History 315K (39130): The United States to 1865  
Fall 2011 — MW 3:30-5 — WCH 1.120  
H. W. Brands (GAR 3.306; hwbrands@mail.utexas.edu; M 2:30–3:30 and 5-6)

Teaching assistants: Joe Parrott (SI), Chris Duncan, Cameron Strang, Helen Pho

Summary: The course will cover all aspects of American history to the end of the Civil War. The basic themes of the course will be the emergence of an American identity, the evolution of American self-government, and the expansion of American territory.


Tests: There will be three tests, each worth one sixth of the semester grade and consisting of identifications and short essays. Each test will cover one third of the course material. There will be no comprehensive final exam.

Papers: There will be three papers of 500 words each, and each worth one sixth of the semester grade. Each paper will analyze one of the assigned documents, placing it in historical context and assessing its argument or description.

Grading: A = 90 to 100. B = 80 to 89. C = 70 to 79. D = 60 to 69. F = 0 to 59. No plus/minus.

Supplemental Instruction: This class will include Supplemental Instruction discussion sections (SI). These optional sessions, led by Joe Parrott, will help reinforce and clarify course content. Regular participation in SI discussions has been shown to improve students' performance significantly.

Academic accommodations: The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Schedule
Aug 24  AS 1-2; Cabeza de Vaca, “Indians of the Rio Grande,” from MHL
Aug 29–31 AS 3; Olaudah Equiano, “The Middle Passage”
Sep 7  AS 4; Jonathan Edwards, “Sinners in the Hands”
Sep 12-14 AS 5; Franklin against the Stamp Act
Sep 19-21 AS 6; Publius (Madison), Federalist Number 10; Test 1 Sep 21
Sep 26-28 AS 7; Washington’s Farewell Address; Paper 1 Sep 28
Oct 3-5 AS 8; Jefferson to Meriwether Lewis
Oct 10-12 AS 9; Memorial of the Cherokee Nation
Oct 17-19 AS 10; Davy Crockett
Oct 24-26 AS 11; Frederick Law Olmsted; Test 2 Oct 26
Oct 31-Nov 2 AS 12; Elizabeth Cady Stanton; Paper 2 Nov 2
Nov 7-9 AS 13; William B. Travis
Nov 14-16 AS 14; George Fitzhugh
Nov 21 AS 15; Lincoln's Gettysburg Address
Nov 28–30 Paper 3 Nov 28; Test 3 Nov 30