

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2025
SYLLABUS

HIST 2610-0002: U.S. History to 1865 3 HRS			
Department of	History & Political Science	School of	Liberal Arts & Sciences
Instructor Name:	<i>Dr. Matthew Babcock</i>		
Office Location:	<i>FH 220</i>		
Office Phone:	<i>972-338-1554</i>		
Email Address:	Matthew.Babcock@untDallas.edu		
Office Hours:	MW 2:30-3:30pm & 4:00-5:00pm; TR 1:00-2:00pm, and by appointment.		
Course Format/Structure:	Face to Face		
Classroom Location:	<i>FH 337</i>		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MW 1:00pm-2:20pm		
Course Catalog Description:	From colonial origins through the Civil War.		
Prerequisites:	NA		
Co-requisites:	NA		
Required Text:	<i>Out of Many: A History of the American People</i>, Volume I, 9th Edition. By John Mack Faragher, et. al. (Pearson: 2020) ISBN: 9780135240892 (eText purchase), 9780135240908 (Print rental), 9780137500307 (eText rental)		
Recommended Text and References:	NA		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 Website URL: http://www.untDallas.edu/library UNT Dallas Bookstore (DAL 1): phone: (972) 780-3652 Website URL: http://www.untDallas.edu/bookstore Email: untDallas@bkstr.com		
Canvas Resources Supported Browsers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chrome Supported Devices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPhone • Android • Chromebook <i>Note: Tablet users can use the Canvas app</i> Screen Readers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VoiceOver (Safari) • JAWS (Internet Explorer) • NVDA (Firefox) <i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i>	Getting Help with Canvas: Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634 Canvas Help Resources: Canvas Student Guide - https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701 For additional assistance, contact UNT Dallas Distance Learning: DAL1, Room 157 Email: distancelearning@untDallas.edu If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, please keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress. If you have a course-related issue (e.g., course content, assignment trouble, quiz difficulties), please contact me during office hours or by email.		

Course Overview:	
	This course surveys the history of the United States from pre-European contact through the Civil War. It examines the social, political, and economic developments that gave rise to the American Republic. Major themes of the course include the collisions and fusions between European, Native American, and African cultures across colonial North America, the creation of the United States, and the relationship between slavery and freedom. Primary source readings, maps, art, and modern film clips will facilitate interactive learning and enable students to experience history from the perspectives of its participants.
Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate critical thinking by understanding the key social, political, and economic developments in American History from pre-European contact to 1865.
2	Demonstrate critical thinking and communication skills by writing an analytical essay with a thesis statement drawing on historical evidence from this course.
3	Demonstrate critical thinking, communication skills, and social responsibility by analyzing and discussing written and visual primary sources representing diverse viewpoints.
4	Demonstrate critical thinking and communication skills by defining and explaining the significance of key people, places, and events chosen by the instructor.
5	Demonstrate critical thinking, personal responsibility, and social responsibility by applying these skills in daily life as an active citizen in a democratic society.
General Education Learning Objectives/Outcomes: The UNT Dallas graduate will:	
1	Think critically and creatively, learning to apply different systems of analysis.
2	Engage with a variety of others in thoughtful and well-crafted written, oral, and visual communication.
3	Demonstrate social responsibility via intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4	Understand and evaluate personal responsibility by examining ethical issues and considering alternative actions.

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement.

TIMELINE

TOPICS

I. Colonial North America

Week 1
August 25

Introduction

August 27

Native America
Faragher, Chapter 1

Primary Sources:
Browse for Pre-Columbian American Art Objects:
<https://www.lacma.org/art/collection/art-ancient-americas>

Browse for European depictions of Native America:
http://www.virtualjamestown.org/images/white_debry_html/jamestown.html

Week 2
September 1

Film: *Apocalypto* (2006)

No Class—Labor Day

September 3

Contacts and Conquests
Faragher, Chapter 1

	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, "Indians of the Rio Grande" (1528-36)
<u>Week 3</u> September 8	Columbian Exchange Faragher, Chapter 2
	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Jose de Acosta, "The Columbian Exchange" (1590)
September 10	Colonial Empires Compared Faragher, Chapter 2
	Browse for images of early America: https://jcb.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/view/all?sort=image_date%2Csubject_groups
<u>Week 4</u> September 15	Film: <i>Black Robe</i> (1991) Quiz #1 British Colonies Compared Faragher, Chapter 3
	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Captain John Smith, "The Generall Historie" (1624) "The Examination and Confession of Ann Foster at Salem" (1692)
September 17	Colonial Slavery: Part I Faragher, Chapter 4
	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Olaudah Equiano, "The Middle Passage" (1788)
<u>Week 5</u> September 22	Colonial Slavery: Part II Faragher, Chapter 4
	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Newspapers, "Ads for Runaway Servants and Slaves" (1733-1772)
September 24	Becoming America Faragher, Chapter 5
	Primary Sources (in Canvas): Jonathan Edwards, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (1741) Cadwallader Colden, "An Iroquois Chief Argues for his Tribe's Property Rights" (1742)
<u>Week 6</u> September 29	Exam #1 II. Creation of the United States
October 1	French and Indian War Faragher, Chapter 6
<u>Week 7</u> October 6	Film: <i>The War that Made America</i> (2006) Road to Revolution Faragher, Chapter 6
	Primary Sources (in Canvas):

Benjamin Franklin, "Testimony Against the Stamp Act" (1766)

Browse for images of the Boston Massacre:

<https://www.masshist.org/features/massacre/visual>

Film: *John Adams* (2008)

October 8 Declaring Independence
Faragher, Chapter 7

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

Thomas Paine, "Common Sense" (1776)

Thomas Jefferson, "Draft of the Declaration of Independence" (1776)

Week 8

October 13 War for Independence
Faragher, Chapter 7

Browse for images of the American Revolution:

https://www.amrevmuseum.org/learn-and-explore/collection?refinementList%5Bartifact_type%5D%5B0%5D=Artwork

October 15 Quiz #2
Effects of Revolution
Faragher, Chapter 7

Week 9

October 20 Becoming a Nation
Faragher, Chapter 8

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

"The United States Constitution" (1787)

"The Bill of Rights" (1789)

October 22 Federalist Era
Faragher, Chapter 8

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

George Washington, "Farewell Address" (1796)

Week 10

October 27 Empire for Liberty
Faragher, Chapter 9

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

Thomas Jefferson, "Notes on the State of Virginia" (1785)

Lewis and Clark, "Journals of Exploration" (1804-5)

October 29 Exam #2

III. An Expanding and Dividing Nation

Week 11

November 3 Cotton Kingdom
Faragher, Chapter 10

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

Isaac, "Memoirs of a Monticello Slave" (1847)

Frederick Douglass, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass" (1845)

November 5 Antebellum Slavery
Faragher, Chapter 10

Browse for images of slavery:

<https://understandingslavery.com/artefacts/> (choose an image from 1812-1861)

Week 12
November 10

Film: *Amistad* (1997)

Jacksonian America
Faragher, Chapter 11

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
Andrew Jackson, "First Annual Message to Congress (1829)

Film: *Trail of Tears* (2009)

November 12

Market Revolution
Faragher, Chapter 12

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
Jesse Hawley, "The Case for the Erie Canal" (1822)

Browse for images of nineteenth-century development and nature:
(1) <https://www.eriecanal.org/images.html> (choose images from 1817-1861)
(2) <https://www.thewadsworth.org/explore/collection/hudson-river-school/>

Week 13
November 17

Urban Transformations
Faragher, Chapter 12

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
The Harbinger, "Female Workers of Lowell" (1836)
Film: *Gangs of New York* (2002)

November 19

Quiz #3
Reform Movements
Faragher, Chapter 13

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
William Lloyd Garrison, "First Issue of *The Liberator*" (1831)
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions" (1848)

Week 14
November 24

Western Expansion and U.S.-Mexican War
Faragher, Chapter 14

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
James K. Polk, "War Message to Congress" (1846)
Thomas Corwin, "Against the Mexican War"

November 26

No Class—Thanksgiving Break

Week 15
December 1

Sectional Crisis
Faragher, Chapter 15

Primary Sources (in Canvas):
Harriet Beecher Stowe, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" (1852)
George Fitzhugh, "The Blessings of Slavery" (1857)

December 3

Civil War and Emancipation
Faragher, Chapter 16

Primary Sources (in Canvas):

Abraham Lincoln, "Gettysburg Address" (1863)
"Address from the Colored Citizens of Norfolk, Virginia to the People of the United States" (1865)
"Black Codes of Mississippi" (1865)

Browse for images of Civil War:

- (1) <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/cwp/>
- (2) <https://valley.lib.virginia.edu/images/> (click on "Initiate Search")

Film: *Glory* (1989)

Week 16

Monday, Dec. 8 **Final Exam (Exam #3): 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Attendance – Faithful class attendance is crucial since lectures complement the readings, rather than duplicate them. After the fourth missed class, each additional absence, whether excused or unexcused, will result in a five-point grade reduction from your final attendance grade in the course. If you are routinely late to class, 2 lates count as an absence.

Participation – Participation is an important component of this class. Lectures are interactive and approximately fifteen minutes of each class will be set aside for discussion of documents, maps, images, and film clips. I encourage you to participate both by answering my questions and by asking me your own. The quality of your comments is more important than the quantity.

Primary Source Analyses (PSAs) – In addition to doing outside reading and studying for quizzes and exams, this class requires you to analyze three of the primary sources listed on the syllabus, which are available in Canvas. You will choose one from each of the three sections of this course, which precede each exam. You have the option of analyzing three written documents or two written documents and one visual image. You will assess them using modified primary source analysis worksheets from the National Archives that are available in Canvas. The purpose of these assignments is to improve your analytical, research, and communication skills. In addition, since you are required to discuss your primary source in class, it serves to enhance the quality of class discussion.

Quizzes – Three equally weighted quizzes, consisting of key terms from your study guides, will be given at the beginning of class at the midpoint of each section of the course. These quizzes serve several purposes: they help you to prepare for your exams, they help to structure the lectures and improve the quality of our discussions, and they let me know how well you are learning.

Exams – Three equally weighted exams will be given in class at the end of each section of the course. Each exam consists of key terms and an essay question that will ask you to support an argument with evidence from readings and lectures. The final exam will be given during the last week of the semester and is not cumulative. You will receive a review sheet with potential essay questions prior to each exam.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Total
Attendance	10%
Participation	10%
3 Primary Source Analyses	20%
3 Quizzes	15%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam	15%
Total:	100%

Grade Determination:

A = 90-100
B = 80 – 89
C = 70 – 79
D = 60 – 69
F = 0-59

Course-Specific Policies**Assignment Policy:**

Each primary source analysis (PSA) should be submitted by 1pm on the day of discussion using the supplied forms in Canvas. You should submit the PSA electronically as a Canvas assignment in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Late assignments must be submitted within a week and will receive a 10-point grade penalty.

Quiz and Exam Policy:

Quizzes and exams should be taken as scheduled. No full-credit make-ups will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>). In such a case the student should still make every effort to communicate with the instructor by phone or email prior to the quiz or exam, provide valid documentation such as a doctor's note afterward, and take the make-up within a week of the originally scheduled date. Students who miss a quiz or exam without valid documentation, may still take a make-up within a week of the originally scheduled date but will receive a 20-point grade penalty.

Academic Integrity and AI Use Policy

Students are expected to abide by the UNTD Student Code of Academic Integrity (Policy 7.002) at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu> (see also para. 5 below).

All academic work turned in for this class, consisting of primary source analyses, quizzes, and exams, must include the following statement:

"On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy."

Please note that I take your signing of this statement very seriously, and the minimum grade penalty for violating the Code of Academic Integrity in this course will be a zero on that assignment.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) composition or editing software, such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Grammarly, is not allowed in this class for any stage or phase of written work, including generation of ideas, writing of text, or revising your own work. Doing so is considered a violation of the cheating and plagiarism standards of the UNTD Code of Academic Integrity.

All assignments in this class will be uploaded to Turnitin.com in Canvas to check for plagiarism and AI use.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>.

Incomplete Policy:

The deadline to file for an incomplete for the course is the last day in which there is regular instruction for the session (not including finals), which is December 4 in Fall 2025. In order to receive an incomplete in this course, the Grade of Incomplete Form posted on the Registrar forms site must be completed, signed, and returned to the Office of the Registrar by the deadline posted in the Academic Calendar. For other questions related to grade of incomplete, contact Dr. Dawn Sales, Assistant Provost, at dawn.sales@untDallas.edu.

Electronics:

Cell phones and other hand-held electronic devices, including earbuds and headphones, are not permitted in this class.

Laptops:

Laptops are permitted, provided they are used solely for taking notes and viewing course materials in Canvas. Anyone found browsing the internet or doing assignments for this class or other courses during class will lose future computer privileges.

Food and Drink

Food is not permitted in this class, but you may bring a non-alcoholic drink.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777, by email at UNTDisability@untDallas.edu, or at the Student Center, room 1104.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Etiquette:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNT Policy 7.001 found at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>).

Classroom Disruption:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not

responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (UNT Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Course Evaluations:

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I (as the instructor) will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking

UNT Dallas is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, free from gender and sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in accordance with Title IX, Texas laws and University Policies. Please note that all employees are mandated reporters and must report all instances of sexual misconduct, dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of sex or gender-based discrimination or violence and wish to speak to the Title IX Coordinator, you can email them at titleix@untDallas.edu or file a report [here](#).

Pregnancy, Pregnancy Related Conditions and Parenting Modifications Under Title IX

UNT Dallas is committed to compliance with Title IX, and to supporting the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions. If you are pregnant, have pregnant-related conditions or a parenting student (child under one-year needs documented medical care) who wishes to request reasonable related modifications from the University under Title IX, please email the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@untDallas.edu. The Title IX Coordinator will work with your professors and academic unit to provide reasonable modifications needed to be supportive of your education while pregnant or as a parent under Title IX.

Bad Weather Policy:

Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Technology Assistance:

To successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor. If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups.

For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>

- Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating Systems: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>