Course Description:
This course will introduce you to North American and United States History from Native American habitation to the Civil War. We will look at some of the major political, economic, and especially social changes that took place during this period, paying particular attention to issues of race, class and gender. What does it mean to be an American, who can claim membership in the nation, and how do these things change over time? By the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of the founding, expansion, and temporary disintegration of the United States taking place before 1865.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Students who successfully complete this course will:
• demonstrate critical thinking by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information, gathering and assessing information relevant to a question, and analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing information
• develop communication skills by interpreting and expressing ideas through written, oral, or visual communication
• demonstrate personal responsibility by evaluating historical choices and actions, and relating consequences to decision making
• develop social responsibility by identifying intercultural competence and civic responsibility in past regional, national, and global communities

Assignments:
The core of your grade will come from two in-class exams. These are NOT cumulative. You will receive a study guide ahead of time. You are required to provide your own bluebook and scantron on testing day. If you do not bring these supplies with you on testing day, you will not be permitted to take the exam.
Exam 1 – 25% of your overall grade
Exam 2 – 25% of your overall grade

The third component of your grade is a group project, where you and your group will create a game based on an event that took place in US History before 1865. This project will necessitate outside research, and is due on our Final Exam day. I will post an assignment sheet with more detailed instructions.
Group Project – 20% of your overall grade

The rest of your grade will come from three announced in-class reading quizzes. Each quiz is worth 10% of your grade, for a total of 30%.
Quizzes will be given at the **beginning** of class, and **CANNOT**, under any circumstances, be made up.

Attendance - I expect you to attend every class. Even though I do not take attendance, knowing the material covered in lecture is essential to doing well on the exams. I do not post or share my notes or slides.

Extra Credit – I do not offer any.

**Grade Breakdown:**
- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 59 or below

If you have a question about an individual grade on an assignment, please come to my office hours or schedule an appointment to discuss. If you would like to dispute your grade, I am more than happy to speak with you, but you need to wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned before approaching me.

**Texts:**
**Required:**


**Optional**: *Created Equal: A History of the United States*, Combined Volume, 4/E

**Other Supplies:**
You will need two bluebooks and two scantrons (one of each for each exam). You will also need internet access and the ability to occasionally print documents.

**Policies and Expectations:**
Since you are in college, I expect you to approach this class like the responsible adults you are. This means:
- Arriving to class on time
- Turning off cell phones, music players, and other distractions. **And putting them away.**
Your phone needs to stay in your backpack/bag/purse during class time – you do not need a phone out during lecture. Please **do not text** during class time, or I will ask you to leave lecture. Take care of it before or after class.
- You are welcome to use laptop computers for appropriate classroom activities, such as taking notes, but I reserve the right to ask students who are doing other things (like checking email, facebook, or completing assignments for other courses) to leave class.
- I WILL NOT accept late work. Seriously. All assignments must be submitted on the due date at the beginning of your class time – no exceptions. This includes all written work, exams and quizzes. Written assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class in print form. If they are turned in after I start the day’s lecture, they are considered late and will not be accepted. I expect you to be in class to take all exams and quizzes. I do not offer make-ups except under EXTRAORDINARY circumstances. Vacations, colds, doctor’s appointments, changes in work schedules, etc. do not count as extraordinary. That said, I want you to succeed in this class, so if something comes up that will impact your ability to come to class and meet the expectations of the course, please let me know as soon as possible.
- All written work must be handed in as a hard copy. Assignments will NOT be accepted via email.
- All papers must be stapled. Buy or have access to a stapler – I will not accept multi-page work that is not stapled together. Double-sided printing is fine.
- I do not post or share notes or Powerpoint slides. If you miss class it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate.
- You are responsible for adding and dropping yourself from the course.
- You are responsible for tracking your grade in the course. There are many free grade calculator apps you can put on your phone that will help you with this.
- I may occasionally send you emails regarding the course. You are responsible for checking your Texas A&M email account frequently.
- I expect you to abide by TAMUCC’s Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/index.html
- TAMUCC’s policies on academic integrity and plagiarism are available at http://cla.tamucc.edu/forms/academicmisconductprocedures.pdf. If you cheat or plagiarize on one or more assignments you will fail this course.

By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by these policies.

- In the event of a hurricane, I will follow the published policies of TAMUCC. If the campus remains officially open during the time that our class normally meets then class will proceed as scheduled (including all graded events). If the university closes campus then we will push the course requirements to the next official class meeting. If an exam date is cancelled, the exam will be held during the next official class meeting, so come prepared.

Academic Advising:
Academic advisors are available to assist students with course selection, degree plans, and other academic matters. Each college has an academic advising center, staffed by full-time, professional advisors. In our college the undergraduate advisor is Linda Miller (825-3466, Linda.miller@tamucc.edu). The graduate advisor is Rachelle Stanley (825-3466, Rachelle.stanley@tamucc.edu). Both are located on the second floor of Driftwood. Students who have yet to declare a major are advised by the Academic Advising Transition Center. For more information please call (361) 825-5931 or log on to http://www.tamucc.edu/~aac.

Americans with Disabilities Act:
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment
that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a
disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at 825-
5816 or visit their office in Driftwood 101.

Grade Appeal Process:
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as
outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may
appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is
couraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the
process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website,
cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade
appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

Provisional Course Outline
(this is subject to possible change)

Week 1
1/23  Expectations and Introduction to Sources

Read for 1/28: Write assignment due dates in your calendar
Purchase books
Read Facing East, Prologue, CH 1

Week 2
1/28  Native America
1/30  Europe before America

Read for 2/4: Facing East, CH 2

Week 3
2/4  Worlds Collide
2/6  Spanish Settlement and British Exploration

Read for 2/11: Facing East, CH 3
Watch "Guns, Germs & Steel, Episode 2"
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgYZ6gfqslQ

Week 4
2/11  Creating the British Colonies - Jamestown
2/13  Growth of the Chesapeake

Read for 2/18: Facing East, CH 4
**Week 5**
2/18  British New England  
*Reading Quiz 1*
2/20  Growing Colonies

Read for 2/25:  *Founding Brothers*, Prologue, CH 1

**Week 6**
2/25  Slavery in the New World  
2/27  The Road to Revolution

Read for 3/6:  The Declaration of Independence (Click on “read transcript”)  

**Week 7**
3/4  Exam 1  
3/6  Independence and Meanings of Liberty

Read for 3/18:  *Founding Brothers*, CH 2, 3

**Spring Break March 10-14**

**Week 8**
3/18  A New Constitution  
3/20  Consolidating a New Nation

Read for 3/25:  *Founding Brothers*, CH 4, 5

**Week 9**
3/25  A Cotton Kingdom  
*Reading Quiz 2*
3/27  The War of 1812

Read for 4/1:  *Soul by Soul*, Introduction, CH 1

**Week 10**
4/1  The Market Revolution  
4/3  A Growing Republic

Read for 4/8:  *Soul by Soul*, CH 2, 3
Week 11
4/8 The Age of Jackson
4/10 Life Under Slavery

Read for 4/15: *Soul by Soul*, CH 4
Seneca Falls "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions"
http://ecssba.rutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html

*Note: April 11 is the last day you can drop*

Week 12
4/15 An Age of Reform
4/17 Texas and the War with Mexico

Read for 4/22: *Soul by Soul*, CH 5, 6

Week 13
4/22 Rising Sectional Tensions
4/24 Secession

Read for 4/29: *Soul by Soul*, CH 7

Week 14
4/29 The Second American Revolution - The Civil War

**Reading Quiz 3**

5/1 Civil War Part 2

Read for 5/6: Nothing – Study for your exam

Week 15
5/6 Exam 2

Final Exam Date – **Game Due Date**: TBA