Course Description:
This course will introduce you to United States History from the end of the Civil War to the 21st century. 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, and how "ordinary" people helped shape the nation we know today. The course covers themes including citizenship and inclusion in the nation, urbanization, imperialism and nationalism.

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 (see supplies). 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

Oral History Project – A three-to-five page paper, typed, double-spaced. I will distribute a separate sheet explaining the assignment in more detail. 20% of your overall grade.

Quizzes – Three announced in-class reading quizzes, and two announced on-line quizzes. Added together, these quizzes are worth 20% of your overall grade.
Reading quizzes will be given at the beginning of class, and CANNOT, under any circumstances, be made up.
“Field Trip” Project – A two page, double-spaced paper, with a ticket stub or photograph. You must go to a historical museum or place of historical significance in the Corpus Christi area, and write about your experience, focusing on why this place is important to the history of Corpus and the broader U.S. You may turn this project in at any time before or including November 4. 10% of your overall grade.

Attendance and Participation - 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. Participation means more than showing up. I expect you to read assigned material by the due date, take part in group activities, add thoughtfully to discussion, and support your classmates through maintaining a respectful classroom environment.

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 to discuss.

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


**Supplies:**
You will need two bluebooks and two scantrons (one for each exam).

**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
- TUMUCC’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 TAMU-CC. 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.

**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 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 Course Outline
(this is open to change)

Week 1 – Introductions
8/28 Expectations and Introduction to Sources

Read for 9/2: Purchase books
Write assignment due dates in your calendar
Triangle, Prologue, CH 1

Week 2 – Reconstruction
9/2 Reconstruction
9/4 The West

Read for 9/9: Triangle, CH 2, 3

Week 3 – The Gilded Age City
9/9 An Industrializing Economy
9/11 Workers’ Response

Read for 9/16: Triangle, CH 4, 5, 6
Week 4 – The Progressive Empire
9/16  Redemption and Jim Crow
9/18  Building American Empire

Read for 9/23: *Triangle*, CH 7, 8, 9, Epilogue

Week 5 – Progressives at Home
9/23  Progressivism
9/25  “Triangle Fire”

Reading Quiz 1

Read for 9/30: Documents posted on Blackboard

Week 6 – Entering the Roaring ‘20s
9/30  World War I
10/2  A New Consumer Culture

Read for 10/9: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part 1

Week 7 – The Great Depression
10/7  Exam 1
10/9  The Causes of the Great Depression

Read for 10/14: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part 2

Week 8 – Economic Woes and a New Deal
10/14  The Dust Bowl
10/16  The New Deal

Read for 10/21: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part 3

Week 9 – Nuclear Fears and the Nuclear Family
10/21  World War II on the Home-front
10/23  Facing the Bomb

Read for 10/28: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Part 4
Week 10 – Beginnings of Dissent
10/28 The Nuclear Family
Reading Quiz 2
10/30 The Early Civil Rights Movement

Read for 11/4: *The Killing Zone*, pp. 15-95
Optional: Watch, “Stonewall Uprising”
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/stonewall/
(or google “PBS American Experience,” and search the site for “Stonewall Uprising”)

Week 11 – Turn to the Left
11/4 The Vietnam War
Field Trip Paper Due
11/6 The New Left and Counterculture
FYI - Friday is the drop deadline.

Read for 11/11: *The Killing Zone*, pp. 99-184
Optional: For more on Watergate, see http://www.washingtonpost.com/watergate

Week 12 – Protest and Conservative Backlash
11/11 Social Movements of the ’60s
11/13 Rise of the New Conservative


Week 13 – Nixon and Carter
11/18 Nixon
Reading Quiz 3
11/20 Carter’s White House

Reading for 11/25: Documents posted on Blackboard

Week 14 – The Cold War Ends
11/25 The Reagan Revolution
11/27 No Class - Thanksgiving

Read for 12/2: None – study, and work on your paper

Week 15 -
12/2 Exam 2 (normal class time)
Paper Due: Tuesday, Dec 9, 1:45-4:15 (our University mandated “final exam” time)  
Your paper must be dropped off at my office between the above hours. I will NOT accept papers by email. I will not accept papers late. Papers may be accepted early, by permission.