U.S. History since 1865 1302.001

Semester: Summer 1 2013  
Place: CI 122  
Time: MTWR 10.00-11.55am

Instructor: Dr. Verity McInnis  
Office: FC 269  
Email: verity.mcinnis@tamucc.edu

Office Hours: MTWR 8-9.45  
Or by appointment  
Telephone: 361.825.2402

Course Description: This course surveys the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. This period witnessed radical changes in ideas of race and gender, and saw the emergence of the US as an international power. Through lectures, readings, and films we will explore major events, themes, and actors to gain an overview of how the nation moved forward from the ravages of civil war to become a global superpower.

Student Learning Outcomes: The course is designed to enhance students' understanding of the major issues and central themes in American political, social, and economic history. It will also achieve the following:

1. Students will develop analytical skills to more fully understand historical concepts of change and continuity in shaping the course of American history.
2. Using lecture, reading, and film materials students will develop and demonstrate critical thinking and interpretive skills in the form of in-class conversations, quizzes, and examinations.

Required books and equipment:  
All books are available at the Bookstore and I have placed copies on reserve in the Bell Library.  
John Kasson, Amusing the Million: Coney Island at the Turn of the Century.  
Yoshiko Uchida, Desert Exile: The Uprooting of a Japanese-American Family.  
Philip Caputo, A Rumor of War.

Recommended textbook:  

Course Requirements and Policies

Lectures and Attendance: Official class roll will not be taken. Attendance is essential, however, to complete the course successfully. A PowerPoint presentation will accompany each lecture. This will assist organized note taking, but simply copying the information on the screen is inadequate to pass this course.

Classroom Climate: To create a classroom culture of courtesy, collegiality, and cooperation it is our responsibility to ensure that all interactions are respectful and supportive of the views, ideas and thoughts of everyone.
Academic Integrity and Respect: Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities, dignity and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior. However, in the interest of other students and the maintenance of these standards, the University reserves the right, through due process, to place on probation, suspend or expel any student who violates academic integrity and regulations by providing false or misleading or incomplete information; by falsification of records, by plagiarism, classroom misdemeanor, or academic dishonesty. The use of cell phones during class is discouraged. Students are expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as regulations of the University. The penalty for academic dishonesty is clearly specified in the current Undergraduate Bulletin and I will follow these guidelines. To negate distraction, I respectfully ask that all devices are either turned off, or the ringer set to silent for the duration of class.

Academic Advising: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Extra Credit and late papers: There are no extra credit opportunities. A penalty of 5 points per day will be imposed for late papers.

Grade Appeal Process: As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

March of Technology: Methods of video recording have improved steadily over the years, but federal law on this subject remains unchanged: just as pirated recordings of concerts can earn you felony convictions, recording professors’ lectures without prior permission constitutes
piracy and can earn you equal consequences. Special permission may perhaps be granted for an audio (only) recording, depending on circumstances.

**Evaluation:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Exam</td>
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<td>Second Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes (3x5%)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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An A grade is 90 and above, B=80 and above, C=70 and above, D=60 and above, F=50 and below.

**Examinations** - closed book – there will be two midterms plus a final. No electronic devises will be permitted on exam days. The exam will include: *Multiple choice* (40%) The first section of each examination will include questions drawn from the lectures and assigned readings. *In-class essays* (60%) The essays will be drawn from a pool of 5~7 questions handed out to you prior to the examination. Your answer will need to be a complete essay, not just a paragraph, which describes, explains and analyzes a key historical theme. The focus for your answer will be lecture material, but you will be expected to supplement your response with material from the assigned readings. It should be written to allow understanding by a college-educated reader who is not a history specialist, so please explain thoroughly and give supporting evidence. In order to succeed it is vital that you attend class, take good notes, and read the assigned materials.

**Make-up examinations:** All missed examinations will be taken **DURING THE FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD ONLY**. You will complete the final examination first, then I will give you the necessary make-up examination(s).

**Quizzes:** We will have three in-class quizzes on the assigned books. These will allow you to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the readings, and be a valuable review for your examinations. Each quiz will consist of multiple-choice and true/false questions.

**Extra-Credit:** There are no extra credit opportunities.

**Scantrons:** You will need to purchase **SIX** scantrons for test days, and three blue books.

**Analytical Paper** - Please see page 6.
Lecture & Assignment Sequence

M June 3. Course Introduction
READ John Kasson, *Amusing the Million*
T June 4. Reconstruction and the Industrial Society
Last day to add a class
W June 5. The Industrial Society and Frontiers of Change
R June 6. The Rise of the City and Countryside

M June 10. The Progressive Era
Quiz One *Amusing the Million*
T June 11. Summary of Section One
W June 12. Examination One
READ Yoshiko Uchida, *Desert Exile*
R June 13. World War One

M June 17. Transition to Modern America
T June 18. The Great Depression and the New Deal
W June 19. WW2 and Film - *Rosie the Riveter*
Quiz Two *Desert Exile*
R June 20. Section Two Summary
F June 21. Last day to drop a class

M June 24. Examination Two
READ Philip Caputo, *Rumors of War*
T June 25. Cold War America
W June 26. Affluence and its Contradictions
R June 27. The Ascent of Liberalism – JFK- the Civil Rights Movement

M July 1. The Great Society and Rock and Roll
Quiz Four *Rumors of War*
T July 2. Vietnam, Watergate, the United States in a Global Age
Last day to withdraw from the University
W July 3. Final Examination
Analytical Paper - Reading Assignments
Grade: 10%

These essays allow you an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of themes covered in your assigned reading. Please respond as if you were writing to a college-educated reader who is not a history specialist. You will be assigned one essay for this assignment, and it should be a polished submission.

1. **LAST NAMES A-H**: What was John Kasson’s thesis? Was his argument adequately supported? Why/why not? Defend your position with multiple examples from the *Amusing the Million*. **DUE: M June 10, 2013**

2. **LAST NAMES I-Q**: What was Yoshiko Uchida’s argument/purpose in writing *Desert Exile*? Was her argument convincing? Why/why not? Defend your position with multiple examples from the book. **DUE: W June 19, 2013**

3. **LAST NAMES R-Z**: Why did Philip Caputo feel “both opposed to the war and yet emotionally tied to it (p.342)?” Please explain, providing multiple examples from *Rumor of War*. **DUE: M July 1, 2012**

Your essay should:
- Have a clear thesis statement in the first paragraph supported by evidence given in the body of the paper
- Be a polished submission that is well-organized, clearly written, grammatically correct, and spell checked
- Written in size 12 font - Times New Roman, and doubled-spaced
- Minimum of one page, and maximum of two pages in length
- Should you need to use direct quotes from the book make sure you cite using “--- --- --- ---” (p.12). Failure to correctly cite your sources will be treated as plagiarism; this is a serious academic offence and will receive an automatic zero on this assignment.
- No outside sources are necessary
- Late papers will incur a 5 point penalty for each day late.

If you have any questions concerning this assignment, please visit with me during my office hours to discuss.