

**Grayson College Course Syllabus**  
**HIST 1301 – US History to 1877 - Internet**  
**Professor Chad Tomaselli**

**Please Note:** Due to extenuating circumstances, including public health issues, course and testing delivery methods, instructional schedules, housing contracts, campus procedures and/or operating hours may be altered, interrupted and/or ceased for a limited or extended period of time. Such changes will be posted on the College website.

**Professor Contact Information**

**E-mail:** Please contact me through Canvas for all course-related matters and use **tomasellic@grayson.edu** for emergencies or if Canvas is down

**Phone:** (903)463-8607

**Office:** LA 105C

**Office Hours:** (ZOOM ONLY)

TBD

Other times available by appointment

**Course Description**

A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the pre-Columbian era to the Civil War/Reconstruction period. United States History I includes: the study of pre-Columbian, colonial, revolutionary, early national, slavery and sectionalism, and the Civil War/Reconstruction eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History I include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

Reading/Writing Intensive

**Textbook (Recommended, NOT Required)**

*The American Yawp* - Available for free and online at: <http://www.americanyawp.com/>

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.

Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.

Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

**Course Structure**

This is an 8-week internet course based on the lecture experience. In an online model, the subject material is presented entirely online through lecture videos. This course is divided into three roughly equal units. The specific assignments are detailed below.

**Course Objectives**

The main goal of this course is to present an overview (at times in-depth) of American History from the Reconstruction Era through the Present. Course goals are linked to the required Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies, Perspectives, and Exemplary Educational Objectives as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Course Assessment**

Student success is measured by assessment techniques aligned with course goals and learning outcomes. A variety of techniques may be used, including but not limited to objective exams, essay exams, written reports, written journals, oral presentations, and group projects.

**Assignments:**

Three major exams - 45% Total (Exam 1 = 15%, Exams 2 = 15%, Exam 3 = 15%)

Eleven Quizzes - 40% Total (4% each)

Three Discussions - 15% Total (5% each)

### Exams

There are three exams for this course, one for each individual unit. There is no separate final exam, as the Unit 3 Exam acts as a final exam. At present, none of the exams are comprehensive. Exams are weighted as 45% of your final average. Each exam is individually weighted as 15% of your grade. Exams typically consist of multiple choice, matching, and short response sections, though are subject to change at the discretion of the professor. These exams are timed with a maximum of 1 hour and 15 minutes, the same as is allotted for students in face-to-face courses. Once you begin an exam the timer will start and cannot be paused. Do not start the exam and try to come back to it later. Failure to complete the exam within the allotted time will result in you earning zero points for all unanswered questions. **Furthermore, you are required to use LockDown Browser for all exams. Instructions are provided in Canvas.** Also, it is inadvisable to try to look up answers during the exam time, as this always takes longer than you think and often results in time running out before the exam is completed. **Do not assume that you will be able to make-up or attempt an exam (or any other assignment) automatically after the deadline.** You are given at least three days to find the time to take your exam, which is more than enough. For more, see the "Make-Up Assignments" section.

#### Exam Dates

- Unit 1 Exam – End of Week 3 (Lectures 1a-8c)
- Unit 2 Exam – End of Week 5 (Lectures 9a-15c)
- Unit 3 Exam – Week 8 (Lectures 16a-25c)

### Quizzes

There are eleven multiple choice quizzes for this course covering the lectures. At the end of the semester, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Therefore, you should take all eleven quizzes, but only ten will count toward your final average. Each quiz is thus worth 4% each for a cumulative total of 40% of your grade. This is not an invitation to skip a quiz or to not do your assigned work. It is a courtesy provided by the professor to account for unexpected events and/or poor performance on a single quiz. Each quiz consists of 20 multiple choice questions and is timed, with a maximum of 30 minutes allowed. Each quiz covers a specific set of lecture videos, which can be found on the syllabus, in the master schedule, and at the end of this paragraph. Once you begin a quiz the timer will start and cannot be paused, so do not start and decide to come back later. Failure to complete a quiz within the allotted time will result in all unanswered questions earning you zero points. Furthermore, it is inadvisable to try to look up answers during the quiz time, as this always takes longer than you think and often results in time running out before the quiz is completed. **Do not assume that you will be able to make-up or attempt a quiz (or any other assignment) automatically after the deadline.** You are given at least four days, and usually an entire week, to find 30 minutes to sit down and take a quiz, which is more than enough. For more, see the "Make-Up Assignments" section.

#### Quiz Dates and Material

- Quiz 1 - Week 1 (Introduction Videos & 1a-1d)
- Quiz 2 - Week 1 (Lectures 2a-3c)
- Quiz 3 - Week 2 (Lectures 4a-5c)
- Quiz 4 - Week 2 (Lectures 6a-7c)
- Quiz 5 - Week 4 (Lectures 9a-10c)
- Quiz 6 - Week 4 (Lectures 11a-12c)
- Quiz 7 - Week 5 (Lectures 13a-15c)
- Quiz 8 - Week 6 (Lectures 16a-17c)
- Quiz 9 - Week 6 (Lectures 18a-19c)
- Quiz 10 - Week 7 (Lectures 20a-21d)
- Quiz 11 - Week 7 (Lectures 22a-25c)

### Discussions

There are three discussions worth 5% each for a total of 15% of your final grade. These are based on prompts designed not for you to simply regurgitate the information you are learning, but to think critically and synthesize that information into something more. Each discussion assignment consists of you creating a short (250-300 word) post answering the provided prompt and then posting an even shorter (100-150 word) response to another student's post. For each discussion, your original post and response are each worth 5 points, for a total of ten per discussion. You will not be allowed to post a response until you have created your own original post. For your own post, do not fall into the trap of copying or paraphrasing an outside website, the textbook, or your lecture notes. These actions are all considered plagiarism and will earn you, at the very least, a zero for the assignment. Use your own words and thoughts, based on what you have learned to that point, to answer the prompt and respond to your fellow students. To reiterate, while you are not to simply restate the information back to me, and your colleagues, you should demonstrate that you understand the material by supporting your posts with specific details, evidence, and examples. Most importantly, while this is an internet course we will treat these discussions as if they were in person. You are not here to "win" a debate. You are here to discuss your opinion, supported by the lecture material, on a prompt. Disagreement is perfectly okay and generally makes for better discussion, but that is where it should end. Aggression, personal attacks, trolling, vulgar language, and the like will not be tolerated and will have serious consequences, beginning with a zero for the assignment and escalating from there. If you follow the simple rule of "don't be a jerk," then we will have nothing to worry about.

#### Discussion Dates and Prompts

Discussion 1 - Week 3 (Nature of the American Revolution)

Discussion 2 - Week 5 (Downfall of the Federalist Party)

Discussion 3 - Week 7 (Radical Abolitionism) (includes reading from *American Yawp*)

### Final Grade Calculation

Your final grade is tabulated through a simple weighted average formula. Letter grades correspond to numerical grade ranges: A=90-100+, B=89-80, C=79-70, D=69-60, F=59-0. Grades **are NOT** automatically rounded to the next letter grade. Whether a grade is rounded is up to the professor's discretion. The two primary considerations for rounding are consistent attendance and improvement over the course of the semester, but again, grades WILL NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY ROUNDED UP. The professor also reserves the right to alter the testing/assignment workload depending upon unintended circumstances that might arise during the semester that will impact the point distribution scale above. Finally, all grades will be posted online in Canvas.

### **Late Work**

No late work will be accepted unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances AND prior arrangements are made with the professor. All assignment due dates are firm, not negotiable, and posted in multiple locations in Canvas. Therefore, there is no excuse for simply forgetting a due date or not completing an assignment. Only in extreme circumstances (which require documentation) will such work be accepted after the due date.

### **Make-up Assignments**

Due to the nature of online courses, make-up assignments are not allowed by default. As with late work, only extreme and extenuating circumstances will potentially merit a make-up assignment, and only if an absence has been satisfactorily discussed in conference with the Professor in sufficient time before the assignment date or as soon as possible in case of emergencies. The format of make-up assignments is entirely at the discretion of the professor. Emergencies and accidents happen, so if you have a last-minute conflict, you should contact the professor ASAP instead of waiting.

## **Class Attendance**

Academic success is closely associated with regular attendance and course participation. All successful students, whether on campus or online, are expected to be highly self-motivated. Students are required to participate in courses regularly and are obliged to participate in class activities and complete and submit assignments following their professors' instructions. Students taking courses during compressed semester timeframes such as mini-mester, summer sessions, and 8-week courses should plan to spend significantly more time per week on the course. Responsibility for work missed because of illness or school business is placed upon the student. The college considers absences equal to or greater than 15% of the course's requirements to be excessive. Class attendance is imperative for student success in this course and daily attendance is taken. Attendance will be taken and kept in Canvas but is NOT part of your class grade. In order for students to be counted as having attended a class before the census date, the following guidelines are to be used: • Physical attendance in class with an opportunity for instructor and student interaction • Submission of an academic assignment • Completion of an exam, interactive tutorial, or computer-assisted instruction • Attendance at a study group assigned by the faculty • Participation in an online discussion in the class • Contact with a faculty member to ask a question

## **Student Conduct & Discipline**

*Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the Professor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity.*

This is a college class and you are expected to act in a manner befitting a college student. This class is lecture based, thus, paying attention and taking notes are critical to your success. Anything you do that takes away from your concentration or limits your ability to take notes is directly harming your grade in this class. You are expected to arrive on time and be seated and ready to go when class begins. You are allowed to use laptops and tablets for note taking. Please do not surf the internet or play games during class. Cell phones must be left in your pocket or your bags as they are nothing more than a distraction in class. There is no legitimate reason to have your phone out during class. You will not begin packing your things at the end of class until you are released from class. These behaviors are rude and inconsiderate to your peers and the instructor. You are in this class because you want college credit and following these simple behavioral guidelines will help you attain that goal. In case of an emergency, remain calm and quiet and follow the directions of your instructor.

Students should know that it is **unacceptable** in this classroom setting to:

Make or receive cell phone calls or text message during class. All cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices should be turned off and put away when class begins.

Students should only use laptops for anything other than note taking. At the first sign of computer usage distracting other students, you will be asked to put the device away.

Distracting your classmates in any way. If you want to hurt your grades by not paying attention, the least you can do is show respect for those around you who are making an effort. Students that distract other students, or the professor, will be asked to leave if the behavior continues.

**The Professor will ask a student to excuse themselves from the class for disregard of any of the expectations listed above.**

Be prepared to consider views different from your own. Every opinion is important, but I will not tolerate any disparaging remarks toward another person's belief system. Even if you believe that others in the class agree with your remarks. There is a big difference between debating a point and ridiculing someone else. There will always be people with diverse backgrounds, orientations, persuasions, and experiences. Every person has the right to be treated respectfully, except Nazis. If you are uncomfortable with any remark made in this class – whether from me or a classmate – please contact me or a Title IX coordinator to discuss and remedy the issue.

## Student Responsibility

You have already made the decision to go to college; now you must decide whether to commit to doing the work or wasting this opportunity. Education involves a partnership that requires both students and instructors to do their parts. By entering into this partnership, you have a responsibility to show up for class, do the assignments and reading, be engaged and pay attention in class, follow directions, and put your best effort into it. You will get out of your experience here exactly what you put into it – nothing more and nothing less.

## Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)

Plagiarism is a form of scholastic dishonesty involving the theft of or fraudulent representation of someone else's ideas or words as the student's original work. Plagiarism can be intentional/deliberate or unintentional/accidental. Unintentional/Accidental plagiarism may include *minor* instances where an attempt to acknowledge the source exists but is incorrect or insufficient. Deliberate/intentional plagiarism violates a student's academic integrity and exists in the following forms:

- Turning in someone else's work as the student's own (such as buying a paper and submitting it, exchanging papers or collaborating on a paper with someone else without permission, or paying someone else to write or translate a paper),
- Recycling in whole or in part previously submitted or published work or concurrently submitting the same written work where the expectation for current original work exists, including agreeing to write or sell one's own work to someone else,
- Quoting or copy/pasting phrases of three words or more from someone else without citation,
- Paraphrasing ideas without citation or paraphrasing incompletely, with or without correct citation, where the material too closely matches the wording or structure of the original,
- Submitting an assignment with a majority of quoted or paraphrased material from other sources, even if correctly cited, when original work from the student is expected,
- Copying images or media and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Using copyrighted soundtracks or video and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Giving incorrect or nonexistent source information or inventing source information,
- Performing a copyrighted piece of music in a public setting without permission,
- Composing music based heavily on someone else's musical composition.

### Consequences of Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)

Plagiarism is a form of cheating and an unacceptable and serious violation of academic integrity. **Any single instance of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will earn you a zero for the assignment. A second offense of any kind will earn you a zero for the entire course.** If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please ask. Any student who is found to have plagiarized or cheated on ANY assignment will be subject to consequences. Excuses of: “I didn’t know” or “I didn’t understand” will not be accepted. Once again, if you do not understand what plagiarism is, please ask.

### Turnitin.com

Turnitin.com is an anti-plagiarism and copyright infringement website designed to ensure that you are turning in original and academically honest work. Turnitin is integrated into Canvas, so all writing assignments submitted online will be checked by turnitin’s databases. You will not need to sign up for the website separately. If you are found to have plagiarized your work, you will be subject to the consequences detailed above.

## Computer Hardware and Software Requirements

Generally, personal computers purchased in the last three years should be adequate to access Canvas and utilize LockDown Browser. Canvas also is available as an app for your mobile devices, though primary usage should be on a personal computer or a tablet and not your cell phone. Students needing assistance with accessing instructional technology should contact the GCC Help Desk. For more information, visit [www.grayson.edu](http://www.grayson.edu) and select the Help Desk link.

### **Alternative Procedures for Submitting Work**

Please do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments. Students should allow enough time before the due date to submit all assignments to account for unforeseen problems. Should there be a technical issue, immediately notify the instructor. Alternative arrangements, if permitted, will be discussed at that time. If it is not possible to send email, call the professor's office phone number.

### **Technical Difficulties**

These are the responsibility of the student, **NOT** the Professor. Assignments are made available early enough that if problems do occur, students will be able to make other arrangements to complete and submit the work as assigned. "Technical Difficulties" will NOT be an acceptable excuse for failing to submit work in the format required or in a timely manner. The GC Homepage provides information on reaching the "Help Desk" to resolve problems.

### **Writing Center:**

The writing Center is located in room 110 on the first floor of the Grayson College Library. This resource is designed to provide the student with free assistance in his/her writing projects. Please contact the Writing Center for hours and days of operation. I encourage students to make use of this resource especially with their outside writing assignments.

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act.

### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle student-initiated withdrawal requirements from any class. You must complete the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

### **Additional Policies and Tips for Success:**

- ATTEND CLASS AND TAKE DETAILED LECTURE NOTES.
- If you ever feel the need to appeal a grade you have received on a piece of work, please wait 24 hours to contact the professor to discuss the issue and/or schedule a meeting. Please be respectful with your concerns, as personal attacks will not lead to your desired outcome.
- It is in your interest to keep permanent electronic copies of all assignments and to keep all graded quizzes, papers, and exams until your final grade is posted.
- Do not start putting away your things during the last few minutes of class. This is a sign of disrespect toward your classmates and your professor.
- Tardiness does not offend me, but it is distracting when people drift in late. Tardiness also causes you to miss important announcements, roll call, and you may miss lecture material. **However, I would rather have you come in late than not at all.** Just be considerate and take the first seat available. Habitual lateness, however, will merit a discussion with the professor.
- If you cheat or commit any other act of academic dishonesty, you will receive a zero for the assignment and more if the situation merits. This includes falsification of attendance records and

looking off someone else's quiz or exam. Papers, online quizzes, and at-home work must be individual endeavors. There is no excuse for plagiarism.

- Let me know if you need help or if you have any questions. I cannot help you until you let me know there is a problem. Do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for help.
- Course information will be distributed via our Canvas shell. I will use Canvas extensively to post announcements and materials. Be sure to check it at least twice a week. All communications with the professor should be initiated through Canvas messenger.

### **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in the Testing Center, located on the second floor of the Student Success Building. The contact information for Disability Services is:

Jeffri Hodge

(903) 463-8751

[hodgej@grayson.edu](mailto:hodgej@grayson.edu)

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. **It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation.** Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

### **TITLE IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:

Dr. Molly Harris, Title IX Coordinator (903) 463-8714

Dr. Logan Maxwell, Title IX Deputy Coordinator- South Campus (903) 415-2646

Mr. Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator (903) 463-8753

Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>

GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777- Main Campus) (903) 415-2501 - South Campus)

GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8730

For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found on our Current Student Page on our website: <http://grayson.edu/current-students/index.html>

### Course Master Schedule

Week 1	<p>Introduction (Syllabus &amp; Course) Colonization, Part 1 (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d)</p> <p><u>Quiz 1</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p>Colonization, Part 2 (2a, 2b, 2c) French and Indian War (3a, 3b, 3c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 2</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p><u>Quiz 1 &amp; 2</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p>
Week 2	<p>Inter-War Period (4a, 4b, 4c) Revolutionary War, Part 1 (5a, 5b, 5c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 3</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p>Revolutionary War, Part 2 (6a, 6b) Articles of Confederation (7a, 7b, 7c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 4</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p><u>Quiz 3 &amp; 4</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p>
Week 3	<p>Constitution (8a, 8b, 8c)</p> <p><u>Discussion 1</u> Opens Monday</p>	<p><u>Discussion 1</u> Due Thursday, BEFORE Midnight</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 1 Exam</u></b> Covers All Unit 1 Lectures (1a – 8c) <b><u>Due Sunday,</u></b> <b><u>BEFORE midnight</u></b></p>
Week 4	<p>Washington (9a, 9b, 9c, 9d) Adams (10a, 10b, 10c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 5</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p>Jefferson (11a, 11b, 11c) War of 1812 (12a, 12b, 12c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 6</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p><u>Quiz 5 &amp; 6</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p>
Week 5	<p>Era of Good Feelings (13a, 13b, 13c) Age of Jackson, Part 1 (14a, 14b, 14c) Age of Jackson, Part 2 (15a, 15b, 15c) <u>Quiz 7</u> (Thursday)</p>	<p><u>Discussion 2</u> Due Thursday, BEFORE Midnight</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 2 Exam</u></b> Covers All Unit 2 Lectures (9a – 15c) <b><u>Due Sunday,</u></b> <b><u>BEFORE midnight</u></b></p>
Week 6	<p>Slavery (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) Manifest Destiny (17a, 17b, 17c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 8</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p>1850s, Part 1 (18a, 18b) 1850s, Part 2 (19a, 19b, 19c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 9</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p><b><u>Last Day to Drop Course</u></b> <b><u>TBD</u></b></p> <p><u>Quiz 8 &amp; 9</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p>



Week 7	<p>Civil War, Part 1 (20a, 20b, 20c) Civil War, Part 2 (21a, 21b, 21c, 21d)</p> <p><u>Quiz 10</u> (Sunday)</p>	<p>Civil War, Part 3 (22a, 22b, 22c, 22d) Civil War and Reconstruction (23a, 23b, 23c)</p> <p><u>Quiz 11</u> (Sunday)</p> <p><u>Discussion 3</u> Due Thursday, BEFORE Midnight</p>	<p><u>Quiz 10 &amp; 11</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p> <p><u>Discussion 3</u> Due Sunday, BEFORE Midnight</p>
Week 8	<p>Reconstruction (24a, 24b, 24c) New South (25a, 25b, 25c)</p>	<p><b><u>Unit 3 Exam</u></b> Covers All Unit 3 Lectures (16a – 25cc) <b><u>Due Thursday,</u></b> <b><u>BEFORE midnight</u></b></p>	