

**Texas History
HIST 3322-110
Fall 2015 Blended
T 4:30-5:45**

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Office Hours: T 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will explore a wide range of political, social, cultural, and economic issues relevant to Texas from colonial times through the present day, and students will gain an understanding of the people, places, events, and trends that comprise the period. Through the examination process, students will demonstrate their command of factual content as well as their ability to think critically and analytically. Finally, students will be introduced to the historiography of the period and be encouraged to view history as a vital component to a thoughtful appraisal of current state and national events.

Mode of Instruction and Course Access:

This is a blended course which meets at least 50% online

This course uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System
<https://tamuct.instructure.com>.

Contacting the Professor

All communications in this course between students and the professor outside of class should take place using the Canvas message system or University email. You can expect to receive a reply to any message within 24 hours, except on weekends when the turnaround time may be up to 48 hours. In most cases, however, replies will be made much sooner than that. I may also be available by appointment outside the office hour times listed above. Please message me if you would like to schedule a meeting and we will work out the time and place on a case-by-case basis.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate factual knowledge and an understanding of fundamental theories: Students will examine and evaluate the major issues related to the subject of Texas History through course readings and lecture material.

2. Analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view: Students will analyze and critically evaluate, and compare, various approaches to Texas History from the nineteenth century onward.

3. Apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decision making: Students will apply course material to improve thinking and decision making by constructing and analyzing historical arguments, and drawing conclusions from studied work through the writing of reaction papers.

4. Demonstrate specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course: As future professional historians or teachers, students will learn and evaluate the major themes of Texas History and assess how they may best be incorporated into their own teaching and/or research.

5. Demonstrate skill in expressing themselves orally and in writing: Consistent with an upper-level History course, students will develop skills in written and/or oral communication including book reviews, reaction papers, and essay examinations.

6. Use required resources and find additional scholarly resources for answering questions or solving problems: Students will utilize the learning management system Canvas, library resources, and assigned books in the completion of their course work.

Required Readings:

Campbell *Gone To Texas*

Poyo *Tejano Journey*

Sitton and Conrad *Freedom Colonies*

Attendance Policy:

I do not take attendance, and no part of the grade will be based on that. However, since a large part of test and assignment content is based on lecture material, students are advised to attend regularly and punctually. Failure to make class meetings guarantees a lack of success in this course.

Grading:

The final average will be calculated based on the number of points received out of a total of 1000. The following point ranges correspond to the final grade for the course: 900 and above = A, 800-899 = B, 700-799 = C, 600-699 = D, below 600 = F. Letter grades are awarded on the following scale:

A= 90-100%

B= 80-89%
C= 70-79%
D= 60-69%
F= Below 60%

Twelve reaction papers will be turned in over the course of the semester. Each will be worth 50 points, and graded on a pass/fail basis according to whether you fulfill the requirements of the assignment. Reaction papers will be submitted electronically via Canvas. Instructions for the reaction paper are provided at the end of the syllabus. Students will also write two book reviews: *Tejano Journey* and *Freedom Colonies*. Each book review is worth 100 points and will be submitted electronically via Canvas. Book review instructions are located on Canvas. In addition, there will be two essay/short answer exams that will be turned in via Canvas: a mid-term and a final each worth 100 points. The mid-term will cover material to that point in the course, and the final exam will cover material from the mid-term exam forward.

Late work will be accepted at a penalty of 10% of the assignment grade for each day past the due date.

All grades will be posted on Canvas as well as a continual update of your overall course grade. Students should expect assignments to be graded within 7-10 days after they are turned in, but they are often graded sooner.

Withdrawals/Drop Date:

It is the responsibility of the student to initiate a drop through the Records Office if they discover the need to do so. Professors cannot drop students. The last day to drop this course with a "Q" or withdraw with a "W" is Friday, November 10.

Technology

As students registered for a course that utilizes online components, you and you alone are responsible for ensuring that you have reliable and regular internet access as well as a reliable computer or comparable device. It is not my responsibility to accommodate online students who lack access to computers or the internet. No exceptions to course policies will be made for students who lose their ability to access the internet or complete the required coursework on a computer during the semester. Also, while it is possible to access the course materials using a dial-up internet connection, you should be aware that Canvas (as with most other programs and platforms) functions best with high speed internet access. Course policies apply equally to all students regardless of the quality of their internet access.

For technology issues, students should contact Help Desk Central. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
Phone: (254) 519-5466
Web Chat: <http://hdc.tamu.edu>

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

The University Writing Center

The University Writing Center at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students. The University Writing Center is located in 416 Warrior Hall. The center is open 1 pm-6pm Monday through Thursday during the spring semester. Students may work independently in the University Writing Center by checking out a laptop that runs Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Students may also arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor. Tutorials can be arranged by visiting the University Writing Center. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. Sessions typically last between 20-30 minutes. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will help students develop more effective invention and revision strategies.

Academic Integrity:

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to adhere to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

NOTE: At the very minimum, students who violate the academic integrity policy will receive an "F" for this course, and the professor reserves the right to initiate further sanctions.

Access & Inclusion

At Texas A&M University – Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to an education that is barrier-free. The Office of Access & Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability enjoy equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. Some aspects of this course or the way the course is taught may present barriers to learning due to a disability. If you feel this is the case, please contact Access & Inclusion at (254) 501-5831 in Warrior Hall, Suite 212. For more information, please visit their website at: <https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion/>

Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

Library Services

INFORMATION LITERACY focuses on research skills which prepare individuals to live and work in an information-centered society. Librarians will work with students in the development of critical reasoning, ethical use of information, and the appropriate use of secondary research techniques. Help may include, yet is not limited to: exploration of information resources such as library collections and services, identification of subject databases and scholarly journals, and execution of effective search strategies. Library Resources are outlined and accessed at:

<http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/library/deservices.php>

Classroom Decorum and Other Policies

Students are expected to behave as adults, be ready to listen and learn, and treat their professor and fellow students with the respect they would desire for themselves. Please ensure that cell phones are off, or on silent during class. Texting in class is unacceptable and instances of such behavior will result in a loss of points on the participation grade. If you use an electronic device in class, which is encouraged, please be sure to use it for academic purposes in line with the course content and discussion material.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY: Official communication is via your official Texas A&M University–Central Texas e-mail address, online via Canvas, and in-person in-class. Please check these places frequently for updates and information. It is the policy of the instructor to communicate sensitive information with students via e-mail only through an official TAMUCT e-mail address.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY: This course will use the TAMUCT Canvas Learn learning management system for class communications, content distribution, and assignments. If you have not yet activated the Canvas system, please do so, as this is critical for completing this course. The Canvas homepage for TAMUCT is: <https://tamuct.instructure.com/login/ldap>. Technology issues are not an excuse for missing a course requirement, so please make sure your computer is configured correctly and address issues well in advance of deadlines.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND COPYRIGHT POLICY: You may record class lectures (audio only), but recordings may *only* be used for personal, private, research and study purposes only, and *must not be disseminated publicly in any way*. Laptops, netbooks, tablets, etc., **may only be used for taking notes or accessing course materials in class**. If used for any other purpose, especially if it disrupts class, the instructor will ask you not to use a computer for the remainder of the semester. Cell phone use, for any purpose, **is strictly prohibited**.

Copyright Notice: The electronic content and materials in this course are for the sole purpose of instruction as part of this course offered by Texas A&M University–Central Texas, and are solely for university students registered in this course, and are subject to copyright protection law. Students who disregard United States copyright policy and institution policy do so at their own risk and assume all liability.

911 Cellular:

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas
911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911 Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Course Outline:

Week of 8/28 Texas Geography and first peoples; European Explorations and mapping; **Campbell Ch. 1; Reaction Paper #1 Due Sun. 9/3**

Week of 9/4 Early Spanish and French settlements; **Campbell Ch. 2; Reaction Paper #2 Due Sun. 9/10**

Week of 9/11 Spanish colonization and administration in the New World; **Campbell Ch. 3; Reaction Paper #3 Due Sun. 9/17**

Week of 9/18 Texas Missions; Spanish Texas Economy- Cattle ranching; **Campbell Ch. 4; Reaction Paper #4 Due Sun. 9/24**

Week of 9/25 Tejano culture and society, life in San Antonio de Bexar and elsewhere; Spanish Administration fails; **Review of Tejano Journey due Sun. 10/1**

Week of 10/2 Native American Challenges; The Texas frontier, native peoples- Comanche, Apaches, Kiowa; refugees from the east- Cherokee and Choctaw; **Reaction Paper #5 Due Sun. 10/8**

Week of 10/9 Latin American Revolutions; Mexican Revolution in Texas; Mexican Administration of Texas; **Campbell Ch. 5; Reaction Paper #6 Due Sun. 10/15**

Week of 10/16 Empresario system; Anglo Arrival; Land grants, slaves and slavery; **Mid-Term Exam due Sun. 10/22**

Week of 10/23 Anglo Texas economy, slavery; Anglo-Tejano relations and problems; Mexican politics and revolt; Texas Revolution; **Campbell Ch. 6; Reaction Paper #7 Due Sun. 10/29**

Week of 10/30 Republic of Texas: Administration, Politics, European influence, Texas Nationalism; Tejanos in the Republic, relations with Mexico; **Campbell Ch. 7; Reaction Paper #8 Due Sun. 11/5**

Week of 11/6 Mexican-American War in Texas; Frontier culture; slavery; **Campbell Ch. 8; Reaction Paper #9 Due Sun. 11/12**

Week of 11/13 U.S. Influence in Texas; Annexation and Statehood, looking to the future; **Campbell Ch. 9; Reaction Paper #10 Due Sun. 11/19**

Week of 11/20 Slavery in Texas; Texas and the Civil War; Reconstruction; Texas Frontier and Indian Relations; **Campbell Ch. 10-11; Review of Freedom Colonies due Sun. 11/26**

Week of 11/27 Industrial Revolution and the Gilded Age in Texas; Tejanos and Freedmen in Texas; **Campbell Ch. 12-13; Reaction Paper #11 Due Sun. 12/3**

Week of 12/4 Texas in the Twentieth Century; Changing Texas Economy; Texas and the World Wars; Towards Modern Texas; **Campbell Ch. 14-15; Reaction Paper #12 Due Sun. 12/10**

Week of 12/11 FINAL EXAM Due Thurs. 12/14@ 11:59 p.m.

The Reaction Papers

The purpose of these papers is to encourage your active engagement with the readings and to provide a foundation for class discussions. Each paper will be assigned in conjunction with readings from the documents and essays in posted on Canvas. The paper will address a question or topic of your choice related to the theme or topic presented in the readings. There are many different possibilities for writing here. You may choose to focus on a single theme from the readings, you might compare the readings, discuss a point you found particularly interesting, or compare or contrast the readings with a topic from earlier in the semester. Papers may also relate the document selections to material covered in lecture. If you are planning on teaching social studies or history in Texas secondary schools, your reaction paper might also contain your thoughts on presenting the topic to students.

The reaction paper should be typed in 12 point font (Arial or Times New Roman), double-spaced, use 1-inch margins, and be a minimum of 2, but not more than 4, pages in length. Please note that headers, titles, etc. should not be considered as part of the length of the paper. These papers will be graded on a pass/fail basis; because they represent your thoughts and analysis there are no right or wrong answers. To receive credit, papers should be checked for spelling and grammar, be logically organized, and be of appropriate length and thoughtfulness.

