

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**(Part I)**  
**Instructor's Course Requirements**  
**Summer I, 2018**

**I. COURSE NUMBER AND INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**HIST 1301: History of the U.S. to 1877**



Instructor: José Miguel Chávez Leyva  
Class Location: NWC 7010 M57  
Class Times: M-F 9:00–10:50am

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Office: M21 Phone: (915) 831-8936  
Office Hours: MTW 8:00–9:00am

**II. TEXTS & MATERIALS**

Required Texts:

*Give Me Liberty: An American History, Vol. 1* (4<sup>th</sup> edition), by Eric Foner. **Available for purchase in the bookstore.**

**III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Course Overview:** This course will cover the history of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the Civil War & Reconstruction era. Students will learn to understand and interpret the major themes and events of this timespan through the reading of primary and secondary source materials. Daily coursework will include group workshops, which will assist students in understanding these primary source documents. By analyzing these sources, students will learn to evaluate biases and think critically about the past. Students will learn to interpret the past for themselves, as well as understand some of the major historical arguments surrounding the founding of the

United States, Independence from Britain, U.S. expansionism, the War with Mexico, and the Civil War. Students will also learn the craft of history by completing essays to develop their historical writing skills. By the end of this course, students will understand how the social and political issues of today are related to the past, and they will gain a deeper understanding of how the past can continue to inform the present.

### B. Course Objectives:

1. Students should be able to recognize change and continuity in U.S. history up through the Reconstruction Era
2. Students should be able to interpret the influence of gender, race, class, religion, and ethnicity in constructions of the past.
3. Students will gain experience at generalizing, explaining, and interpreting historical change.
4. Students will learn to make arguments based on primary sources, become more effective critical thinkers, and make connections between the past and present.

### C. Grading:

Analysis Papers (x 3@150pts each) – 450pts	A= 900 – 1000pts
Midterm Exam – 150pts	B = 800 – 899pts
Final Exam – 150pts	C = 700 – 799pts
Workshops (x15@10pts each) – 150pts	D = 600 – 699pts
Attendance – 100pts	F = 599 or below

### D. Assignments

**Analysis Papers:** You will be asked to complete three primary source analysis papers. These will be based on one of the primary source documents in your textbook, listed under the “Voices of Freedom” section in each chapter. The due dates for these papers are June 1<sup>st</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, and June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59pm. You will select a primary source document from one of the chapters we have covered that week. Each of these papers is worth 150pts. Full instructions will be given in a separate handout. **Late papers will be penalized 10% per day, and no papers will be taken after 3 days.**

**Exams:** There will be one midterm and one final exam. These two exams will evaluate your understanding of the course material. Exam questions may be in multiple choice, short answer, or fill in the blank format. Each exam is worth 150pts. The final exam will not be comprehensive.

**Workshops:** There are 15 in-class workshops for the course. These count for 10pts each, for a total of 150pts of your final grade. Missed workshops cannot be made-up. The purpose of the workshops is to help you engage with the material. Workshop assignments address the textbook and primary source readings for the day, so please complete those before you come to class.

**Attendance:** You should accumulate no more than **two** unexcused absences. Any unexcused absence thereafter will reduce your attendance score, which constitutes 100pts of your total grade.

**No extra credit** will be offered in this course. Students hoping to raise their grades should talk to the professor (before the very end of the course) about how to improve on the tests and papers assigned. **Improvement will be rewarded** in determining final grades (for those students who regularly attend class).

#### IV. INSTRUCTOR'S POLICIES

**A. Attendance Policy:** If you need to miss class because of a religious observance, military obligations, or participation in an intercollegiate activity, please inform the instructor. You will be able to make-up work missed because of such absences. Please notify me of your need to miss class prior to the date of your absence. Whenever possible, students should provide documentation. Any exams should to be taken *in advance* of such absences.

**If you miss an exam** for any reason other than a health, family, or other emergency that you can document, you will not be eligible for a make-up. If missing the exam was due to circumstances outside your control, contact me **immediately**.

**B. Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the use of the ideas, information, or words of another author without giving proper credit to your source. You are responsible for citing your sources as indicated by the instructor and, in cases where you directly quote from a source, for enclosing those words that are not your own in quotation marks. Failing to give proper credit to your sources in these ways is academic dishonesty. You are also responsible for adhering to the instructor's rules on exams. All suspected incidents of academic dishonesty will be referred immediately to the appropriate college officials.

**C. Electronics:** You may use a computer to take notes, but please silence your cell phones and all other devices when you enter the classroom. If any electronics become a problem, you may be asked to put them away.

## V. CALENDAR:

~Instructor reserves the right to change schedule as needed~

Note: All readings must be complete before class on date listed

<b>Week 1</b>	May 29	Course Introduction Review Syllabus & Student Expectations
	May 30	<b>Lecture:</b> Intro to the Study of History <b>Workshop 1:</b> What do you already know about US History?
	May 31	<b>Lecture:</b> North America to 1600 <b>Film:</b> <i>The Last Conquistador</i> (2008) <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 1 A New World
	June 1	<b>Lecture:</b> Colonization throughout North America <b>Workshop 2:</b> Assessment of Columbus <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 2 Beginnings of English America, 1607-1650 <b>!!!! Due:</b> Primary Document Analysis Paper, 11:59pm !!!!
<b>Week 2</b>	June 4	<b>Lecture:</b> The British Atlantic World <b>Workshop 3:</b> Bacon's Rebellion <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 3 Creating Anglo America, 1660-1750
	June 5	<b>Lecture:</b> War, Trade, and Social Unrest <b>Workshop 4:</b> American Colonies Prior to 1750 <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 4 Slavery, Freedom, and the Struggle for Empire to 1763
	June 6	<b>Lecture:</b> Fighting the Revolution <b>Workshop 5:</b> American Revolution <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 5 The American Revolution, 1763-1783
	June 7	<b>Lecture:</b> The Creation of a New Nation <b>Workshop 6:</b> Republican Motherhood <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 6 The Revolution Within
	June 8	<b>Lecture:</b> Republican Culture and a Capitalistic Commonwealth <b>Workshop 7:</b> Shay's Rebellion <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 7 Founding a Nation, 1783-1791 <b>!!!! Due:</b> Primary Document Analysis Paper, 11:59pm !!!!
<b>Week 3</b>	June 11	<b>Lecture:</b> Race, Religion, and Economic Change <b>Workshop 8:</b> War of 1812 <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 8 Securing the Republic, 1791-1815
	June 12	<b>Review for Midterm Exam</b>
	June 13	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>

	June 14	<b>Lecture:</b> The Market Revolution <b>Workshop 9:</b> The Market Revolution <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 9 The Market Revolution, 1800-1840
	June 15	<b>Lecture:</b> The Rise of Popular Politics <b>Workshop 10:</b> Jacksonian Democracy <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 10 Democracy in America, 1815-1840
<b>Week 4</b>	June 18	<b>Film:</b> <i>The Trail of Tears</i> (2007)
	June 19	<b>Lecture:</b> Slavery Strengthens <b>Workshop 11:</b> Growth of Slavery in America <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 11 The Peculiar Institution
	June 20	<b>Film:</b> <i>Africans in America: America's Journey Through Slavery</i> (2000)
	June 21	<b>Film:</b> <i>Africans in America: America's Journey Through Slavery</i> (2000)
	June 22	<b>Lecture:</b> American Reform Movements <b>Workshop 12:</b> Abolitionism in the North <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 12 An Age of Reform, 1820-1840 <b>!!!! Due:</b> Primary Document Analysis Paper, 11:59pm !!!!
<b>Week 5</b>	June 25	<b>Lecture:</b> The U.S. War with Mexico <b>Workshop 13:</b> The U.S. War with Mexico <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 13 A House Divided, 1840-1861
	June 26	<b>Lecture:</b> The Civil War <b>Workshop 14:</b> Causes of the Civil War <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 14 A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War, 1861-1865
	June 27	<b>Lecture:</b> Reconstruction <b>Workshop 15:</b> Reconstruction <b>Foner:</b> Ch. 15 "What Is Freedom?": Reconstruction, 1865-1877
	June 28	<b>Review for Final Exam</b>
	June 29	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>