

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: HISTORY 2301**

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Discipline:** History

**Course Number:** HIST 2301

**Course Title:** Texas History

**Available Formats:** conventional, internet, hybrid

**Campuses:** Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, Dual-Credit

**Course Description:** A survey of the political, social, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of Texas from the pre-Columbian era to the present. Themes that may be addressed in Texas History include: Spanish colonization and Spanish Texas, Mexican Texas, the Republic of Texas, statehood and secession, oil, industrialization, and urbanization, civil rights, and modern Texas.

**Prerequisite:** TSI compliance in Reading

**Credit:** 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

**Textbook:** Varies according to instructor.

**This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** American History Foundational Component Area (060)

**Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:**

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- **Social Responsibility**—to include the demonstrated knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be familiar with the evolution of American political, social, and economic institutions and traditions from the arrival of Europeans to the mid-nineteenth century. This would include the ability to:

- 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.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** A pre- and post-test and/or a writing assignment rubric will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

**Course Evaluation:** See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**Diversity Statement:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about

ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**Disability Statement:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

**Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement:** If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**COVID-19 Statement:** If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at [dedens@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dedens@southplainscollege.edu) or 806-716-2376.

## **History 2301.334: Texas History**

Instructor: Russ Russell Spring 2022

Office: 220 (SC)

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**Course Overview:** History 2301 constitutes a general survey of Texas history from the earliest inhabitants to the present day. Given the time constraints of a one semester survey, and the broad range of subjects available for study, we will only be able to focus on a few major topics.

We will experience Texas history through visual media such as documentaries, primary sources written by people who lived and made the history of the period as well as secondary sources written by historians who have interpreted it. After reading, viewing, and discussing these materials over the course of a semester, you will be able to judge whose arguments you most closely agree with and develop interpretations and questions of your own.

**Course Objectives:** My goals for the course include, but are not limited to, the following:

You will increase your knowledge of events in Texas history and the reasons why they occurred.

You will be introduced to the art of historical interpretation through the reading, analysis and application of primary sources.

You will develop critical writing skills through essay writing.

We will exchange our interpretations and ideas through class discussions.

We will gain a deeper understanding of the importance of the relationship between past events and the historical context in which they occurred.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board of Texas has also identified the following as objectives for core classes in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

1. To employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. To examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.
3. To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

5. To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study.
6. To comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.
7. To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world.
8. To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view.
9. To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research.
10. To analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems.
11. To recognize and assume one's responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy.
12. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

**Required Readings:** History is a reading and writing intensive subject. It is imperative that you cover the assigned readings prior to class so that you can derive the full value from the lecture and to participate effectively in the discussions.

**Required Texts:**

Campbell, Randolph. *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*. Second edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. ISBN#: 978-0199779406

**Grading:**

Grades will be determined as follows:

Quizzes and viewing assignments	25%
Exams and writing assignments	75%

I will grade on the following scale:

100%-89.5% = A

89.4%-79.5% = B  
79.4% 69.5% = C  
69.4%-59.5% = D  
59.4%-0) = F

### **Examinations:**

Examinations will be open notes. The format of each exam will be discussed in class prior to review for each exam. The final exam will **not** be comprehensive.

### **Quizzes:**

There will be both periodic announced and unannounced quizzes. All unannounced quizzes will be drawn from the textbook assignment for the given class period. **There will be no make-up unannounced quizzes for any reason.**

### **Academic Writing:**

South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays.

### **Writing Assignments:**

Students will be required to complete two writing assignments this semester. I will announce details of the writing assignments in class. Writing assignments will count as two exam grades.

Formatting of your writing assignment must be as follows:

Writing assignments will be graded on proper grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc. The font must either be Times New Roman 12 or Arial 11. All margins must be 1." The text of your assignment must be double-spaced. There will be a two-point deduction for each formatting instruction not followed. Writing assignment one is due by class time on **Tuesday, March 1**. Writing assignment two is due by class time on **Monday, May 2**. No late work will be accepted. You will submit a hard copy of each assignment in class.

### **Student Privacy:**

South Plains College is bound by the Texas Open Records Law and the Family Educational

Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Information regarding these topics can be found in the South Plains College Catalog. As far as this class is concerned, I will **NOT** release or discuss your class performance, grades, averages, or attendance with anyone but you. This means that your

parents, class counselors, principals, or any other interested party will not gain this information from me – if they need this sort of information they must ask you for it.

### **Civility/Academic Dishonesty:**

Most students have a good sense of proper classroom behavior and seek to earn grades through their own efforts. Unfortunately, I occasionally encounter students who treat both myself and their peers disrespectfully, and who attempt to get through my courses through dubious means. Let me state my policy on these issues clearly:

#### **A. Classroom Civility:**

1. I expect you to show up on time and to pay attention while you are here.
2. I expect you to treat your instructor and peers with respect—and you should expect, and will receive, the same from me.

**B. Academic Dishonesty:** I have zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism, and will deal with these circumstances in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the South Plains College Policy & Procedures Manual, Section FF. **This will mean a failing grade on the exam/quiz/assignment in question at the minimum and can entail failure of the course and/or expulsion from the college.**

Plagiarism is included, but not limited to, copying answers from another student's exam, submitting a paper written by someone other than you, writing an exam essay outside of class, and/or essays and writing assignments copied (in whole or in part) directly from a website, book, journal, etc.

#### **Class Format:**

Although I would like to hold class discussions, the amount of material makes it difficult to do so every day. However, I believe in an interactive lecture presentation so please feel free to ask questions during lecture for clarification, and to add your input to our learning experience.

Whether or not we discuss the readings assigned for a particular class period you are still responsible for reading them for the purpose of exams and quizzes.

**Syllabus subject to change at instructor's discretion.**

#### **Tentative Schedule of Lectures and Assignments**

Due to the nature of the high school daily schedule in contrast to typical college schedules a detailed schedule is impractical; however, topics will be covered in the following order and appropriate chapters should be read prior to each class session:

The First Texans  
Exploration and Adventure, 1519-1689  
Spanish Texas, 1690-1779  
Spanish Texas in the Age of Revolutions, 1779-1821  
Mexican Texas, 1821-1835  
The Texas Revolution, 1835-1836  
The Republic of Texas, 1836-1846  
Frontier Texas, 1846-1861  
Empire State of the South, 1846-1861  
The Civil War, 1861-1865  
Reconstruction, 1865-1876  
The Old West, 1877-1900  
The New South and the Populist Revolt, 1877-1900  
The Progressive Era, 1901-1920  
The "Prosperity Decade," 1921-1929  
The Great Depression and World War II, 1929-1945  
The Rise of Modern Texas, 1945-1971  
Modern Texas, 1971-2001  
Texas in the New Millennium, 2001-2010  
The Texas Mystique in the Twenty-First Century