instructor:** Dr. Stith  
**Email:** mstith@uttyler.edu  
**Office:** BUS 238  
**Office Hours:** MWF, 10:10-11:10; Or by appointment.

**Course Description:**

We will explore American history from human origins in North America to the end of Reconstruction. In doing so, we will examine social, political, environmental, cultural, and military history and how each together shaped the course of American history.

**Content Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a strong understanding of the development of the United States in both a domestic and global context.
2. Think critically and objectively about early America and its role in both shaping and being shaped by the world.
3. Develop analytical skills through thinking, talking, and writing about American history in relation to the world.

**Important Note:**

I encourage you to meet with me regularly to discuss or clarify lecture, discussion, or reading—or to talk about American history in general. My job (and satisfaction) is as much to work with students on an individual basis as it is to lecture and facilitate discussion. Please keep this in mind throughout the semester.

**Required Reading:**

- Nathaniel Philbrick, *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex* (New York: Penguin, 2000)
- Mark K. Christ, ed., *"This Day We Marched Again": A Union Soldier's Account of War in Arkansas and the Trans-Mississippi* (Little Rock: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 2014)
- Ton Wing, ed., *"A Rough Introduction to this Sunny Land: The Civil War Diary of Private Henry A. Strong, Co. K, Twelfth Kansas Infantry* (Little Rock: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, 2006)

**Recommended Reading:**

- James Oakes, et al., *Of the People: A History of the United States, Concise, Vol. 1* (Oxford Univ. Press, ANY EDITION)

**Exams:**

There will be three exams. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Each question will be worth one point for a total of 50. You will receive a study guide at least one week prior to each exam. Exams are not cumulative.

**Philbrick Assignment:**

You will carefully analyze Nathaniel Philbrick's *In the Heart of the Sea* in a modified "review." The assignment's structure will be based on a series of questions (to be provided) that you will consider and respond to as you read the book. Detailed instructions will be distributed early in the semester. The assignment is worth 50 points, and it is due via Blackboard by 11:59pm on Friday, March 25.

**Civil War Essay:**

Using ONLY the Civil War diaries edited by Christ and Wing, carefully craft a 4-6 page essay in which you develop a strong thesis supported by material from both diaries. You can write about any theme or idea that most intrigues you—from soldier experience in combat to the natural environment, etc. Detailed instructions will be distributed early in the semester. The assignment is worth 50 points, and it is due via Blackboard by 11:59pm on the date of the Final (TBA). This essay counts as your Final.

**Attendance and Participation:**

Regular attendance is essential to succeed in this course.

**Point Breakdown:**

Exam I:	50 pts
Exam II:	50 pts
Exam III:	50 pts
Philbrick Assignment:	50 pts
<u>Civil War Essay</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
Total:	250 pts

**Classroom Conduct:**

Don't be disruptive, and try to be in class on time.

**Make-up Policy:**

I will work with you on an individual basis with regard to any missed exams or deadlines.

**Academic Honesty:**

Cheating of any kind, including plagiarism, will result in immediate failure of the class and possibly further sanctions from the University of Texas at Tyler. Plagiarism, put simply, is using another's work as your own without proper citation or usage. This includes everything from copying and pasting from the Internet to failing to cite an idea from another source that you put in your own words. I strongly recommend reviewing the university policy for cheating and academic dishonesty at the following website: <http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/scholasticdishonesty.php>

**Schedule/Topic Outline:**

- Introduction
- Worlds in Motion, 1450-1550 (Chap. 1)
- Colonial Outposts, 1550-1650 (Chap. 2)
- The English Come to Stay, 1600-1660 (Chap. 3)
- Continental Empires, 1660-1720 (Chap. 4)
- The Eighteenth Century World, 1700-1775 (Chap. 5)
- Conflict in the Empire, 1713-1774 (Chap. 6)
- Creating a New Nation, 1774-1788 (Chap. 7)
- Contested Republic, 1789-1800 (Chap. 8)
- A Republic in Transition, 1800-1819 (Chap. 9)
- Jacksonian Democracy, 1820-1840 (Chap. 10)
- Reform and Conflict, 1820-1848 (Chap. 11)
- Slavery and the Nation, 1790-1860 (Chap. 12)
- Manifest Destiny, 1836-1848 (Chap. 13)
- The Politics of Slavery, 1848-1860 (Chap. 14)
- War for Union and Emancipation, 1861-1865 (Chap. 15)
- Reconstructing a Nation, 1865-1877 (Chap. 16)

**Important Dates:**

Fri., Feb. 19:	Exam I
Wed., March 23:	NO CLASS (Study/Work on Philbrick Assignment)
Fri., March 25:	Exam II (in class) and Philbrick Assignment (by 11:59pm)
Fri., April 29:	Exam III
Date TBA	Civil War Essay (aka, Final Exam)

### **University-Wide Syllabus Policies**

The following University policies must appear on each course syllabus or be provided as an informational sheet (web-links to these policies may be used in the print or electronic syllabus) <http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf>

### **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### **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 offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible a disability diagnosis such as a chronic disease, learning disorder, head injury or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with an Accessibility Case Manager. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR webpage (<http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices/>) or the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

### **Student Absence due to Religious Observance**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### **Social Security and FERPA Statement:**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

### **Emergency Exits and Evacuation:**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.



