HIST 2610: The United States to 1865

Instructor	Ms. Hannah Pullen	**Email**	hannah.pullen@unt.edu
Office	Wooten Hall 252	**Office Hours**	Tue & Thu, 10:30–11:30 am

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT's full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Land Acknowledgment

Acknowledging the land is an Indigenous protocol, and it is important to note that the University of North Texas is located on the unceded territory of the Wichita and Caddo Affiliated Tribes. It is important to study the long processes that have brought us all to reside on this land, and to seek to better understand our places within these histories.

Why History?

History is the sum total of human experience in all its complexity. It is also the only guide we have to the decisions that will shape our future. The study of history allows us to see parallels, analogies, and recurrent patterns, detect long-term trends and forces, and understand what is really different about the present. History shows us how past decisions shape and limit future options and how every facet of life is socially and culturally constructed. Equally important, history exposes us to the full richness of human experience and introduces us to fascinating individuals and events and to long-term processes that gradually transform our lives.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

This course covers Early America as one of the most exciting and dramatic periods in the history of the Western world. These first two centuries brought political, social, and ideological revolutions. Yet, Early American history also hosted some of the darkest chapters in world history — the rise of imperialism, the exploitation of native peoples, systematized enslavement, and the subjugation of various groups. In some ways, the course will be a broad survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from British Colonization to the Civil War. We will also investigate more specific themes such as: American settlement and pluralism, the evolution of identity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological changes, economic change, immigration and migration, and the creation of federal government.

Course Structure

This course follows a "flipped classroom" structure, meaning you will learn new course content remotely and asynchronously on Canvas, and then you will attend a one-a-week in-person class ready to apply what you've learned to activities and discussions with your instructor and classmates. Your remote class content will be delivered through weekly lecture videos and primary source readings. Attendance in your weekly class meeting is required in this course, and your presence and preparedness to participate in the weekly activity will count towards your grade.

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

No prerequisites for the course.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the major themes of United States History to/since 1865.
- Utilize the techniques and skills of historical methodology.
- Evaluate and assess contextually relevant evidence from qualitative and quantitative sources.
- Identify meaningful connections between various perspectives and interpretations.
- Develop informed and persuasive arguments based on significant information.

Communication Expectations

I want to be as accessible to you as I can be. Please chat with me before or after class, or email me, with any questions or concerns you have. I try my best to respond within a 24-hour period. I will also hold regular office hours for at least two hours per week on a first-come, first-served basis. I encourage you to meet with me to discuss any aspect of this course or whatever else is on your mind. I have an open-door policy and want to be a resource and support for you in any way possible. If you can't visit during office hours, please email me. I will do my best to respond immediately.

MATERIALS

Required Text

Containing Multitudes: A Documentary Reader of US History, Volume I: To 1877. Edited by Wesley G. Phelps and Jennifer Jensen Wallach. This is a collection of primary sources that contains weekly required readings to be incorporated in various assignments (the list of readings is provided in each module). Purchase through Amazon, or access through the UNT Library.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

As an educator, I will guide my students toward understanding history and its impact on the world. A student should leave my class with knowledge about the past, its chronology, and critical thinking skills established through reading and class work. I seek to reward my students' efforts and help them become informed citizens of the world by allowing them to explore facets of history that interest them. I shall help students succeed in the classroom by encouraging them to put effort towards their academic goals. My teaching philosophy seeks to reward those who work hard with success in the classroom and with critical thinking skills that they can carry with them for the rest of their life.

I acknowledge the various backgrounds, lives, and socio-economic circumstances that students at this university come from. In doing so, I hope to aid any of my students who may be facing circumstances that impair their ability to achieve their academic goals. Respect for others and their opinions will be a requirement in any class that I am teaching in order for individuals to not feel ostracized. However, I want to foster an environment in which my students can challenge their worldviews and understand the views that motivate those besides themselves. By challenging one's views, a person can develop into an empathetic citizen of the world who treats others with civility and respect.

My passion for history is something that I will share with my students, and I hope they can find parts of history that they find fascinating or identify with. History is a subject in which many lessons can be learned and something that people can find motivation from. It is my belief that everyone enjoys history if it is presented to them in a clear and interesting fashion. As historians, it is our duty to introduce students to the many grand narratives and events of our past that have occurred in order for them to better understand the world in which they live.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY & SKILLS

Minimum Technology Requirements

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software
- Using spreadsheet programs
- Using presentation and graphics programs

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: unt.edu/helpdesk
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940-565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Day(s)	Phone Hours	Other
Sunday	Noon–Midnight	Walk-in: 8am–9pm daily
Monday–Thursday	8am–Midnight	Laptop checkout: 8am–7pm
Friday	8am–8pm	helpdesk@unt.edu
Saturday	9am–5pm	940-565-2324

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use "I" statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individuals' experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as "YELLING!"
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See the Engagement Guidelines (clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND POLICIES

Course Assignments

Assignment	% of Grade
Attendance	**10%**
Participation	**5%**
Signature Assignment	**10%**
Historical Impact Reflection	**10%**
Quizzes — 13 Lecture Quizzes	**10%**
Notes Check-In — 11 Note Check-Ins	**5%**

Assignment	% of Grade
Primary Source Analysis — 2 Primary Source Analyses	**20%**
Exams — 3 Exams	**30%**
Total	**100%**

Grading

A student's overall letter grade for this course will be based on a standard ten-point percentage scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90–100
B	80–89
C	70–79
D	60–69
F	50–59

To receive an A in this course, it is imperative for you to submit assignments on time, engage with all components in each module, prepare well for exams and quizzes, and bring deeply engaged, critical thought to your discussion responses and historical reflection project.

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. I will alert you to when SPOT evaluations will be opening.

Assignment Policy

Most assignments will be submitted through our online course platform, except for assignments completed in our in-person class time. You can find all assignment due dates in the syllabus. You can also find the due dates and instructions when clicking on each assignment for details in Canvas. Any written assignments should be submitted as either .DOC or .PDF.

Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the UNT Student Help Desk (helpdesk@unt.edu or 940-565-2324) and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Examination Policy

There will be 3 exams in this class, including the final exam. You will be responsible for lecture, textbook, and primary source material for each exam. A review sheet with several essay possibilities will be handed out one week before each exam. The format of major tests and the final examination will be discussed in detail in review sessions before each is given.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

For my part in this course, I am here to facilitate a deeper level in understanding American history and to help you spark a personal relevance to history in general. To accomplish this, I work to provide clear instructions on assignments but also stress the significance of why we have these assignments. I also make myself available for any student questions or concerns throughout the course. I regularly review and update my course content as historical study is a living organism that is constantly changing. Additionally, I try to identify resources and encourage students to further study the subject of this course after it ends.

- I reply to student emails as soon as I can, mostly within a 24-hour period.
- Students can expect grades and feedback on assignments no later than 1 week after it is due.

Makeup Exams

In order to make up a quiz or exam, you must provide valid documentation for why you could not complete it on the assigned day. If allowed, students have 3 calendar days to make up the exam or they get a zero for that test score. The makeup exams may be different in structure and content than the regularly scheduled exams.

Late Work

If an assignment is turned in after the due date, it will lose points each day. To not lose any late points on assignments or exams, students must provide the instructor with a documented university-excused absence within 48 hours of the due date. As long as you communicate with me, I am willing to work with you depending on the circumstances.

Attendance Policy

Though this course is partially online, it's important to iterate that your success in this course will directly correlate with your engagement, which includes attendance and participation in our scheduled in-person class time. Challenge yourself to engage in all course components to get the education you deserve.

Class Participation Policy

A vital element of every class will be discussion and participation. Healthy discussion is only possible if everyone keeps up with the reading assignments. It is also expected that you give your undivided attention and support to your classmates during discussions. You can learn a great deal from listening to others. Conversations that take place in this class, or topics that we discuss, may be uncomfortable to some. My hope is that you will approach this course with a sense of intellectual wonder and adventure. In this way, perhaps this course will expand what you know and understand about U.S. history. Please keep in mind that academic investigation need not be either tiresome or dull. This requires, however, that you take as much responsibility for your own education as I do in creating an environment where learning can occur for everyone. The class will be as enlightening and exciting as you help make it. I approach this work as a mutual exchange of ideas, theories, hypotheses, and propositions about historical investigation. I am not here merely to feed you information just as you are not here to accept all that I say without thinking critically.

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is subject to change at the professor's discretion. However, any changes I make will not be substantial, and I will communicate fully with you and give you ample time to prepare.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Wk	Unit	In-Class Activity	Assignments
1	—	Introduction to the Class	—
2	Unit 1: American Origins	Mapping America	☐ Unit 1 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 1 Notes Check-In
3	Unit 2: Making an Atlantic World	Close-Reading Spanish Encounters	☐ Unit 2 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 2 Notes Check-In
4	Unit 3: Colliding Cultures	Promoting English Colonization	☐ Unit 3 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 3 Notes Check-In
5	Unit 4: British North America	Mapping the Middle Passage	☐ Unit 4 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 4 Notes Check-In ☐ Primary Source Analysis 1
6	Unit 5: Colonial Society	Tracing the Global Origins of Commodities in Colonial Society	☐ Unit 5 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 5 Notes Check-In
7	Unit 6: The American Revolution	Exam 1 (Units 1–6)	☐ Unit 6 Lecture Quiz ☐ Exam 1 (Units 1–6)
8	Unit 7: A New Nation	The Lives of a New Nation	☐ Unit 7 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 7 Notes Check-In
9	Unit 8: The Early Republic	Liberty for Whom?	☐ Unit 8 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 8 Notes Check-In
10	Unit 9: Getting Forward	Visualizing Political Life in the Jacksonian Era	☐ Unit 9 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 9 Notes Check-In ☐ Primary Source Analysis 2
11	Unit 10: American Democracy	Exam 2 (Units 7–10)	☐ Unit 10 Lecture Quiz ☐ Exam 2 (Units 7–10)
12	—	Significance Exam Writing Day	—
13	Unit 11: Growth and Conflict	Comparing Historical Arguments About Slavery	☐ Unit 11 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 11 Notes Check-In ☐ Signature Assignment
14	Unit 12: National Crisis	A Looming Crisis	☐ Unit 12 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 12 Notes Check-In
15	Unit 13: The Civil War	Emancipation Stories	☐ Unit 13 Lecture Quiz ☐ Unit 13 Notes Check-In

Wk	Unit	In-Class Activity	Assignments
16	Finals Week	Final Exam (Units 11–13)	☐ Historical Impact Reflection ☐ Final Exam (Units 11–13)

UNT POLICIES

Academic Integrity Policy

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. If you are found to have plagiarized, cheated on an exam, or assisted someone else in cheating, you will receive a zero on the assignment. More information on academic integrity can be found in the Undergraduate Catalog.

AI Policy

Use of generative AI of any kind is not allowed for this class. Tools to help with grammar and spelling, such as Grammarly, are allowed. Please email me if you have any questions.

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA 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 with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see disability.unt.edu.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

UNT prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

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 Canvas 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 Canvas 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 a student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. 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 (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 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. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. For additional information, please visit 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. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence; they can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Alleged sexual misconduct can also be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or (940) 565-2759.

Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

Detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses are available at the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website (ecfr.gov). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2, Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G), which limits F-1 students to counting no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per term toward their full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education without requiring physical attendance.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or another on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, students must:

- Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- Ensure the activity takes place on campus and that the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSS has a form available for this purpose).

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, F-1 students unsure about their need to participate in an on-campus experiential component should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (940-565-2195 or internationaladvising@unt.edu) before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses. See UNT Policy 07-002, Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses, for details.

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g., software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class, and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

- No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
- In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
- Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of the recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images

may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT & STUDENT SERVICES

Mental Health

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. Resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being include:

- Student Health and Wellness Center
- Counseling and Testing Services
- UNT Care Team
- UNT Psychiatric Services
- Individual Counseling

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that used in class, please let the instructor know. UNT Records, UNT ID Card, UNT Email Address, and Legal Name resources are available for updating your chosen name at UNT. (Note: UNT euIDs cannot currently be changed; collaborating offices are working on making this option accessible.)

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns. You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar
- Financial Aid
- Student Legal Services
- Career Center
- Multicultural Center
- Counseling and Testing Services
- Pride Alliance
- UNT Food Pantry

Academic Support Services

- Academic Resource Center
- Academic Success Center
- UNT Libraries
- Writing Lab