DESCRIPTION:
This course examines Texas history from pre-contact America to the present. It addresses the events, people, places, ideas, and issues that shaped Texas society, politics, international relations, economics, and culture during this span of time. In order to do well in this course you must engage the material intellectually and critically. At the same time, you cannot discuss historical issues at a serious level without knowledge of the vocabulary (including periods, events, names, and dates). Hence, success hinges upon your ability to learn a substantial amount of material and then do something with it (i.e. interpret it, explain it, expound upon it).

The best way to manage what will seem like an endless list of topics, events, names and dates is to organize your understanding of that information around the themes, perspectives and concepts that give shape and meaning to the material. Each lecture will, therefore, begin with a brief discussion of the themes and concepts relevant to that set of material. Use these themes and concepts to help make sense of the material.

Finally, the course is designed to be relevant to your life. With each passing class period, the course will describe a world that will look increasingly familiar. Taken seriously, this course can be a life enriching experience that will benefit you well beyond the end of the semester.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
Student Learning Outcomes:

* Students will exercise their analytical and writing skills by generating analyses of monographs, journal articles or other relevant materials as assigned by faculty.
* Students will express an understanding of the major individuals and events in Texas history in class discussions and essay exams.
* Students will demonstrate an ability to apply historical concepts (such as change and continuity) on essay exams, class discussion and reading assignments.
* Students will strengthen their knowledge base through readings, discussions and written assignments in preparation for the teaching certification examination.
ASSESSMENT:
Your course grade will be based on the following assignments:
Exam #1 15%   Exam #2 25%   Final Exam 35%
Carroll analysis 10%   Cullen and Wilkison analysis 15%
All exams will be comprised of two parts. Part one will consist of 8 identification questions. You will answer 5. Each answer is worth 5% of the exam grade. Part two will consist of two essay questions, of which you will answer only one. This answer will be worth 75% of the exam grade.

BOOK ANALYSES: See separate instructions and grading rubric.

ATTENDANCE: I will not take attendance as part of the course grade. You are adults and can decide whether or not you wish to attend class. Realize, however, that students who miss class do quite poorly. If you miss a class you are responsible for attaining class notes for that day from a fellow student. I only give lectures once. I am always happy, however, to meet with students to answer questions or "fill in gaps" in their notes.

EXTRA CREDIT:
I do not offer extra credit assignments.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
O’Donald Cullen, David, Kyle G. Wilkison eds. The Texas Left: The Radical Roots of Lone Star Liberalism (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2010).

CLASS POLICIES:
MISSED EXAMS: I will schedule a separate meeting for students to make up each missed exam. There will be no make-up for the final exam.
LATE PAPERS: late papers will have five points deducted per each day late INCLUDING WEEKENDS. This is NOT negotiable. There will be exceptions only in the most extreme cases, and those will require some sort of documentation. The best strategy is to begin working on all assignments as early as possible. The "course schedule" below, lists the dates on which certain chapters will be discussed. It would behoove you, however, to read farther ahead than the syllabus suggests. I strongly encourage you to try to have a working draft of each of the two papers complete at least one week before the due date. That way, if you have printer problems, or something happens that prevents you from working on the paper a day or two before it is due, you will still have a product to submit.
PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism is the theft of intellectual property. If you present material written by someone else as your own you will receive a grade of "0" for that specific assignment, and you will be subject to further disciplinary action. For specific information on plagiarism see the
university catalog. If you are not sure about how to incorporate material into a paper or review see me.

CHEATING ON EXAMS: If you are caught cheating on an exam you will receive a grade of "0" for that exam. At worst a "0" will virtually assure a failing grade in the course, at best it will ensure a very low grade. You may also be subject to further disciplinary action by the university.

INDIVIDUAL GRADE APPEALS: Students are welcome to appeal grades that they believe were assessed incorrectly. If a student’s work was graded by a grader, then that student must meet with the grader first to discuss the possibility of a grade change. If the student is still dissatisfied for any reason, he or she may bring the exam to me. If I graded your work originally, then you may bring the work directly to me. Once a grade appeal gets to me, I will read the work and re-grade it. That is the grade that will be recorded. I may change the grade up or down. That second grade is not negotiable. If a student is still dissatisfied she or he will be advised to file a formal grade challenge with a higher authority.

GENERAL DECORUM: Be respectful of your fellow students and me. Don’t be disruptive by talking, holding hands, reading anything, eating, or monopolizing discussions. Turn off your cell phones, and beepers. Come to class on time. Do not anticipate the end of class by putting away your materials. You are training to be tomorrow’s professionals. Act like it.

PENALTIES: Individuals who consistently behave in an inappropriate manner and distract the class will be warned. In cases of chronic violations of the class rules, students will be removed from the classroom. If removal does not stop future disturbances, students will be referred to the Dean of Students’ Office for further disciplinary procedures.

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.

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.

OFFICIAL 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 encouraged 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.
SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 January 22 & 24
Lecture—Course introduction; Precontact Texas;
Readings—Calvert, De Leon & Cantrell (CDC) chapter 1
Discussion—Review assignments

WEEK 2 January 27, 29, 31
Lecture—Spanish Texas; Mexican Revolution
Readings—(CDC) chapter 2; Campbell Introduction, Conclusion and chapter 1

WEEK 3 February 3, 5, 7
Lecture—Independent Mexico, American Immigration
Readings—CDC chapter 3; Campbell chapters 2 & 3

WEEK 4 February 10, 12, 14
Monday:
Lecture—Texas Revolution
Wednesday:
EXAM # 1
Friday:
Lecture—The Republic of Texas
Readings—CDC Chapter 4; Campbell chapters 4-5

WEEK 5 February 17, 19, 21
Lecture—Struggles for Statehood; The Mexican War
Readings—Campbell chapters 6-9

WEEK 6 February 24, 26, 28
Lecture—Disunion; Civil War
Readings—CDC chapter 5; Campbell chapters 10-12

WEEK 7 March 3, 5, 7
CAMPBELL PAPERS DUE AT START OF CLASS WEDNESDAY. PAPERS RECEIVED BY ME AFTER CLASS BEGINS WILL BE COUNTED ONE DAY LATE.
This means that if you slip it under my office door during class, it will not be in my hand until after class and will therefore be counted as late. Get to class on time and bring your paper with you. If you forget to bring it or have computer problems or a flat tire or are late for any reason, the penalty will be imposed. No excuses. I will take electronic copies AS ATTACHMENTS to emails.

Lecture—Civil War; Reconstruction
Readings—CDC chapter 6
WEEK 8    March 10, 12, 14
Monday:
EXAM # 2
Wednesday:
Lecture—Texas in Transition
Readings—CDC chapter 7
Friday:
Lecture—Populism
Readings—CDC chapter 8,

WEEK 9    March 24, 26, 28
Lecture—Early Twentieth Century Texas; Progressivism
Readings—CDC chapters 9 & 10; O’Donald Cullen & Wilkison (C&W) chapter 1

WEEK 11    March 31, April 2, 4
Lecture—The Great Depression
Readings—CDC chapter 11; C&W chapters 5 & 6

WEEK 12    April 7, 9, 11
Lecture—Texas from WWII through the 1960s
Readings—CDC chapter 12; C&W chapter 8

WEEK 13    April 14, 16, 18
Monday:
Lecture—Modern Texas Politics
Readings—CDC chapter 13; C&W chapters 9, 10 & 11

WEEK 14    April 21, 23, 25
O’DONALD CULLEN & WILKISON PAPERS ARE DUE AT START OF CLASS MONDAY. The same policies apply as with the Campbell paper.
Lecture—Texas Today
Readings—CDC chapter 14

Friday: “Giant”

WEEK 15    April 28, 30, May 2
Watch “Giant” all week

WEEK 16    May 5
Finish “Giant”

FINAL EXAM:  8:00-10:30  W    May 14?