Syllabus Lamar University
College of Arts and Sciences
Texas History 2301.02
Fall 2013

Required Reading:

Randolph Cambell, *Gone To Texas A History of the Lone Star State.*
Sam Hains, *Major Problems in Texas History*
Mary Scheer, *Women and the Texas Revolution*
John Borrough, *The Big Rich: The Rise and Fall of the Greatest Texas Oil Fortunes*

This course will consist of lecture and discussion using the text and supplemental readings covering Texas history from the pre-historic migrations, Texas as a possession of the Spanish Empire, the Anglo colonial period and the rebellion resulting in independence from Mexico, personalities and leaders, as well as the annexation of Texas by the United States, the Civil War period, and the emergence of Texas as a leading energy producer and its role in the growth of the United States socially, politically and economically. Assessment will include tests, quizzes, book report and a research essay. Major tests and the research essay will count for 80% of your final grade. Quizzes will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor and along with class participation will count as 20% of your final grade.

Student Outcomes and Expectations

At the end of the course, students will be expected to:
1) Identify the diverse geographic makeup of Texas and explain its importance to the growth of the state
2) Explain the importance of the heritage of the original inhabitants of the state, including the Native Americans
3) Demonstrate the ability to chronicle the exploration of the state beginning with the Spanish
4) Identify the political and social impact of the characters, personalities and policies of the Spanish and Mexican administrations of Texas
5) Identify the political and social impact of the characters, personalities and policies of the early Anglo settlers and their opposition to the various Mexican government of the pre-republic era
6) Chronicle and explain the events leading to and including the Texas Revolution, establishment of the Republic of Texas, annexation of Texas by the United States and involvement in the Mexican War
7) Explain the role of Texas in the Civil War
8) Describe the Reconstruction period in Texas and explain the long-lasting social and political ramifications to the state
9) Define the role of the State of Texas nationally and internationally in World War II, the Cold War and the 1960s pertaining to the economy, politics and social change
10) Trace the role of Texas as a Sunbelt State, its role as a national energy producer and the role of Texas in the 20th century both nationally and internationally pertaining to the economy, politics and social change.
11) Demonstrate critical thinking skills and the analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of sources.
12) Demonstrate effective written communication skills.
13) Demonstrate intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
14) Demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Assessment Schedule

1st test- Thursday, September 19th (outcomes 1-3, 11, 13)
Book Report- Women and the Texas Revolution- Thursday, October 24th (outcomes 5, 11-14)
2nd test- Thursday, October 17th (outcomes 4-7, 11, 13)
3rd test- Thursday, November 14th (outcomes 8-9, 11, 13)
Test- The Big Rich: Thursday, November 21st (outcomes 10, 11, 12, 13)
Research essay- Due November 20th (outcomes 6, 11-14)
Final exam- Thursday, December 5th (all outcomes)

Study guides will be provided ONE WEEK before the scheduled test dates. Tests will consist of multiple choice, short answers and essay questions. Generally, students can expect the tests to be 50% from assigned reading and 50% from lecture notes. Two standard size Blue Books eight and a half by eleven will be required. If SCANTRON cards are needed, the instructor will provide them.

Important: LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED UP TO THE NEXT CLASS DAY AFTER THE DUE DATE. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO MAKE-UP TESTS. THE STUDENT AND INSTRUCTOR WILL SCHEDULE MAKE-UP DATES WITHIN THIS TIME PERIOD. ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT AS IT MAKES UP PART OF YOUR TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DAILY GRADE. THREE CLASS ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE COURSE UNLESS YOU HAVE CONSULTED WITH THE INSTRUCTOR. THE FINAL DAY TO DROP THIS COURSE WITHOUT INCURRING A PENALTY IS SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2013. LAST DAY TO DROP WITH PENALTY IS NOVEMBER 4TH, 2013.

Texas History 2301 Textbook readings:

Week One 1x thru 23
Week Two 23 thru 48
Week Three 49 thru 76
Week Four 76 thru 127
Week Five 110 thru 127
Week Six 110 thru 158
Week Seven 128 thru 138
Week Eight 138 thru 185
Week Nine 186 thru 206
Week Ten 207 thru 268
Week Eleven 268 thru 323
Research Essay Assignment

This assignment will be due November 20, 2013

The year 1835 in Texas history stands like a direction finder at the intersection of two highways. Events and personalities combined to take Texas in one direction. In several instances, however, the same events and personalities, taken in another context or under different circumstances, could have sent Texas in another direction. It is speculation based upon research and your understanding of the dynamics of Texas history that we are studying. Here then is the assignment:

1. Choose a critical event or influential person from Texas history, placed in 1835.
2. Write a 750 to 1000 word essay that:
   a. Factually describes the event or person in detail
   b. Explains the significance of the event or person, in the context of the year 1835, to the history of Texas
   c. Speculate, supported by documentation, on the possible impact on Texas history should the event have gone differently, or should the personalities involved have taken a different stance

You must have five sources, one of which can be your textbook. No more than two of the sources may come from the Internet. Use MLA format for presentation and documentation. We will discuss further as we get deeper into the class. The assignment is not due until we near the end of the course.

Topical Books To Aid Your Research

Nevin’s History: A Novel of Texas Jim Sanderson. Texas Tech University Press, 2004
Sam Houston and the American Southwest, Randolph P. Campbell
The Indians of Texas. W. W. Newcomb
Stephen F. Austin, Empresario of Texas. Gregg Cantrell
An Empire for Slavery: the Peculiar Institution in Texas 1821-1865. Randolph B. Campbell
Colonel Edward M. House: The Texas Years, 1858-1912 Rupert Richardson

History Department Dishonesty Policy
The Lamar University History Department considers academic dishonesty, including cheating, collusion and plagiarism—as defined in the Student Handbook—to be a serious academic offense. In order to educate students and inform them of their rights, all faculty members include an academic dishonesty policy statement in their syllabi. All accused students are entitled to written notice of the offense, penalty assessed if pertinent, and notified of his/her right to appeal to the department chair/advisory committee. Students guilty of such misbehavior will be subject to the following penalties:

First Offense: Student will receive a failing grade on the exam or assignment, with no possibility of make-up. If the offense if flagrant, the student may receive an F in the course. The student’s name and documented offense will be placed on file in the history department.

Second Offense: Student will receive an F in the course with no possibility for make-up. The student’s name and documented offense will be forwarded to the proper university officials.

**Student Disability Policy**

Students with confirmed disabilities will be afforded whatever accommodations and modifications required by federal and state law and/or university policies and regulations.

**Emergency Procedures**

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for severe weather or violence/active shooter, fire, or chemical release among others. Complete procedures for such emergencies and others can be found at [http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html](http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html). The following deals with Severe Weather and Violence/Active Shooter:

**Severe Weather:**
Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel.
Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
If you are in a multi-story building, and you cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building.
Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

**Violence/Active Shooter (CADD):**
**CALL**-8311 from a campus phone (880-8311 from a cell phone). Note: Calling 9-1-1 from either a campus phone or cell phone will contact Beaumont City Police Dispatch rather than University Police.
**AVOID** – If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow the directions of police officers.
**DENY** – Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases or any other items. Make sure door is locked. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.
**DEFEND** – Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.
NOTE: In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to a hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to login to Lamar University’s website’s homepage (www.lamar.edu) for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

Additional information, policies and procedures may be added at the discretion of the instructor.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Instructor: Ken Poston
Home Phone: 409-769-3185
Cell Phone: 409-658-7129
YOU MUST CALL OR EMAIL ME; I DO NOT ANSWER TEXTS, TWEET, OR DO FACEBOOK!
Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m./9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Tuesday/Thursday, Room 200, Archer Physic Building, Lamar Campus
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