

History 2301
TEXAS HISTORY
Blinn College - Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet – Fall: 2009

Instructor: Jeff Carroll
Sections: C-5, C-9 & D-3

Office Number: A-216
Office Hours: T/Th:11:00-12:00
T night: 6:00 – 7:00

Office Phone: xxx-xxxx
Home Phone: 823-2516

e-mail: Office: jcarroll@blinn.edu
Home: carrollj@suddenlink.net

Personal web site: jeffcarroll-legendarytexas.com For all emails, please insert word "Texas"
In the subject line.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Texas History 2301 is a survey of the history of Texas to the present time. It will include the discussion of geographic, cultural, economic, ethnic and political topics. It begins with the geologic foundations of the state and continues through the rise of Texas from a rural, agrarian and separatist society to one which is urban, industrial and socially conscious. Three credit hours.

PREREQUISITES:

There are no prerequisites, but there will be a considerable amount of reading and writing.

CORE CURRICULUM COURSE:

This is a Core Course in the 42-hour Core of Blinn College. As such, students will develop proficiency in the appropriate Intellectual Competencies, Exemplary Educational Objectives and Perspectives. The URL for the Blinn College Core Curriculum web site is: www.blinn.edu/corecurriculum.htm

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After successfully completing History 2301, Texas History to the present, students should satisfactorily answer questions concerning:

- The various geographic regions of Texas
- The classification of Indian tribes of Texas
- The Spanish exploration and colonization of Texas and its unique impact
- The influx of Anglo-Americans into Mexican Texas
- The causes of the Texas Revolution and major events of 1835-1836
- The successes and failures of the Republic of Texas and friction between Sam Houston and his opponants
- The causes of the annexation of Texas by the U.S. and its place in the Union prior to 1860
- The involvement of Texas in the Civil War and the war's impact upon the state
- The development of Texas from a rural and agrarian state to an urban and modern state

TEXTBOOKS, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS:

Textbook: TEXAS, The Lone Star State, R. Richardson, et. al. 10th edition.

Reader: The Texas Heritage, B. Procter & A. McDonald, 4th Edition

Atlas: Historical Atlas of Texas, Stephens & Holmes

Recommended: WHY STOP, Dooley & Dooley

TEXAS STATE TRAVEL GUIDE, TXDOT (1-800-888-8839) free

You will need at least one six-pack of the 882 scan-tron answer sheets.

ADA STATEMENT:

Information regarding procedures for documenting disabilities can be obtained from the Counseling Office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for documented disabilities. Students must present documentation as soon as possible for the instructor to arrange accommodation.

ATTENDANCE:

The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student's name appears on the roster through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of unexcused absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. Should the student accumulate two weeks worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class.

This semester, Blinn is providing each student with an email account for official communications. You can access your account by going to <http://www.blinn.edu/acadtech/studentemail/>. Official communications, especially those involving absences, suspension, etc. will come to you at this address.

CIVILITY STATEMENT:

Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the college community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others.

If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor: it is the student's responsibility to arrange for this conference.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:

All the functions of all personal electronic devices designed for communication and/or entertainment (cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, and similar devices) must be turned off and kept out of sight in all Blinn College classrooms and associated laboratories. Any noncompliance with this policy will be addressed in accordance with the Blinn College Civility Policy. Additionally, any communication understood by the instructor to be in the nature of cheating will have consequences in accordance with the Blinn College policy regarding academic dishonesty. Students exempted from this policy section include active members of firefighting organizations, emergency medical service organizations, commissioned police officers on-call employees of any political subdivision of the state

of Texas, or agencies of the federal government. Exempted students are expected to set the emergency-use devices on silent or vibrate mode only. Any student violating this policy shall be subject to discipline, including suspension.

OTHER POLICIES:

No food or drinks in the classroom.

Hats and caps must be removed.

Blinn College students are expected to dress following generally accepted community standards of neatness, cleanliness, modesty and good taste.

Blinn College does not tolerate cheating or plagiarism. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy.

Please be aware that arriving late or leaving class (and returning) is disruptive to other students and to the instructor and may adversely affect your grade.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT:

There are three primary components of this class:

LECTURE: The lectures will offer in-depth perspectives on Texas history from its earliest geologic foundations through the period of early statehood. Many of these perspectives ARE NOT found in the text. Many questions on tests and quizzes are based on the lectures.

ASSIGNED READINGS: Assigned readings in the textbook will cover some of the same material found in the lecture but will also focus on different perspectives as Texas transitioned from the Civil War, through its change from a rural and agrarian state to modern industrial socialization. Questions regarding these readings will appear on tests. In addition, there will be assigned readings in the outside reader and one major written assignment is based on these readings.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH: The research component allows students to explore and report on a variety of topics selected from an extensive list and to exhibit a mastery of written English. The major written assignment of the semester is based on this research.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Only about 50% of the final grade will depend on what happens in the classroom and how well the student absorbs the lecture material. Students are EXPECTED to attend class and take advantage of that opportunity to learn. HOWEVER, at least 50% of the final grade will depend on the student's individual initiative and willingness to accept personal responsibility for the final grade. In other words, a student who is unwilling to accept adult responsibility for his or her final grade probably WILL NOT PASS. The semester will require the ability to read, access research materials in a variety of ways and present the result in acceptable form, as well as good performance on tests and quizzes. You are EXPECTED to pass with an A or a B, but the final result depends on YOU.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE:

The semester is roughly divided into four units of unequal length. A major exam will follow each unit. A precise dating of each exam is impossible due to the flexible nature of the material. However, each class will receive announcements of impending exams during the week before the exam takes

place. A comprehensive review sheet for all of the exams and the semester is posted under my name in the Blinn web site.

UNIT ONE: Texas Before 1500

READING ASSIGNMENT FOR UNIT ONE:

TEXAS: The Lone Star State

Read the Preface from page xiii – xiv

This is where the authors try to tell you what they hope to accomplish and how they plan to present the material. It will help you understand where they are going and how to get there.

Read from page 1 – 16.

This is what the textbook has to say about our first unit. You will notice that I frequently use different terminology than you find in the textbook. In a way, this is your introduction to historical differences in perspective. You need to familiarize yourself with ALL of the perspectives offered. On a test or quiz, I may preface a question with the statement, “According to the textbook, - - -.” That means that the answer to that particular question is found in the textbook reading. Of course, we may have talked about it in class also.

The Texas Heritage

Read the Introduction and Chapter One.

Historical Atlas of Texas:

The atlas does not have page numbers. Instead, the maps and commentaries are individually numbered.

Your assignment covers numbers 1 – 7.

Note how vegetation patterns, rainfall, and surface geology follow similar patterns. Note also, that the commentaries also may offer different perspectives. Test and quiz questions taken from the atlas will be prefaced by, “According to the atlas - - -.”

TIME FRAME: Expect several quizzes and the first exam during the FOURTH OR FIFTH WEEK OF SEPTEMBER.

XX

UNIT TWO: Spanish Texas, 1500-1821

TEXAS: The Lone Star State

Read all of chapters 2 & 3. There will be quizzes.

The Texas Heritage:

Read Chapter Two.

Historical Atlas of Texas:

You should study maps:

- 8 -Cabeza De Vaca
- 9 -The Coronado Expedition
- 10 -The De Soto - Moscoso Expedition
- 11 -La Salle in Texas
- 12 -Spanish Missions
- 13 -San Antonio De Bexar
- 15 -The Neutral Ground Agreement
- 16 -The Zebulon M. Pike Expedition --

17 -The Gutierrez -Magee Expedition, 1812 -18 13
18 -Champ D'Asile, 1818
19 -Adams - Onis Treaty, 18 19
20 -The James Long Expeditions, 18 19 -1822
Remember that the written stuff that goes with each map offers different perspectives.

TIME FRAME: Expect several quizzes and the second exam near the **FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER.**

XX

UNIT THREE: Mexican Texas and Texas Independence, 1821-1836

TEXAS: The Lone Star State

Read Chapters Four, Five and Six

The TEXAS Heritage

Read Chapters Three and Four

In the Atlas:

Study maps 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 & 28.

TIME FRAME: Expect several quizzes and the third exam **IN THE LAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER.**

XX

UNIT FOUR: The Republic, Early Statehood and Disunion

Whatever time we have left in the semester we will spend on Unit 4.

TEXAS: The Lone Star State

Read chapters Seven, Eight & Nine

The TEXAS Heritage

Read chapters Five & Six

In the Atlas:

Refer to maps 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 & 34.

There will probably be no quizzes in Unit Four. The information covered in Unit 4 will be covered as a part of the **FINAL EXAM.**

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:

For the class meeting on **Tuesday night: Tuesday, Dec. 15: 7:45-9:45**

For the class meeting on **TR at 12:00 PM: Wed. Dec. 16: 10:15 – 12:15**

For the class meeting on **TR at 2:50 PM: Wed. Dec.16: 12:45 – 2:45**

CRITERIA FOR GRADING:

There will be four (4) major examinations (three tests plus a final). The final will be comprehensive for the entire course.

Tests 1, 2, & 3 will each be worth 100 points. The comprehensive final will be in two parts worth a total of 200 points. This gives a possible score of 500 points for the four tests. The final will be somewhat different from what you may be used to. It will be in two parts. One part will be comprehensive and based primarily on the lecture and on the "Course Inventory". There will be 100 questions worth one point each for a total of 100. The second part will be comprehensive and based on the textbook readings and your outside research. There will be several options on the content of this part of the test and you will be able to choose which topics will be covered by your test. In part two, there will be 25 questions worth four points each for a total of 100.

There will be several quizzes or other graded activities covering homework, class participation and attendance or materials currently covered or assigned in class. They MAY NOT be announced in advance. The total of all of these will be worth 200 points.

You will be responsible for all assigned material, whether it is covered in class or not.

MAKE-UP EXAMS will be given ONLY in cases where the student has an excused absence on the day of the exam. Except in special circumstances, make-ups MUST be completed before the next major exam. THERE ARE NO MAKE UPS FOR MISSED QUIZZES UNLESS THERE IS AN EXCUSED ABSENCE. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements for taking make-ups during my office hours.

CLASS PROJECT:

There will be one (1) class research project. This project will be worth 300 points or 30% of your final grade. Late submissions of this assignment will be accepted ONLY in extenuating circumstances.

FINAL GRADES:

Final grades will be calculated on the basis of 1,000 points as follows:

900 - 1,000 = A
800 - 899 = B
700 - 799 = C
600 - 699 = D
Below 600 = F

There will be several opportunities for extra credit. There will be NO extra credit opportunities offered to any one person that are not also offered to everyone.

BLINN REQUIRES THAT AN INCOMPLETE MAY BE GIVEN AS A GRADE TO STUDENTS ONLY IN RARE CIRCUMSTANCES AND ONLY IF YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL BUT ONE MAJOR REQUIREMENT OF THE COURSE. THERE MUST BE A WRITTEN CONTRACT SIGNED BEFORE THE ISSUANCE OF A GRADE OF INCOMPLETE.

ODDS AND ENDS:

If you wish, you MAY bring a tape recorder to class.

Students MAY use electronic translators.

If you have questions, please ask them. If I don't know, we'll try to find out.

If, for some logical reason, you have trouble getting to class on time on a regular basis, talk to me and we'll work something out.

If you have problems or just want to talk, feel free to call me at home, 823-2516, or stop by for a chat. Have a GOOD semester!