

Department of Humanities
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Hours of Availability:
Tuesday and Wednesday, 12p-4p
Thursday, 12p-2p



Americas: 1600-1783

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:45pm
Teleconference

Course Description

This course explores the history of America before the formation of the United States up through the American Revolution. Topics will include the status of native Americans, colonial structure and policies, sentiments leading to the American revolution, and the early formation of the United States.

Course Style

Activities will focus on readings, lectures, class discussion, and writing.

Importance of Communication

It is vital that students stay in communication with me as the course progresses. Most struggles students have in college courses can be resolved with simple conversations between student and teacher. If there are difficulties with concepts or assignments, it is not a cause for embarrassment or panic but an opportunity to improve skills and expand knowledge. Just get in touch. We will work through the issue.

I try to make communication as easy as possible and keep regular hours when I am available to talk. We can meet in person, talk on the phone, or video chat.

If you cannot meet during my hours of availability you can request another time when you are available. Please just email me to set up a time.

Resources

This course will use the book *Colonial America* 6th edition by Jerome R. Reich as well as the resource book *Major Problems in American Colonial History* 3rd edition edited by Karen Ordahl Kupperman.

Other resources will be made available on Blackboard under the course resources tab. See the folder that corresponds with the class week listed on the syllabus.

The resources provided are for your use in this class only. That is why they are being provided via a password protected system like Blackboard. Do not illegally reproduce or distribute them.

Syllabus

Please keep your syllabus accessible for the entire semester. It will serve as a guide to not only class assignments but also to understand class expectations. If any major revisions have to be made to the class schedule during the semester, I will let you know when to obtain an updated syllabus from Blackboard.

Absences

You are expected to attend class. Class attendance is critical to doing well on the assignments and succeeding in the course. If you have to miss a class, be sure to work with another student to obtain good notes for that day.

Grading

Reading Quizzes	100 points (10 each)
Writing Assignment 1	100 points
Writing Assignment 2	100 points
Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 Points

Your semester grade will be the number of points you receive on the items listed above divided by the total number of points possible. For example, if you receive 540 points among the

assignments that is 540 divided by 600 equals 0.9 or 90%. That is the minimum needed for an A in the class.

Note: There are no extra point opportunities in this course. It is best to keep up with your scores on assignments to know how you are doing.

Participation

This class will be interactive. I will give talks on certain subjects, but we will also discuss topics quite a lot. This is especially important in a class that only meets once a week. To stay engaged and enjoy the experience we all need to work together.

Writing Assignments

This class will have two writing assignments—each five pages long. We will spend time in class to workshop ideas and structure. This will be in the weeks leading up to the assignment due date. You will be expected to turn in a rough draft so I can help you craft the last version. For the final product your work is your own, but I encourage you to take advantage of the resources the college has available to help you with writing.

Exams

The exams in this course will each cover approximately 1/3 of the material. Each test will be available on Blackboard one week before the due date/time. These are at-home tests that will focus on understanding rather than memorization. Please see the tests for instructions.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

- 1) Develop the ability to understand history rather than simply memorize.
- 2) Communicate causes and effects clearly.
- 3) Have the ability to explain the “why” of history instead of just the “who, what, when, and where.”
- 4) Improve short-form writing skills in content, organization, style, and grammar.
- 5) Develop skills in assessing non-textbook material for how it connects to the course content.

ADA Statement

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Kathy Biddick in Student Services, Room C-102, Uvalde campus. The mailing address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Rio

Grande College-Sul Ross State University, Uvalde, Texas 78801. Telephone: 830-279-3003. E-mail: kbiddick@sulross.edu.

Class Meetings and Assignments

Week 1

Tuesday – January 17

- **The Americas in 1600**

Thursday – January 19

- **Indians and Colonials**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 2

Tuesday – January 24

- **Spanish America – Class 1**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – January 26

- **Spanish America – Class 2**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 3

Tuesday – January 31

- **North American West**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – February 2

- **North American Central**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 4

Tuesday – February 7

- **East Coast Colonies - Geography**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – February 9

- **East Coast Colonies - Structure**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 5

Tuesday – February 14

- **Jamestown**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – February 16

- **Establishing the Colonies – Class 1**
- To Do: See Blackboard
- Exam 1 available after class on February 16

Week 6

Tuesday – February 21

- **The Pilgrims**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – February 23

- **Establishing the Colonies – Class 2**
- To Do: See Blackboard
- Exam 1 due before class on February 23

Week 7

Tuesday – February 28

- **Native American Resistance**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – March 2

- **Seeing Colonial History Locally**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 8

Tuesday – March 7

- ***Peopling of British North America – Day 1***
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – March 9

- ***Peopling of British North America – Day 2***
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 9

Tuesday – March 14

- **No class – Spring Break**

Thursday – March 16

- **No class – Spring Break**

Week 10

Tuesday – March 21

- **Colonial Interaction with Britain – Class 1**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – March 23

- **Colonial Interaction with Britain – Class 2**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 11

Tuesday – March 28

- **Massachusetts Colony**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – March 30

- **Virginia Colony**
- To Do: See Blackboard
- Exam 2 available after class on March 30

Week 12

Tuesday – April 4

- **The Carolina Colonies**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – April 6

- **Georgia Colony**
- To Do: See Blackboard
- Exam 2 due before class on April 6

Week 13

Tuesday – April 11

- **Colonies as Part of the Larger World System**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – April 13

- **French and Indian War (Seven Years War)**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 14

Tuesday – April 18

- **Pre-Revolution Sentiments – Class 1**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – April 20

- **Pre-Revolution Sentiments – Class 2**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 15

Tuesday – April 25

- **Pre-Revolution Resistance**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – April 27

- **Common Sense**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Week 16

Tuesday – May 2

- **American Revolution – Class 1**
- To Do: See Blackboard

Thursday – May 4

- **American Revolution – Class 2**
- To Do: See Blackboard
- Exam 3 available after class on May 4

Week 17

Tuesday – May 9

- **Exam 3 Due – 6pm**