



Survey of Texas History
Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
HIST 3003 Section 101
Spring 2024

Contact Information

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Course Description

This is an introductory survey of Texas history. The goal is to provide a basic knowledge of Texas history from European contact with indigenous peoples through Hispanic control of the region and eventual Anglo dominance during the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will also provide an understanding of the evolution of Texas as a political, social, economic, and cultural entity as well as an appreciation for the events and people that shaped the region's history. The historical topics and broader themes addressed (i.e. "Land, Opportunity, and Settler Frontiers" or "New West & Old South: Texas Agriculture in the Gilded Age") will be ones the instructor feels most essential in gaining an understanding of Texas in an historical perspective. A primary element of the course will be the growth of critical thinking among students concerning the examination of historical themes and paradigms (examples, patterns, models, and standards).

Student Participation Clause

Students in this course are held personally responsible for their own education and encouraged to excel. Active student participation in learning [which is, at the very least, accomplished through the careful reading of all assignments, classroom engagement (attentive note taking and participation in end-of-lecture reviews and discussions), the maintenance of a weekly study schedule, the completion of all assignments in a timely manner, adequate and earnest preparation for exams, and, when necessary, individual post-exam consultation with the instructor] is essential to the successful accomplishment of all expected learning outcomes.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, successful students should be able to:

1) Identify and critique historical and alternative explanations for interpretations and analyses of social issues and human behavior in the history of Texas. Assessment Methodology: Factual, analytical, conceptual, and interpretive, multiple choice exams and short answer responses to relevant historical case studies.

2) Identify and appreciate differences and commonalities between Anglo and Hispanic cultures, land ownership and economic opportunities, and conservative Spanish political traditions and Anglo expectations of a liberal (American-style enlightenment) political system. Assessment Methodology: Online essay/discussion assignments and multi-paragraph mid-term and final essays.

3) Demonstrate knowledge of the origins and evolution of Spanish, Mexican, Tejano, and Texan societies, cultural institutions, political systems, and economic policies and practices. Assessment Methodology: Factual, analytical, conceptual, and interpretive, multiple choice exams, short paragraph response, and analytical essays.

4) Understand and be able to cogently discuss major trends and themes in Texas history and the role of myth and exceptionalism in the construction of a broader Texan identity. Assessment Methodology: A comprehensive final exam/essay that demands a critical and detailed understanding of class material, readings, and lectures.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Text: *The History of Texas*, (4th Edition), Calvert, De León, & Cantrell, Harland Davidson, 2002. ISBN: 9780882952550

Monograph: *Sleuthing the Alamo*, James Crisp, Oxford University Press, 2005. ISBN: 9780195163506 Online: Various readings as assigned and posted to D2L

Reader: *Texan Identities: Moving beyond Myth, Memory, and Fallacy in Texas History*, University of North Texas Press, 2016. ISBN: 9781574416480

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2017-18](#)

Academic Integrity, Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Notice: Please understand the following – it applies to all assignments: quizzes, exams, and essays. If you in any instance “cut and paste” from any internet source without citing that source (that is plagiarism) or use unapproved internet sources you will fail the assignment in question and depending on the severity of the cheating or plagiarism the professor reserves the right to employ any or all university sanctioned disciplinary actions.

Grading

Assignments	Percentage
Text Quizzes	20%
Exams	20%
Article Reviews	20%
Analytical Essay	15%
Research Elements	15%
Research Proposal	10%

Final Grade	Percentage
A	90% plus
B	80 – 89.9%
C	70 – 79.9%
D	60 – 69.9%
F	Less than 60%

Extra Credit

Under no circumstances are “extra credit” assignments given to individual students. Such assignments are inherently unfair to your fellow students. Please do not request “extra credit.” However, bonus points are available on several assignments. Students are encouraged to take advantage of all bonus opportunities.

Make Up Work/Tests

Such exams are given only if the professor determines that the student has a legitimate reason for having missed the scheduled examination and only on prescribed dates set by the instructor. The qualifications concerning the make-up exams are as follows:

A student must have a documented reason for missing an exam in order to be eligible for a make-up exam or *classroom* quiz. To be eligible a student must present documentation of participation in an official, university-sanctioned event or documentation of an *emergency* medical event. Any and all make-ups must be scheduled and completed on the arranged or scheduled make-up day.

Missed assignments are excused only when a student is attending an official university-sanctioned event or a missed assignment is specifically exempted through university policy.

Online quizzes are not subject to the course make-up policy. Quizzes are open for a period of time sufficient for the student to complete the quiz before the due date.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#)

through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

This course is structured so that it is to the student's advantage to attend all classes and participate in all discussions and lectures. From past experience, those students who choose not to participate on a regular basis have not been successful.

Relevant terminology, from which many factual questions are derived, and major themes from which interpretive and analytical questions are derived, are presented and discussed in online lectures and assigned readings. Information from your text and supplemental readings are relevant but are typically not sufficient to produce well-conceived analytical and interpretive responses.

Material relevant to the identification and critique of major historical themes and trends and the alternative explanations for such interpretations of social issues and human behavior is presented in lectures and analyzed in classroom discussions.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking a class with a D2L element requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload certain assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ***Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble, but do understand that your professor is a specialist in History not information technology. If you have technical difficulties in the course, immediately contact the student helpdesk. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Instructor Class Policies

Conduct: All students are expected to act as responsible adults in online discussion forums, and in all course related communication. Any and all undue disruptions or distractions will be dealt with in an appropriate manner. As a general rule any behavior that disrupts the administration of this online classroom will not be tolerated. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from the time spent in class students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request that the offending student leave the classroom. Furthermore, the professor reserves the right to deduct points from the student's semester total or expel the student from the course. Arriving late for class is considered a major distraction. If arriving more than three (3) minutes late – please DO NOT enter the classroom.

Electronic Devices, Texting, and Phones: The use of tape recorders, iPods, mp3s, or any other recording device in class is prohibited without the instructor's permission. It is

imperative that you turn off phones, any and all communication devices, and other electronic equipment before entering the classroom. The use of a telephone or texting device for any reason is prohibited in the classroom. It is considered a major distraction. On the first offense the student will be penalized 20 points on her or his semester point total. The second offense will result in the student being asked to leave the classroom. The professor reserves the right to expel and administratively withdraw a student from the class upon the third offense.

E-Mail: Please note that e-mail correspondence is the most effective, efficient, reliable, and convenient way in which to communicate with your professor outside of the classroom. The professor/student relationship is professional by nature and, accordingly, your e-mail correspondence should be constructed professionally.

Withdrawals (Course Drop): The professor is NOT responsible for student withdrawals. The student is responsible for meeting all academic deadlines – withdrawal deadlines included.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Student Disability Office](#).

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.