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HIS163.01, CID 7590

U.S. History to 1876
 Summer I 2008
Class Time: M-F, 8-10:00 A.M.
Location: LDB 204

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a three credit-hour course covering U.S. history from the nation's Colonial Period through Reconstruction in 1876. Students will attend lectures, complete primary and secondary source readings, and be tested on this material with five examinations that include multiple choice, chronology, and mapping questions. Regular attendance is required as per University policy. All course materials, requirements, and policies are outlined in the syllabus.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Welcome to History 163, an introduction to American history to 1876. The objective of this course is to increase your knowledge of American social, political, economic, and military history from the Colonial Period through the Civil War and Reconstruction. This class should enhance your comprehension of United States history and will allow you to look at events of every level, from local to international, with greater insight and understanding. To assist you in achieving these goals, the main text for this course, *The American Story, Vol. 1. 3rd ed.*, will serve as a general reference source and study tool, providing information on central themes in American history. Supplementary reading materials may be provided at a later date by the professor.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Main Textbook:

Divine, Robert A., et. al. *The American Story, Vol. 1. 3rd ed.* New York: Pearson-Longman Press, 2007.

OFFICE HOURS:

I will typically be available before and after class in order to answer questions and meet with students. When not in class, I can be found at the SAM Center. Please feel free to stop by at any time should you have any questions or concerns.

NOTE: The moment you get the impression that you are falling behind, PLEASE come see me. The sooner we discuss the problem the sooner you can get back on track, and the better you'll do in the class.

ATTENDANCE:

The University's attendance policy states that you are allowed to miss three **hours** of class and receive no penalty. For this summer course, I will allow you to miss 4 days of class. Upon your fifth absence, you will automatically fail.

Absences can be excused, but it is the professor's final decision concerning what is a viable excuse. Tardiness is not tolerated and will count as an absence. This is an 8 A.M. course, if need be set fourteen separate alarm clocks to insure your attendance in class.

GRADES:

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be four examinations in this class, each worth 100 points. Tests will be broken down into two sections. Section 1 will consist of multiple-choice, matching, and/or fill in the blank. Section 2 will either be a series of short paragraph-length essays or one long essay, professor's choice. Your lowest test grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

MAKE-UP EXAMS: You are allowed to drop your lowest test grade. If you miss a test, you will receive a 0. Therefore that test will be the test that is dropped. The test dates will be known well in advance so there should be no conflicts.

QUIZZES:

You will have a quiz over each chapter, unless the professor decides otherwise. You will be responsible for any reading that has been assigned for that day, as well as any other work that may have been assigned by the professor. There will be a minimum of 10 quizzes, of which the 2 lowest grades will be dropped. Since you are allowed to drop your two lowest

grades, you will NOT have the opportunity to make up these quizzes. The Quiz average is the equivalent of one test grade, which can not be dropped.

COURSE GRADING:		GRADING SCALE:	
First Exam:	/100 points	A	90%-100% or 360-400 points
Second Exam:	/100 points	B	80%-89% or 320-359 points
Third Exam:	/100 points	C	70%-79% or 280-319 points
Final Exam:	/100 points	D	60%-69% or 240-279 points
Subtract the lowest test grade		F	59%-0% or 0-239 points
Quizzes:	/100 points		
Total Points Possible	/400 points		

ASSISTANCE WITH LEARNING:

If you find yourself confused by the material we read and discuss or if you feel yourself falling behind on your work please contact me and/or the [SAM Center](#) (Student Advising & Mentoring Center). Some of you may wish to work with the [SAM Center](#) even if you're doing well, but wish to do better. They are "a resource dedicated to helping students adjust to academic life at Sam Houston State University. Services available include career testing, aid with time management and/or study skills," and *much* more. These services are available to you as an SHSU student, and I encourage you to take advantage of them. Please understand that this service is free of charge (it's included in your fees) and extremely helpful.

The [SAM Center](#) is located in room 210 in Academic Building IV, which is south of the Lee Drain Building at the corner of Avenue I and Bowers Blvd. You may contact them to make an appointment at SAMCenter@shsu.edu or by telephone (936) 294-4444.

COURSE POLICIES

NOTE: Student enrollment in this course confirms that you have read and accepted these policies.

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper, or project; failure in the course; and/or expulsion from the university. The SHSU Student Guidelines academic honesty policy states:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

See <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide.html>

Plagiarism is defined as taking someone else's words or ideas and presenting them as your own with no acknowledgement to the originator. With the advent of the technological age, specifically the internet, plagiarism has been taken to all new levels. As such, any attempt to plagiarize will result in an immediate zero for the grade in question. This will serve as your warning. If a second transgression occurs, then will be reported to the Dean of Students for appropriate action and receive an automatic F for the course.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins (see

Electronic Device Policy). Students are prohibited from using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy. This university, and my class in particular, are learning environments intended to foster growth and intellectual curiosity. I do NOT tolerate disrespect towards either me or students.

ADA Accommodations

Any student who may require an accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the instructor on this matter as soon as possible to ensure a positive learning environment. NOTE: It is your responsibility to notify me at the BEGINNING of the semester, not half way through.

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Classroom Visitors:

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Religious Holidays:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Instructor Evaluations:

Students will be required to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Professor's Clause: This syllabus, required materials, and subject matter are due to change per the discretion of the professor.

Electronic Device Policy: The use of electronic devices, unless approved by the professor prior to the class period, is expressly forbidden. Should you be found using an MP3 player, IPOD, Walkman, PDA, Laptop, Blackberry, Cell phone, etc. during class, you will be asked to leave. If this happens a second time in class, you will lose a letter grade from your final average. If a third infraction occurs, you will be asked to leave the class and will receive an F for the course. The use of electronics during class is not only rude to the professor but also to the other students in class. I do NOT tolerate disrespect in the classroom.

Tentative Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings

These reading assignments are structured to correspond to the lectures to best assist you in understanding the subjects being discussed. The topics and reading schedule may be adjusted to accommodate the pace of this course.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READINGS</u>	<u>TOPICS/IMPORTANT DATES</u>
Tuesday, June 3	Ch. 1	Introduction, Quiz 1*
Wednesday, June 4	Ch. 2	Quiz 2
Thursday, June 5	Ch. 3	Quiz 3
Friday, June 6	Ch. 4	Quiz 4
Monday, June 9		<u>Test 1</u>
Tuesday, June 10	Ch. 5	Quiz 5
Wednesday, June 11	Ch. 6	Quiz 6
Thursday, June 12	No Class	No Class
Friday, June 13	Ch. 7	Quiz 7
Monday, June 16	Ch. 8	Quiz 8
Tuesday, June 17		<u>Test 2</u>
Wednesday, June 18	Ch. 9	Quiz 9
Thursday, June 19	Ch. 10	Quiz 10
Friday, June 20	Ch. 11	Quiz 11
Monday, June 23	Ch. 12	Quiz 12
Tuesday, June 24		<u>Test 3</u>
Wednesday, June 25	Ch. 13	Quiz 13
Thursday, June 26	Ch. 14	Quiz 14
Friday, June 27	Ch. 15	Quiz 15
Monday, June 30	Ch. 16	Quiz 16
Tuesday, July 1	FINAL EXAM	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>

*This Quiz is not for a grade, merely to give you a taste for what to expect.

This course was designed by Mr. John Jordan

Late update: May 2008