

History 2610.001
American History to 1865

Spring 2022

MWF 9 – 9:50 am
BLB 180

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Required Books and Materials:

McGerr, *et al.*, *Of the People: A History of the United States*, 5th ed. (with sources), Vol. 1

Purpose of Course:

To provide the student with an understanding of the political, economic, and social development of the United States to the end of the Civil War. It is hoped that each student also will learn to apply this knowledge in the making of contemporary political, economic, and social decisions.

Teaching Philosophy:

My job as an instructor is to provide the student with opportunities to learn and to provide guidance as to how best to take advantage of those opportunities. Learning should be an adventure, and I hope to be able to communicate my love of learning and of history to my students. That being said, it is the responsibility of the student to stay engaged with the material that has been laid out for study. We can, together, make this an interesting and productive semester.

Technical Requirements & Skills:

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Microsoft Office Suite
- [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (<https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments

Course Requirements and Grading Policies:

See below concerning grading of Exams, Final, and Signature Assignment.

The fourth exam (the “Final”) will not be comprehensive.

The exam grades will be assigned as follows:

A = 90 - 100 points
B = 80 - 89 points
C = 70 - 79 points
D = 60 - 69 points
F = 59 and below

Tentative Calendar (Subject to Change)

Dates for exams and assignments:

Exam 1 (25%)	Friday, 11 February
Exam 2 (25%)	Wednesday, 9 March
Exam 3 (25%)	Monday, 11 April
Final (25%)	Wednesday, 11 May (8 – 10 am in BLB 180)

Sig. Assign't

Monday, 11 April

The instructor reserves the right to make determinations concerning the granting of extra credit.

Students will take three (3) exams and a final. The final numerical grade will be translated into a letter grade according to the table above on the left.

Course Evaluation:

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. SPOT evaluations will be open 18 April – 5 May during this Spring 2022 semester. Students who provide proof of having completed the online SPOT evaluation for this course will get an additional 20 extra-credit points added to their overall point totals for the semester.

Structure of Major Exams:

Major exams and the Final will consist of ten (10) Fill-in-the-Blank sentences, two (2) questions based on sources in the textbook, and one (1) short-answer essay. The student will have 50 minutes each for exams 1, 2, and 3. The student will have 2 hours for the final. Students will be given a review sheet before each major exam that contains fill-in-the-blank terms and various questions from which those on the exam will be chosen. It is expected that each student will use the review sheet to prepare for the exam. Student answers are expected to be responsive to the questions asked, coherently constructed, and grammatically sound. The most important objective when answering essay questions should be the demonstration of what the student knows about the subject being addressed. Provide as many details as possible.

Signature Assignment:

The Signature Assignment is found on the student's CANVAS site for the course. The Signature Assignment is worth up to 50 points of extra credit. Students must complete the assignment by 11:59 pm on 11 April 2022 in order to receive credit. Instructions concerning the taking and information concerning the grading of the assignment can be found on the student's CANVAS site for the course.

Punctuality and attendance:

Students are expected to be on time for all class meetings and examinations. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Attendance will be used, at the instructor's discretion, to determine whether or not the student receives the instructor's "benefit of the doubt" when grades are assigned at the end of the semester. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so that you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community. Your safety and well-being are important to me.

Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf) (https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf). If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

Office Hours:

MW 1-4 pm in Wooten Hall Rm 228.

Contacting Your Instructor:

It is best to contact your instructor via email. I am not in my office outside of office hours very often, but I check my email regularly. I will get back with you as soon as possible. Also, communication via email ensures that there is a written record of the information passed between student and instructor.

Office hours are provided so that students can meet with the instructor when there is an issue that needs to be addressed. If the student is concerned about his or her grade in the course, please see the instructor as soon as possible so that the issue can be addressed while there is still time. Please, do not wait until it is too late to do something about a problem or to address a concern before meeting with the instructor.

Communicating via Email:

- Check the syllabus before asking a question about the course and let the instructor know you checked the syllabus before asking. Instructors put a lot of time into making syllabi as comprehensive as possible for students.
- Use a descriptive subject line to get the instructor's attention. Instructors receive a lot of emails and a descriptive subject line helps them identify student inquiries more efficiently.
- Include the course and section number in your email.
- Be concise and to the point.

General Communication Guidelines:

- Remember that college communication is still professional communication. Use correct spelling and grammar and always double-check your response before hitting send or reply. Do not use slang and limit the use of emoticons.
- Use standard, readable fonts, sizes, and colors and avoid writing in all caps.
- Use your instructor's title of "Dr." or "Professor," or if you don't know use "Mr." or "Ms." Do not use "Mrs." to address female instructors unless told otherwise by said instructor.
- Be mindful of tone in online communication as it lacks the nonverbal cues of face-to-face communication that provide clarity and context to conversations.
- Respect the personal identities of others based on gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, and/or culture.
- Respect the privacy of yourself, your instructor, and your peers. Keep in mind what you reveal and do not reveal, particularly if this information involves personal health and/or classroom performance, such as grades.
- Give people the benefit of the doubt. Though there may be a computer between you, there are people on the other side of the screen.
- Do not make assumptions about others' technological skills. Technological skills vary across a variety of factors, including experience, age, culture, etc.

Getting Help:

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Student Support Services

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Other student support services offered by UNT include

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
- [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)
- [MathLab](https://math.unt.edu/mathlab) (https://math.unt.edu/mathlab)

Information Concerning Grades:

FERPA rules require that information concerning grades be communicated to the person who has a legal right to see and know that information. I will only communicate grade information if you use your official UNT email account. Inquiries using gmail, aol, or any other non-UNT email address will not be answered.

Handout and Test Return Policy:

Those students missing class when instructional items and graded tests are distributed can pick up missed materials and graded tests during office hours.

Class Notes:

Basic notes will be placed on CANVAS. Students should use these notes as a basis for their note-taking in class.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones should be turned off or on vibrate.

During tests, cell phones and all other electronic devices must be put away so that they are not visible to the student. No text messaging allowed. Sending or receiving text messages during an exam will be considered prima facie evidence of cheating and will be handled accordingly.

Use of Computers in Class:

Students may use computers to take notes in class. However....

While the instructor understands the popularity and convenience of laptops for this purpose, he also knows that far too often students use their computers to play games and surf the Internet. The misuse of a computer during class in this manner not only harms the student engaged in the activity, but it also is a distraction to others around the student who might actually be in class for the purpose of taking notes in preparation for the tests. To protect the studios, students who misuse their computers in this way will, when caught, be told to shut off their computer.

Make-up Policy for Major Exams:

A student missing the First, Second, or Third Exam must make up that exam within a week. This means, for instance, that if the exam is given on a Monday, then, if missed, it must be made up by the beginning of class on the following Monday. A make-up exam will be placed in the History Help Center for students who meet with the instructor and arrange to take the make-up. Make-up exams will not be automatically placed in the Help Center. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that a missed exam is made up within the specified one-week period. Unless other arrangements are made with the instructor, all students who do not make up a test within the one-week make-up period will receive a "0" ["zero"] for that exam.

The make-up is one question chosen from the possible essay questions on the review. The student will write an essay in answer to that question for a total of 100 pts.

Face Coverings:

UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

History Help Center:

Located in Wooten Hall, Room 220, the History Help Center provides assistance to students enrolled in history courses at UNT.

Syllabus Change Policy:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the syllabus if necessary. Any changes that are necessary will be communicated to students via an Announcement and via the students' official UNT email account.

UNT Policies:

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable 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, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](http://www.unt.edu/oda) website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect) (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available 18 April – 5 May to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete

the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Lectures

- The student will use the lectures and the textbook [McGerr, et al., *Of the People: A History of the United States*, 5th ed. (with sources), Vol. 1] to prepare for exams. The most important source for information for the exams is the classroom lecture. The student should use the following information, in conjunction with the table of contents and index of the textbook, to coordinate the lectures with the information found in the textbook.

Bold numbers in bold brackets are the textbook chapters that correlate, as closely as possible, with that lecture (n/a, “not applicable,” means that the lecture covers material not in the textbook).

Exam Period #1 (10 class meetings, 19 January – 9 February)

- Lecture Emphases:
- Early Native American Overview **[1]**
 - Background concerning peoples indigenous to the Americas
 - English and British Rulers **[n/a]**
 - Background concerning English and British rulers, 1485-1776
 - Roots of the English Reformation **[n/a]**
 - Background concerning Anglicanism and Puritanism
 - European Expansion - The Maritime and Commercial Revolution **[1, 2]**
 - History of the European Age of Exploration and Expansion
 - The British Colonial Period **[2, 3, 4, 5]**
 - Founding of the thirteen British colonies

Exam Period #2 (10 class meetings, 14 February – 7 March)

- Lecture Emphases:
- Britain Gains Control of North America **[6]**
 - Great Britain vs France in North America
 - The Rights of Englishmen **[n/a]**
 - Background concerning the development of British legal and constitutional concepts
 - Growing Differences with Britain **[6]**
 - Description of the reasons for the deterioration of relations between Great Britain and her North American Atlantic maritime colonies
 - The American Revolution **[7]**
 - Political, military, and social aspects
 - The Nation Under the Articles of Confederation **[7]**
 - Description of the government under the Articles

Exam Period #3 (10 class meetings, 11 March – 8 April) [*week of 14-18 March is Spring Break*]

- Lecture Emphases:
- Framing the Constitution **[7]**
 - History of the Constitutional Convention and description of various American constitutional concepts
 - The Federalist Period **[8]**
 - Founding of the government under the Federal Constitution
 - Thomas Jefferson as President **[9]**
 - Description of various Jeffersonian concepts of government

The War of 1812 [9]

Political, military, and social aspects

The Post-War of 1812 Period [9, 10]

A description of one-party government in America

Exam Period #4 (9 class meetings, 13 April – 2 May) **{4 May is pre-Finals day; 6 May is Reading Day}**

Lecture Emphases: The Jacksonian Era [10]

Description of various Jacksonian concepts of government

The United States Expands to the Pacific [12]

The annexation of Texas, the acquisition of Oregon, the War with Mexico, the settlement of California, the settlement of Utah, and the Gadsden Purchase

Sectionalism and Slavery Lead to Disunion [10, 11, 13]

A thematic lecture looking at the Missouri Compromise, abolitionism, the Compromise of 1850 and the Fugitive Slave Act, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the formation of the Republican Party, Dred Scott, the Lincoln-Douglas debates, and ending with the secession of the southern states.

The Civil War [14]

Various political, military, and social aspects

The Instructor reserves the right to add, subtract, and to make changes to any and all of the foregoing descriptions, instructions, and/or information at his discretion.