

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



America, 1600-1865

HST 5311
Online Course – Fall 2018

Course Description

This course will focus on colonial America and the early United States. It will begin well before the foundation of the United States with an examination of the general state of Native American groups and their interaction with incoming Europeans. Then students will study topics such as colonial development, pre-revolution events, challenges of the early republic, slavery, and the factors leading up to the Civil War. The overall goal will be to understand broad trends backed up with examination of specific moments in depth.

Course Style

Activities will focus on reading, writing, and short teaching segments.

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 does not use a specific textbook. Resources will be provided via Blackboard, so please see the resources tab.

All 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 revisions have to be made to the class schedule during the semester, I will let you know via a class announcement. Students are responsible for knowledge of all class announcements.

Participation

As an online class, it is important for students to maintain focus on completing assignments. It is best to check your SRSU email and Blackboard daily to stay current.

Grading

Weekly Responses	200 points (20 each)
Teach-a-Topic	100 points (50 each)
Research Project	300 points

Your 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.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

- 1) Develop the ability to understand history rather than simply memorize. (PLO 1)
- 2) Communicate causes and effects clearly. (PLO 1, PLO 2)
- 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. (PLO 3)
- 5) Develop skills in assessing non-textbook material for how it connects to the course content.
- 6) Students will conduct a research project that conforms to the standards of the profession (PLO 3)

Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

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 Weeks

Week 1

- **Native American Cultures and the European Influx**

Week 2

- **North American English Colonies (part 1)**

Week 3

- **North American English Colonies (part 2)**

Week 4

- **North American English Colonies (part 3)**

Week 5

- **Foundations of Government**

Week 6

- **Road to Independence (part 1)**

Week 7

- **Road to Independence (part 2)**

Week 8

- **Revolutionary War**

Week 9

- **TBA**

Week 10

- **Early United States - Foundations**

Week 11

- **Early United States - Challenges**

Week 12

- **Early United States – Growth**

Week 13

- **Slavery in the United States**

Week 14

- **Civil War**

Week 15

- **Submit Final Version of Semester Project**