TEXAS HISTORY--HIST 3331.001
FALL 2015
DAY SECTION: TR 9:30-10:45
CI 127

Instructor: Dr. Anthony Quiroz
Office: FC 284
Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00, 3:30-4:30; W 5:30-6:30 and by appointment
Phone: (361) 825-5985
E-mail: Anthony.Quiroz@tamucc.edu

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:
* 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 10%  Exam #2 20%  Exam #3  20  Final Exam 25%
First book review (Campbell) 10%  Second book review (McNeely & Henderson) 15%

All exams will be comprised of two parts. Part one will consist of two questions over the readings. You will answer one. That answer is worth 50% of the exam grade. Part two will consist of two essay questions drawn from the lecture. You will answer one. This answer will be worth 50% 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:


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


CLASS POLICIES:

KEEP ALL RETURNED, GRADED WORK: You are strongly advised to keep all returned graded materials in case of a future discrepancy or disagreement.

MISSED EXAMS: I will schedule one separate meeting for students to make up any and all exams. This will occur toward the end of the term. If you cannot take a make-up at this time you will take your make-up during 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. 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.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA
Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any
amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All
courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed
before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

DISABILITY SERVICES
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 APPEALS 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.tamu.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1     August 27
Lecture—Introduction to course; Precontact Texas;
Discussion—Review assignments

WEEK 2     September 1 & 3
Lecture—Spanish Texas; Mexican Revolution; Independent Mexico
Readings—Campbell Introduction and chapters 1-5

WEEK 3     September 8 & 10
Lecture—American Immigration; Texas Revolution
Readings—Campbell chapters 6-12

WEEK 4     September 15 & 17
EXAM # 1 ON TUESDAY
THURSDAY: Lecture—The Republic of Texas
Readings—Graham Acknowledgments; Introduction; chapters 1-2

WEEK 5     September 22 & 24
TUESDAY: Lecture—Struggles for Statehood; The Mexican War
THURSDAY:  
Readings—Graham chapters 3-4  

CAMPBELL REVIEW DUE AT START OF CLASS. PAPERS TURNED IN AFTER THIS TIME WILL BE COUNTED AS ONE DAY LATE.

WEEK 6  
September 29 & October 1  
Lecture—Disunion; Civil War  
Readings—Graham chapters 5 & 6

WEEK 7  
October 6 & 8  
TUESDAY:  
Lecture—Reconstruction  
Readings—Cullen and Wilkison: Acknowledgements; chapter 1  
THURSDAY:  
EXAM #2

WEEK 8  
October 13 & 15  
Lecture—Texas in Transition  
Readings—Graham chapters 7-10; Cullen and Wilkison chapters 2-4

WEEK 9  
October 20 & 22  
Lecture—Early Twentieth Century Texas  
Readings—Graham chapters 11-14; Cullen and Wilkison chapters 5-7

WEEK 10  
October 27 & 29  
TUESDAY:  
Lecture—The Great Depression  
THURSDAY:  
Exam #3

WEEK 11  
November 3 & 5  
Lecture—WWII; Modern Texas Politics  
Readings—Cullen and Wilkison chapters 8-11; McNeely and Henderson: Prologue; Introduction; chapters 1-5

WEEK 12  
November 10 & 12  
Lecture—Texas Today  
Readings—McNeely and Henderson: chapters 6-13

WEEK 13  
November 17 & 19  
Lecture—Corpus Christi History  
Readings—McNeely and Henderson: chapters 14-20
WEEK 14  November 24 & 26
Readings—McNeely and Henderson: chapters 21-28; Prologue
NO CLASS THURSDAY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

WEEK 15  December 1
MCNEELY AND HENDERSON REVIEWS DUE ON TUESDAY AT THE START OF CLASS. ANY PAPERS RECEIVED LATER WILL COUNTED AS ONE DAY LATE.
Lecture--Looking Ahead

FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY DECEMBER 8, 8:00-10:30 a.m.