History 1302.001  
Summer 2015 Session II  
July 6–August 6  
MTWR 10:00-11:55, CI 106

U.S. History since 1865

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Office Hours: TBA  
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

*This is a provisional course syllabus.
This course introduces students to the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. In addition to the major social, political, and economic developments during this era, we will examine how different groups of people have questioned, embraced, resisted, challenged, and changed consensuses about American culture and institutions. We will use conversation, intensive reading, and writing assignments to establish, clarity, communicate, and revise our views on the following issues:

- What it means to be “American” and what it means to live in America in different social and temporal contexts
- Meanings and interpretations of citizenship
- Struggle over civil rights and liberties
- Who has power and who doesn’t? How is power negotiated?
- What should be the role of government?
- How has America’s role in the world changed?

By critically engaging representations and debates about these important historical issues, students will learn to understand the diverse and complex ways in which the ideas about America have been interpreted over time.

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 writing, 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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

• Supplementary reading assignments on electronic reserve (Blackboard)

GRADED EVENTS

15% Attendance and Class Participation
10% In-class Quizzes
30% 2 Short Papers (15% each)
20% Midterm Exam
25% Final Exam

A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = 0-59

Mindful Reading, Wakeful Attendance, and Active Participation (15%). You are expected to come to each class lecture having read the assigned texts closely and participate actively in discussions. We will consider material in class that enhances but does not duplicate the course reading; therefore, attendance and selective (not compulsive) note-taking are essential.

Quizzes (10%). To help you stay current on the course reading and reward you for attending class regularly, there will be unannounced quizzes on course readings. There will be no make-up quizzes.

2 Short Analytical Essays (15% each, total of 30%).

Exams. There will be an in-class midterm exam (20%) and an in-class final exam (25%).

CLASS POLICIES

Please see the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct (http://studentaffairs.tamucc.edu/handbook.html) for general University policies.

Academic Integrity
By enrolling in the university, students are automatically agreeing to abide by its policies, including those on academic misconduct. Academic integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the TAMUCC community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are serious academic offenses. Penalties
include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow citation practices. For more information, consult the Student Code of Conduct: http://studentaffairs.tamucc.edu/handbook.html

**Classroom Etiquette**
A class such as this one can be disrupted easily by people entering late or leaving early, by people chatting with neighbors and by people using computers or mobile phones for purposes other than course work (texting, Facebooking, game-playing, etc.). We expect you to conduct yourself with respect for your fellow students, respect for your instructors, and respect for the money you (and your fellows) are paying for your education. That means arriving on time and staying until the end of class (if you have to leave early, please let me and/or your seminar instructor know before class begins). That means staying focused on the lecture presentation and questions from other students. Disruptive behavior, such as talking during the lecture, texting, sleeping, arriving late, leaving early, and abusive language, will not be tolerated. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for a more complete treatment of your rights and responsibilities while in class.

**Missed Lectures**
It is your responsibility to come to class regularly. I will not provide lecture notes or repeat any part of a lecture in my office. (Do not ask me to tell you what you’ve missed in class.) If you miss class, ask a classmate for lecture notes. After you’ve studied your friend’s notes, you are welcome to visit my office hours to ask any question you may have.

**Electronic Devices**
Students may use laptops or tablet computers in class to access previously downloaded reading assignments. You may also use laptops to take notes. You are NOT allowed to use your laptops or tablet computers to perform activities other than note taking or viewing assigned readings. Other electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.) **must be turned off and put away** before you enter the classroom. Also, access to the Internet during class time is strictly prohibited. While I believe that technology is a great tool for learning and students are better served learning how to use their devices productively, I will ban electronic devices outright if I find even one student abusing the privilege.

**No Recording**
Students may not use a recording device in class without my specific permission. If you are caught recording any part of the class lecture without having obtained my permission, you will face serious sanctions.

**Academic Advisement**
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. 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
Students with Disabilities and Veterans
The 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 call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

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

PROVISIONAL CLASS SCHEDULE
This is a tentative schedule and may be changed at the instructor’s discretion depending on events that occur throughout the term. Be sure to complete the assigned readings before each class meeting.

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<th>Readings</th>
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<td>7/7 (T) Reconstruction</td>
<td>• <em>Give me Liberty!, Chapter 15</em></td>
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<td>7/13 (M) Manifest Destiny Beyond Continent Short Paper #1 Due</td>
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<td>7/27 (M)</td>
<td>“Liberation” and the Cold War</td>
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