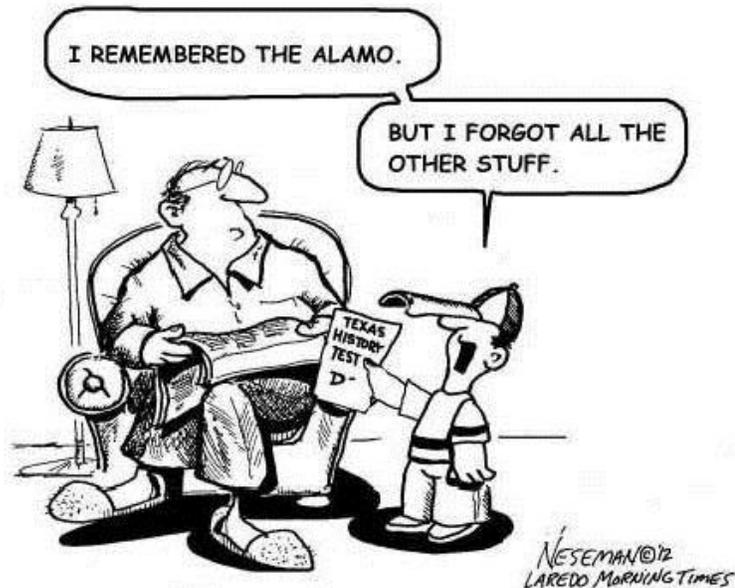


## HIST 4700: TEXAS HISTORY

Business Leadership Building 010 | MTWR 12:00-1:50pm | Summer 2014



(We're here to fix that . . .)

**Instructor:** Dr. Andrew J. Torget

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Office Hours: T and W, 10-11am, and by appointment

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**Teaching Assistant:**

Ms. Katherine Bynum

Office: Wooten Hall 211

Office Hours: TR, 10:30-11:30am, and by appointment

Email: [KatherineB@unt.edu](mailto:KatherineB@unt.edu)

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the development of Texas from its earliest settlement through the twenty-first century. Our focus will be on the interactions between different peoples—Indians, Spaniards, French, Mexicans, Mexican-Americans, Anglo-Americans, African-Americans—who shaped and reshaped Texas over several centuries. Lectures and readings will concentrate on the broad political, economic, and social development of Texas, while placing the region within larger historical trends that shaped the United States and Mexico. The course is **intensive in both reading and writing**, focused on developing analytical thinking skills.

## REQUIRED TEXT

- Randolph B. Campbell, *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*, second edition, (Oxford University Press, 2012).
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## ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

### Grade Breakdown:

Exam 1:	25 percent
Exam 2:	25 percent
Exam 3:	25 percent
Reaction Papers:	15 percent
Attendance:	10 percent

- Grading will be on a ten-point scale: an A is 90-100, B is 80-89, C is 70-79, D is 60-69, and below 60 is an F.
  - The exams will consist of short answers and essays.
  - Each week you will write a short reaction paper to selected readings, and we'll hand out directions for those during class.
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## CLASS SCHEDULE

### WEEK ONE: Prehistoric to Mexican Texas

June 2 – Introduction and Prehistoric Texas

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 1.

June 3 – Frenchmen, Spaniards, and Indians

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 2-3.

June 4 – End of Spanish Texas

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 4.

June 5 – Mexican Texas

- **Reaction Paper 1 due at beginning of class!** Please choose and write on ONE of the following (both available on Blackboard):
  - James Crisp, "José Antonio Navarro: The Problem of Tejano Powerlessness"
  - Gregg Cantrell, "Empresario Estevan F. Austin, 1823-1825"
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 5.

June 6 – Mexican Texas

- No reading.

### **WEEK TWO: Texas Revolution to Civil War**

June 9 – Texas Revolution

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 6.

June 10 – Texas Republic and Annexation

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 7.

June 11 – Mexican-American War

- **EXAM ONE at the beginning of class**
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 8.

June 12 – Secession and Civil War

- **Reaction Paper 2 due at beginning of class!** Please choose and write on ONE of the following (both available on Blackboard):
  - Steve Hardin, “‘The Most Miserable Place in the World’: The Town of Houston”
  - Charles Grear, “Why Texans Fought East of the Mississippi during the Civil War”
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 9-10.

### **WEEK THREE: Reconstruction to Progressivism**

June 16 – Reconstruction

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 11.

June 17 – Old West

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 12.

June 18 – Cotton and Populism

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 13.

June 19 – Oil, Cities, and Progressivism

- **Reaction Paper 3 due at beginning of class!** Please choose and write on ONE of the following (both available on Blackboard):
  - Gregg Cantrell, “Race, Citizenship, and Populism in the South Texas Borderlands”
  - Cortez Ewing, “The Impeachment of James Ferguson”
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 14.

#### **WEEK FOUR: From the 1920s to the 1950s**

June 23 – Roaring Twenties

- **EXAM TWO at the beginning of class**
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 15.

June 24 – Depression

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, first half of Ch. 16.

June 25 – World War II

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, second half of Ch. 16.

June 26 – 1950s Texas

- **Reaction Paper 4 due at beginning of class!** Please choose and write on ONE of the following (both available on Blackboard):
  - Roger Biles, “The New Deal in Dallas”
  - Mitchell Lerner, “‘Almost a Populist’: Texas, the South, and the Rise of Lyndon Baines Johnson”
- No readings.

#### **WEEK FIVE: Civil Rights to Modern Texas**

June 30 – Civil Rights (30 to 31)

- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 17

July 1 – From Vietnam to Modern Texas (32 to 33)

- **Reaction Paper 5 due at beginning of class!** Please choose and write on ONE of the following (both available on Blackboard):
  - George Green, “McCarthyism in Texas: The 1954 Campaign”
  - Ron Marcello, “The Desegregation of North Texas State College”
- Reading: *Gone to Texas*, Ch. 18.

July 2 – **EXAM THREE at the beginning of class**

- No readings.

## COURSE POLICIES

### Blackboard Learn ([learn.unt.edu](http://learn.unt.edu))

For this course, we will use our Blackboard site for three purposes:

1. All the PowerPoints for my lectures will be available there.
2. Selected readings for your reaction papers (outlined below) will be available there.
3. Any course announcements will be posted there, in addition to being announced during lecture.

**Course Objectives.** By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Identify, explain, and contextualize key figures, events, and trends in Texas history.
- Place the evolution of Texas within the larger context of the development of the United States and Mexico.
- Analyze historical information, evidence, and arguments.
- Write an effective analytical essay.

### Class Ground Rules:

- Speak up! Ask questions when you have them during lectures.
- Respect the opinions of others. There will be no toleration of any disparaging remark made toward others who share their perspectives in class.

### General Policies:

- “Make-up” tests will be given only at the discretion of the instructor. If you know in advance that you will be absent during a scheduled exam, contact me in advance to make arrangements.
- There will be **absolutely** no toleration for academic dishonesty or plagiarism.
- Student behavior that interferes with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct, which may be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr).

### Recordings Policy:

- Anyone enrolled in the class may make audio recording of my lectures for their own personal use in studying for the course. However, video recordings or taking images of any aspect of the class or lecture (including images or video recordings of either the professor or students) are prohibited.
- Absolutely no recordings of any kind (images, video, audio, or otherwise) of the class or my lectures may be posted online for any reason.

**Extra Assistance:**

If you ever need extra assistance with any aspect of the course, your first stop should be to see myself or Katherine during our office hours. In addition, there are several other resources available to you:

- **History Help Center:** The UNT department of history operates a History Help Center (HHC) located in Wooten Hall 220 (phone: 940-565-4772). The HHC is staffed by graduate students in history and can provide help with studying for an exam, advice on how to study, take notes, and other such things.
- **UNT Writing Lab:** The UNT Writing Lab offers help with all aspects of writing and is a terrific resource. Tutors and advice can be had at multiple locations from 9am to 10pm most every weekday. For more information, see <http://lwc.unt.edu/labs/unt-writing-lab-home>.
- **UNT Learning Center:** UNT maintains an excellent Learning Center geared entirely toward providing students with resources for improving classroom success, with specialized tutoring and programs on issues such as time management and test-taking strategies. For more information, see <http://learningcenter.unt.edu/>.
- **UNT Career Center:** UNT has an excellent Career Center—with a dedicated advisor for History Majors—whose entire purpose is to help you discover potential careers, learn to market yourself, create effective resumes, prepare for interviews, and build valuable networks. For more information, see <http://careercenter.unt.edu/about-us/>.

**Extra Credit:**

There are two – but only two – circumstances wherein I give extra credit:

1. On rare occasions, if attendance happens to be low for a particular lecture, I will give extra credit points to those who came to class that day. Most of life is about having the grit to show up and put in the time, and I reward that when I can.
2. If you memorize and can recite the Gettysburg Address – one of the seminal documents in American history – I will award you five extra points on any one of your exam grades. Anyone can do this at any point during our summer session.

**Disability Statement:**

The University of North Texas 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 you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You 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. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of 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 see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

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