

History 1301 – TR 9:35-10:50
U.S. History to 1877
Fall 2019 Syllabus

Assistant Professor: Hollis Knode

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Phone: 230-3416

Office: B.213

Class Meetings: TR 9:35-10:50 **Room:** B246

Office Hours: (also by appointment)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
12:45-2:30 PM 4:30 – 6:00 PM	8:30-9:30 AM 12:30-2:00 PM	1:00-2:30 PM	8:30-9:30 AM 12:30-2:00 PM



Fig. 1 Bill Waterson's
Calvin & Hobbes

Textbook

America: The Essential Learning Edition Volume 1; 2nd Edition; by David Shi & George Tindall; Norton & Company Publishers. ISBN: 978-0-393-64301-5.

Supplementary Text

Eyewitness to America; edited by David Colbert; Vintage Books (Random House Publishers). ISBN: 978-0-679-76724-4.

You also need a composition book (no spirals) of your choice dedicated to in-class journals. This should be separate from your notes so that you can turn it in. As well, you need either a folder with paper or a spiral/composition book of some sort to take notes for yourself in class.

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer or the publisher of the book.

Course Description

In History 1301 we will develop and hone critical thinking skills and improve written and verbal communication through a discussion of U.S. history. We will increase our knowledge and understanding of how and why the U.S. arrived at its current form.

Prerequisites – None, but student should have college level reading and writing skills.

Learning Outcomes

In this class the student will:

Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.

Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study.

Comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the Constitution of the U.S., federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.

Identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

Major Topics

This course will, among other things, cover Native Cultures, Early Colonization, Empire Building, Colonial Development, The French and Indian War, The Revolutionary War, From Republic to Democracy, Jacksonian Democracy, Manifest Destiny, Prelude to War, Secession, the Civil War and Reconstruction.



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Classroom Etiquette & Participation—Please be respectful by not causing classroom distractions. You can do this by

- turning off (or switching to “silent” mode) cell phones and pagers.
- ****NO CELL PHONES IN CLASS****
- coming to class on time, remaining awake and alert, and taking notes.
- avoiding impolite side conversations with other students. This is an *adult* learning environment and all students are treated accordingly. *If students become disruptive, the instructor reserves the right to remove them from class.*
- avoiding entering/leaving the classroom during the designated class time.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to fully participate in this course. The following criteria are intended to assist you in being successful in this course:

- a. understand the syllabus requirements
- b. use appropriate time management skills
- c. communicate with the instructor
- d. complete course work on time, and
- e. utilize online components (such as Desire2Learn) as required.

Academic Honesty

Cheating and plagiarizing *are not tolerated*. Cheating or plagiarizing will result in a **0** on the test or paper and submission for disciplinary action by Brazosport College. **Possession of *any* electronic device during an exam is considered cheating. Additionally, turning in any materials that you wrote in the past or for another class is considered plagiarism without specific approval by the instructor.**

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. Click on the CATALOGS AND SCHEDULES link under STUDENTS.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, **any** occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and will, *at a minimum*, result in a zero on the assignment in this course. Additionally, you will not be eligible to receive any of the benefits in this course (such as extra credit, etc.). Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.



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Attendance Policy

To learn, you must be mentally and physically present. Attendance will be taken regularly. You will need to get the notes from someone in class. ****It is recommended that you are here for every class period, as my notes do not adhere strictly to the book, and you are responsible for them on exams.** Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class, and students who consistently leave early or come to class late can be given an absence. Late arrivals and early departures disrupt class; thus, they constitute an act of discourtesy toward the instructor and class. **Please be here on time.** If you check in and then leave early, that will be noted. You will be counted absent if you leave in the first 30 minutes of the class.

Students fresh from high school often assume that if they have a good excuse, then the absence is “excused.” This is not the case in college—an absence is just an absence, but good communication is encouraged. For example, missing class for sporting events, band, PALS, or any other extra-curricular activity is not an excused absence. Occasionally you will have to set priorities and decide what is most important. It’s up to you, and there are consequences for bad choices.

Attendance is NOT optional. Students with absences equaling more than 6 total class days are subject to **failure** of the course. Be aware that I **will not** withdraw you from this course should you choose to stop attending. **You** are responsible for making your withdrawal official; remember, if you do not drop the course you will be assigned a failing grade for the course.

Students with Disabilities

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor, 979-230-3236 for further information.

Other Student Services

Information about the Library is available at <http://www.brazosport.edu/library> or by calling 979.230.3310.

For assistance with online courses, an open computer lab, online and make-up testing, audio/visual services, and study skills, visit Learning Services next to the Library, call 979.230.3253, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

For drop-in math tutoring, the writing center, supplemental instruction and other tutoring including e-tutoring, visit the Student Success Center, call 979.230.3527, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/studentssuccesscenter>.

To contact the Business & Social Sciences Department call 979-230-3226.

The Student Services provides assistance in the following:

Counseling and Advising	979.230.3040
Financial Aid	979.230.3294
Student Life	979.230.3355

To reach the Information Technology Department for computer, email, or other technical assistance call the Helpdesk at 979.230.3266.

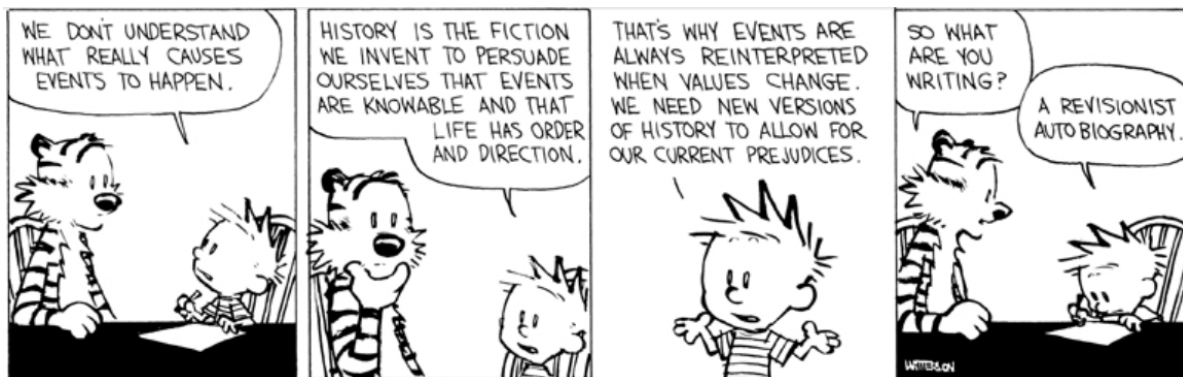


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Grading

3 Exams (25% Each)

Quiz Average:

Primary Sources/Journals

Total

75%

10%

15%

100%

Grade Scale:

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D**

59-0 = F

**** NOTE:** If you are currently a high school student, you must have a 70 for the semester to be considered passing at the high school. If you make below a 70, you will not receive high school credit for the course.

Grade Notification

Due to privacy concerns, I cannot divulge your class grade to you over the phone or via e-mail. Semester grades are available on OASIS by calling (979) 230-3661 or by going online. Additionally, I am prohibited by law from discussing your progress or grades with anyone other than *you*. Your parents are free to talk with the counselor with regard to your grade. If you would like for me to speak with your parent or guardian, please schedule a conference with me. *You* must be in attendance, as I cannot discuss your grades without your permission.

Exams

The final exam **will not** be cumulative. There are three exams, and each will consist of a number of multiple choice questions, several identifications, and long answer questions. There will also be 10 fill-in-the-blank questions that are strictly extra credit.

Identifications: The identifications are usually specific people or events upon which you are to elaborate. Elaborating means to include a technical definition of the term, as well as the *significance* of that term, person, or event. In other words, *why* have I bothered to put it on the test?? What makes it/him/her so important? FYI: **Wikipedia is *not* a good source for definitions.** Your book or my lectures are the best sources for this information. Additionally, while the back of the book does have many of the definitions, you will need to know more than just that definition for the I.D., so it is suggested that you **actually read the text** so that you will be able to put the term in context.

Long Answer: These are questions that are designed to be explained in about 4-5 sentences. They require more explanation than just a few words. A nice paragraph is usually in order.

Fill-in-the-Blanks: These are strictly extra credit – one point each. They will be terms taken from your identifications that are NOT used as I.D.'s on the test. There will NOT be a word bank, so you will need to be familiar with the words. They will not be counted against you if you get them wrong or do not answer.

Quizzes

There will be fifteen quizzes given (one for each chapter) throughout the semester and these, averaged together, will make up your quiz grade. The quizzes will be taken online through Inquisitive, and you have to have purchased the book to gain access to the quizzes. Each group of quizzes that cover the material leading up to the exam will be available online only through a specific date, and as long as they haven't expired you may go in and work on them. The highest grade will be recorded. This allows the student to pace him/herself. However, it is not recommended that you wait until the last minute to take the quizzes. *If you do not take them in the time allotted you will not be allowed to make them up.* You may use your book or notes on the quizzes. Since you can work on them up until the due date and always improve your score, there is no reason why you should not have a 100 quiz average.

Primary Sources

Each student will be assigned 3 primary sources from your *Eyewitness to America* book. For each, you should read and analyze the document. In your 1-2 page analysis, you should explain what the document is talking about, as well as put it into the context of the time period. Why is this an important document? What does this tell us about the events that are taking place? Be sure to 1) summarize and explain and 2) put it into context and tell me why it's important. You will submit a typed, double-spaced page for each primary source. You will upload it onto D2L by the day that it's due. Please include the title of the Primary Source as your title. More information will be given to you in a handout. You will also be assigned other readings to discuss in class and in your journals.

Journals

Each student will keep a spiral notebook to bring to each class for journaling. I will take up the journals twice during the semester and grade them. Each of these 2 grades will be counted as part of your Primary Source/Journal grade, which is 15% of your total average. If you miss a class, you miss the journal for that day. There will not necessarily always be a journal assignment each day.

Homework

In college, students are expected to spend 2-3 hours per week preparing for each semester hour. A three hour class such as this would warrant between 6 and 9 hours of reading and study time each week.

Occasionally I will give what I call "voice over assignments." These voice overs are located in D2L under the Content section. When given these assignments, they are expected to be completed by the time the next class occurs. The voice overs are usually 15-30 minute lectures online that you need to listen to and take notes on – adding to the class notes you already take. **It is information that you need**, and doing this outside of class will give us opportunity to discuss more and complete the course in a timely manner. **All material in these online lectures will be covered on the exams.** I also reserve the right to give pop quizzes on the days following the assignments, so be sure to complete them.

Please pay attention to this part!

I **do not** give makeup exams. If you have a problem or emergency, contact me as soon as possible so that I am aware of the issue. If you miss an exam you will receive a zero. Makeup allowances are on a case by case basis, and if you miss it there is **no guarantee** that you will be allowed to make up the exam. If you know of a conflict beforehand, please let me know and we will discuss the issue further. If you are allowed to make up the exam, you must do so at the Learning Services testing area at Brazosport College, and you must do so within 3 school days of the original exam date.

Remind:

This course uses the Remind.com app to communicate announcements or reminders, as needed. If you do not sign up, you **WILL** miss announcements. Please complete the sign-up process with the Remind app so you can stay informed.

Remind allows you to send me texts to my personal cell phone, so boundaries are important. Please use Remind respectfully. If you need a question answered, I'm happy to help, but please first check D2L, our IT department, the course syllabus, or the course schedule to see if those resources answer your question. I am your instructor—I cannot be your IT technician, schedule/daily planner etc... I'm confident that most of you already

understand this. All deadlines, course requirements and other expectations are outlined for you in D2L. Using judgment with our Remind tool shows respect and is good practice in thoughtful communication. I reserve the right to revoke Remind privileges of any student.

Study Tips

- Take careful notes of both the lectures and the reading. As many students tend to over-highlight in their books, you might try noting important points in the margins of the book or making brief notes in a notebook rather than highlighting. Writing things out helps improve retention, as well as gives the student a better study tool.
- If you miss class, find someone in class who will share their notes.
- Do not skip the voice over lectures, as you will miss valuable material and terms that I often go over during those lectures. Take careful notes!
- Find a group of people to work with. This could be a formal study group, or a few people to whom you can turn to discuss confusing terms or questions. This reinforces learning, and often students find that they missed something in the lecture or reading that someone else did not.

To Prepare for Exams

- Don't wait! Define terms as we go over them in class or as we cover them in the readings.
- Read carefully and take good notes on both the readings and lectures.
- Please come by my office, email, or call me if you have questions about an essay or term. I'll be happy to help clarify anything!



Get the information you need – when you need it. Click <http://geni.us/BRAZO> to install **BC Connect** on your mobile device to receive reminders, explore careers, map your educational plan, be in the know about events, find out about scholarships, achieve your goals and much more.



Bill Waterson's Calvin and Hobbes