Course Description:
This course will introduce you to North American and United States History from Native American habitation to the Civil War. We will use a few “big questions” to look at some of the major political, economic, and especially social changes that took place during this period, paying particular attention to issues of race, class and gender. What does it mean to be an American, who can claim membership in the nation, and how do these things change over time? By the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of the founding, expansion, and temporary disintegration of the United States taking place before 1865.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Students who successfully complete this course will:
• demonstrate critical thinking by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information, gathering and assessing information relevant to a question, and analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing information
• develop communication skills by interpreting and expressing ideas through written, oral, or visual communication
• demonstrate personal responsibility by evaluating historical choices and actions, and relating consequences to decision making
• develop social responsibility by identifying intercultural competence and civic responsibility in past regional, national, and global communities

Assignments:
The core of your grade will come from three in-class exams. These are NOT cumulative. You will provide your own bluebook and scantron (see supplies).
Exam 1 – 15% of your overall grade   Exam 2 – 20% of your overall grade
Exam 3 – 25% of your overall grade

Next, you will complete four announced in-class reading quizzes.
Together, these quizzes are worth 20% of your overall grade (5% each). Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class, and normally CANNOT be made up, except under extraordinary documented circumstances.

The rest of your grade (20%) will come from a group game project. This is explained in a separate document.
Attendance - I expect you to attend every class. Knowing the material covered in lecture is essential to doing well on the exams. I do not post or share my notes or slides – you must attend class to get that information. Occasionally we will complete in-class assignments that I will collect. At the end of the semester, if you’re sitting at an 89 or 79, this work will determine whether I bump you to a higher grade or leave you where you are.

Grade Breakdown:
A: 90-100      D: 60-69
B: 80-89       F: 59 or below
C: 70-79

If you have a question about an individual grade on an assignment, please come to my office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss. If you would like to dispute your grade, I am more than happy to speak with you, but you need to wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned before approaching me.

Texts:
Required:
Betty Wood, *Slavery in Colonial America, 1619-1776*, 2005
Other documents posted on Blackboard or online
Crash Course US History Videos – free on youtube


Supplies: Three bluebooks, scantrons (Form 882-E), and a #2 pencil.

Policies and Expectations:
By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by these policies.
Since you are in college, I expect you to approach this class like the responsible adults you are. This means:

- Arriving to class on time

- Turning off cell phones, music players, and other distractions. *And putting them away.* Your phone needs to stay in your backpack/bag/purse during class time – you do not need a phone out during lecture. Please *do not text* during class time (or search for Pokemon ; )], or I will ask you to leave lecture. Take care of it before or after class.

- You are welcome to use laptop computers for appropriate classroom activities, such as taking notes, but I reserve the right to ask students who are doing other things (like checking email, facebook, or completing assignments for other courses) to leave class. With repeated offences your laptop privileges will be suspended.

- I WILL NOT accept late work. Seriously. All assignments must be submitted on the due date at the *beginning of your class time* – no exceptions. This includes all written work,
exams and quizzes. Written assignments are due at the **BEGINNING** of class in print form (not email), unless I specify something different. If assignments are turned in after I start the day's lecture, they are considered late and points will be docked. I expect you to be in class to take all exams and quizzes. I do not offer make-ups except under **EXTRAORDINARY** circumstances. Vacations, colds, doctor's appointments, changes in work schedules, etc. do not count as extraordinary. That said, I want you to succeed in this class, so if something comes up that will impact your ability to come to class and meet the expectations of the course, please let me know as soon as possible. If you do have an extraordinary circumstance come up, I will expect you to contact me right away, and provide documentation.

- I do not post or share notes or Powerpoint slides. If you miss class it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate.

- You are responsible for adding and dropping yourself from the course – I can't do this for you.

- You are responsible for tracking your grade in the course. There are many free grade calculator apps you can put on your phone that will help you with this.

- I may occasionally send you emails regarding the course. You are responsible for checking your Texas A&M email account frequently.

- I expect you to abide by TAMUCC's Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/index.html](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/index.html)

- TAMUCC's policies on academic integrity and plagiarism are available at [http://cla.tamucc.edu/forms/academicmisconductprocedures.pdf](http://cla.tamucc.edu/forms/academicmisconductprocedures.pdf). If you cheat or plagiarize on one or more assignments you will **fail this course**.

- In the event of a hurricane, flooding, or other event, I will follow the published policies of TAMUCC. If the campus remains officially open during the time that our class normally meets then class will proceed as scheduled (including all graded events). If the university closes campus then we will push the course requirements to the next official class meeting. If an exam date is cancelled, the exam will be held during the next official class meeting, so come prepared.
Provisional Course Outline
(this is subject to possible change)

Week 1
1/18 Expectations and Introductions

Read for 1/23: Alfred Crosby, “The Columbian Exchange” Gilder Lehrman

Week 2
1/23 Native America
1/25 Europe and First Contacts

Read for 1/30: Slavery in Colonial America, CH 1, 2
Watch: Crash Course US History “The Black Legend, Native Americans, and Spaniards”

Week 3
1/30 Spanish Colonialism
2/1 British Colonialism – Jamestown and Chesapeake

Read for 2/6: Slavery in Colonial America, CH 3, 4
Watch: Crash Course US History “When is Thanksgiving,” and “The Natives and the English”

Week 4
2/6 British Colonialism – New England and South
Reading Quiz 1
2/8 City on a Hill – Puritans and Native Americans

Read for 2/13: None – study for your exam
Watch: Crash Course US History “The Quakers, the Dutch, and the Ladies”

Week 5
2/13 Review Day
2/15 Exam 1

Read for 2/20: Slavery in Colonial America, CH 5
The Declaration of Independence (Click on “read transcript”)
http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration.html
Remember the Ladies – on Blackboard (see next page)
Slaves Petition – on Blackboard
Watch: Crash Course US History “Taxes & Smuggling”

Week 6
2/20 The Road to Revolution
2/22 Independence and Meanings of Liberty

Read for 2/27: Slavery in Colonial America, CH 6, 7

Week 7
2/27 Winning Independence
Reading Quiz 2
3/1 A New Nation

Read for 3/6: TBA

Week 8
3/6 “A Midwife’s Tale”
3/8 A Cotton Kingdom

Read for 3/20: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, p. 2-5, CH Childhood- A Perilous Passage in the Slave Girl’s Life (p. 8-51)
Watch: Crash Course US History “Thomas Jefferson & His Democracy,” and “The Market Revolution”

Spring Break March 13-17

Week 9
3/20 The Market Revolution
3/22 Life Under Slavery

Read for 3/27: Nothing – study for your exam
Week 10

3/27 Review
3/29 Exam 2

Read for 4/3: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, CH The New Tie to Life – Scenes at the Plantation (p. 51-80)
Watch: Crash Course US History “Slavery,” and “Age of Jackson”

Week 11

4/3 A Growing Republic and The Age of Jackson
4/5 Indian Removal

Reading Quiz 3

Read for 4/10: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, CH The Flight – Aunt Nancy (p. 80-122)
Seneca Falls “Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions”
http://ecssba.rutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html
Watch: Crash Course US History “19th Century Reforms,” “Women in American,” and “War & Expansion”

Last day to drop: Fri, April 7

Week 12

4/10 Growth of Abolition
4/12 Women’s Rights

Watch: Crash Course US History “The Election of 1860 & the Road to Disunion”

Week 13

4/17 Texas and the War with Mexico

Reading Quiz 4

4/19 Rising Sectional Tensions

Read for 4/24: Documents online
Watch: Crash Course US History “The Civil War Part 1” and “The Civil War Part 2”
**Week 14**
4/24 The Second American Revolution - The Civil War
4/46 The Civil War con’t

Read for 5/1: Nothing - study

**Week 15**
5/1 Review Day
You will be playing your games in seminar this week

**Final Exam Period: Exam 3**

Overall grades will be available on SAIL, around May 19.

Have a great break!

Other required information:

**ACADEMIC ADVISING:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**DISABILITY SERVICES:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**GRADE APPEALS:** As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (available at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C2.01_student_grade_appeal_procedure.pdf). For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.