The Department of History
Coping with Coronavirus and Covid-19

The Department of History and the University of Texas at El Paso are coping with an unprecedented pandemic that has forced all classes to shift to “online delivery of content,” and all students, faculty and staff to work remotely. These changes mean that the UTEP community is adjusting to a new era of working and learning from home, using digital platforms such as Blackboard and other technologies. “Stay at home” polices are for our benefit but they pose challenges for the University. These national, state, and local policies have directly impacted everyone in the Paso del Norte region: public schools are offering classes online, employees are working remotely, and sadly, some people have lost their jobs. The UTEP community is doing everything possible to meet the needs of students, faculty, and staff to maintain continuity of classes and other services, while recognizing that “normal” operations are nearly impossible.

We in the Department of History are adjusting to these unusual times in accordance with University guidelines. We remain “open” through virtual communication and remote delivery of content, although the Liberal Arts Building has been closed and locked. To support this change in how we operate, we have compiled a simple “tool-kit” and list of resources, websites, and other materials useful for coping with our present situation.

History Department
Main Office: 915-747-5508
History@utep.edu
Website https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/history/
Facebook/Borderlands History at UTEP
https://www.facebook.com/BorderlandsHistory/?ref=nf&hc_ref=ARSRVuSjtFcSAfccckeYqkzv34YjTOFhVaFsCxtfekG5Hx8Fi-03ZCIUeNQdtgkh4

Major Points to Consider

- Students should remain in contact with instructors via Blackboard or other virtual means
- Everyone should check email on a daily basis for updates and new information
- The University is functioning remotely: it is not “closed.” However, students, faculty and staff should not go to the campus. The citywide “stay at home” ordinance prohibits unnecessary driving around town. A small number of exemptions for going to campus are allowed, mainly for the purposes of adjusting to “remote content of delivery” for classes. Students may use computers in the library. Everyone should carry a UTEP I.D. with them.
- Campus events are cancelled, including guest speakers and symposia, but student defenses will go online
- Study abroad classes are cancelled
- University related travel (for conferences or research) is cancelled until August 31, 2020.
- Commencement ceremonies are cancelled, but students may still graduate and obtain a degree.
- Advising for summer and fall classes will be done remotely. Contact your advisor via email.
- Maymester and Summer I & II classes will shift to an online format, but some classes may be rescheduled to a short, face to face (F2F) Part of Term format at the end of July
- History Department Tutoring Center. Miguel Giron https://forms.gle/8CLxcxtrqVJkx9H89
University Coronavirus Updates – Main Page
The University main webpage has a link to important information and updates for the University community. 

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
UTEP has compiled a list of frequently asked questions and links and resources for students, faculty, and staff. 
https://www.utep.edu/ehs/COVID-19/faq.html

Student Learning in a Remote Context
This is an excellent resource for students adjusting to remote learning. 
https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/learningremotely.html

History Majors and Minors / Secondary Education
The CLASS Center and BMS Office will be temporarily suspending all face-to-face appointments; appointments will be via email. Please tell students to email questions and concerns to classcenter@utep.edu.

➢ History majors needing advising, please contact the following faculty via email.
  ○ BA, 8-12 History, or BA, Social Studies Composite
    ▪ A – Gaq Dr. Selfa Chew-Melendez
    ▪ Gar – O Dr. Paul Edison
    ▪ P – Z Dr. Brad Cartwright
  ○ BA in History
    ▪ A – G Dr. Ernesto Chavez
    ▪ H – O Dr. Michael Topp
    ▪ P – Z Dr. Ron Weber

➢ Center for History Teaching and Learning ( https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/center-for-history-teaching-learning/index.html)
  ○ Dr. Bradley Cartwright (bjcartwright@utep.edu)

Graduate Students
The UTEP Graduate School has a very useful page of Frequently Asked Questions. MA and PhD defenses will be held remotely. The Grad School extended its deadline to submit graduation materials. Official signatures do NOT need to be originals: digital versions are acceptable. Health insurance remains intact. Dodson Research Grant opportunities and the Summer Research Program are suspended. Registration for fall classes has begun. 
https://www.utep.edu/graduate/faq.html#wb
Email general questions: gradschool@utep.edu / Phone: (915) 747-5491
Dr. Lucia Dura (Associate Dean of the Graduate School) ldura@utep.edu (915) 747-7896
Dr. Ignacio Martinez, PhD Program Director, imartinez26@utep.edu
Dr. Josh Fan, MA Program Director, jfan@utep.edu

Liberal Arts Center for Instructional Technology (LACIT)
LACIT is closed to face-to-face (F2F) assistance. Staff are working remotely and can assist you via email. 
https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/lacit/
https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/technology/coronavirus/index.html
UTEP Library
Most services at the Library have been closed, but the Library is offering access to the computers on the first floor for student use. Some staff are available remotely to answer questions.
https://www.utep.edu/library/
https://www.utep.edu/library/about/covid.html
https://libguides.utep.edu/c.php?g=1017574&p=7371060

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
Students still have access to many of the important services provided by CAPS. They are available via the phone: 915-747-5302 from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday-Friday. Use that number after hours in the event of a personal crisis. If you have an emergency, call 911. CAPs is not an emergency facility.
https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/