History 1302: US History since 1865

Dr. Beth Robinson
Spring 2018

Section 011
T/TH 12:30-1:45pm
EN-108

FC 253A // 361.825.3385 // beth.robinson@tamucc.edu
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description
This course examines the social, economic, and political development of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. The course will explore several themes within the history of the United States, but will center on the overarching idea of freedom. What is this idea of freedom and what is the story of its evolution? People have not always viewed freedom as a principal value for a society or a government to possess, but now we think of it as essential. What is the story of freedom? How have various peoples been involved in the struggle for freedom? How have they altered its meanings over time? In following the course of these struggles, we will examine how Americans chose to define this idea as well as how they left a difficult and mixed legacy that we must understand if we are to make sense of freedom in our own lives.

We will try to understand what history means to citizens of the 21st century: how do we understand it, why does it matter, and can our understanding of our own past change the present and possibly our future?

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 Texts
   *If you choose to order it through online outlets, you may use any edition, but make sure you get Volume 2 (the second half of US history).
Course Requirements

1. Attendance - One or two absences for serious illness or other genuine emergency may be unavoidable, but more than two absences can be severely disruptive both to your own learning and to the intellectual development of the other members of the class. The material covered in lecture is essential to doing well on the exams. I do not post or share my notes or slides. You are responsible for signing in during each class.

2. Participation. You are expected to have read material closely and to come to class prepared to raise and answer questions, to contribute thoughtfully to discussions, and to listen and respond to the contributions of others in a respectful manner. Occasionally, you will work with small groups on minor assignments. These will be collected and factored into your attendance grade. They cannot be made up.

3. Reading. The goal is to read material closely and carefully. I have deliberately kept the amount of assigned reading reasonable with the expectation that the reading is done thoroughly and thoughtfully.

4. Writing.
   a. In-Class Writing: Each week, you will write about the assigned primary sources, analyzing them through the lens of “freedom.” As you read, think about whether a group of Americans (or others) gained freedoms? Tried to gain freedoms? Lost freedoms? Experienced a conflict over freedoms? * I will drop your lowest grade.
   b. Essay: You will write a short essay analyzing March, Book 2. I will hand out specific instructions.
   c. Exams: You will take two exams testing your mastery of the assigned readings, films, and lectures.

Assignment Breakdown:
- Participation and Attendance (10%)
- In-Class Writing (30%)
- Essay (15%)
- Midterm 2 (20%)
- Final Exam (20%)

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

Course Policies

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

Electronic Devices
During class, you must turn off all cell phones, pagers, laptops, or other wireless or cell communication devices. "Off" means the power is turned off, not just that the device is on "silent" mode. Students found using their electronic communication devices during class will be marked absent for the day. Please meet with me if you would like to request special accommodation.

Punctuality
This is a large class, so arriving late or leaving early is disruptive. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave 10 minutes early will be considered absent.
Late Work/Make Ups
If you are going to miss an exam or in-class writing, you must get in touch with me at least 24 hours before the missed assignment to explain your situation and, if warranted, work out a time that you might make it up. I will not accept any late assignments, though you are welcome to submit them early. If you need an extension due to an emergency, you must email me your request at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. Extensions will be granted at the discretion of the instructor or as mandated by law or university policy.

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

GRADE APPEALS
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS
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 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.
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.

DROPPING A CLASS
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. April 6th, 2018 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.
## Schedule of Topics and Readings

*The schedule is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. Readings should be completed before Tuesday’s class.*

*Give Me Liberty!* (Foner)  
*Voices of Freedom* (VOF)  
Primary sources on Blackboard (Blackboard)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Foner</th>
<th>Other Readings/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Welcome! Course Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2    |      | Reconstruction and Jim Crow 15 | VOF 96, *The Mississippi Black Code*  
VOF 97, *A Sharecropping Contract*  
VOF 102, *Sumner on Social Darwinism*  
VOF 112, *Aquinaldo on American Imperialism* |
VOF 102, *Sumner on Social Darwinism*  
VOF 112, *Aquinaldo on American Imperialism* | VOF 116, Ryan, *A Living Wage*  
VOF 118, Sanger on “Free Motherhood”  
VOF 124, Catt Address to Congress  
Blackboard, Florence Kelley on Child Labor |
| 4    |      | The Age of Reform 18 | VOF 116, Ryan, *A Living Wage*  
VOF 118, Sanger on “Free Motherhood”  
VOF 124, Catt Address to Congress  
Blackboard, Florence Kelley on Child Labor | VOF 122, Wilson, *A World Safe for Democracy*  
VOF 125, Debs, *Speech to the Jury*  
VOF 127, Bond, *The Great Migration*  
VOF 133, *Congress Debates Immigration* |
| 5    |      | Modern Times 19 & 20 (stop at Depression) | VOF 122, Wilson, *A World Safe for Democracy*  
VOF 125, Debs, *Speech to the Jury*  
VOF 127, Bond, *The Great Migration*  
VOF 133, *Congress Debates Immigration* | VOF 137, Letter to Secretary of Labor  
VOF 138, Steinbeck, *The Harvest Gypsies*  
VOF 140, Roosevelt, *Speech to the DNC*  
VOF 143, *Hill on Indian New Deal*  
Blackboard, Scottsboro Timelines |
| 6    |      | Hard Times Finish 20 & 21 | VOF 137, Letter to Secretary of Labor  
VOF 138, Steinbeck, *The Harvest Gypsies*  
VOF 140, Roosevelt, *Speech to the DNC*  
VOF 143, *Hill on Indian New Deal*  
Blackboard, Scottsboro Timelines | VOF 145, Roosevelt on the Four Freedoms  
VOF 150, WWII and Mexican-Americans  
VOF 151, *African Americans and the Four Freedoms*  
Blackboard, *Japanese-American Internment* |
| 7    |      | World War II 22 | VOF 145, Roosevelt on the Four Freedoms  
VOF 150, WWII and Mexican-Americans  
VOF 151, *African Americans and the Four Freedoms*  
Blackboard, *Japanese-American Internment* | VOF 153, *Declaration of Independence*  
VOF 154, *Truman Doctrine*  
VOF 159, *Joseph McCarthy on the Attack*  
VOF 158, *President’s Commission on Civil Rights* |
| 8    | 3/7  | Review for Midterm | VOF 153, *Declaration of Independence*  
VOF 154, *Truman Doctrine*  
VOF 159, *Joseph McCarthy on the Attack*  
VOF 158, *President’s Commission on Civil Rights* | Essay due on 3/29  
Lewis, *March: Book 2* |
|      | 3/9  | Midterm Exam | Essay due on 3/29  
Lewis, *March: Book 2* |
| 9    |      | Spring Break | Essay due on 3/29  
Lewis, *March: Book 2* |
| 10   |      | “The Golden Age” 23 & 24 | VOF 153, *Declaration of Independence*  
VOF 154, *Truman Doctrine*  
VOF 159, *Joseph McCarthy on the Attack*  
VOF 158, *President’s Commission on Civil Rights* | Essay due on 3/29  
Lewis, *March: Book 2*  
VOF 173, Port Huron Statement  
VOF 175, *The National Organization for Women* |
Lewis, *March: Book 2*  
VOF 173, Port Huron Statement  
Lewis, *March: Book 2*  
VOF 173, Port Huron Statement  
VOF 175, *The National Organization for Women* |
| 12   |      | The Sixties, Part 2 | Essay due on 3/29  
Lewis, *March: Book 2*  
VOF 173, Port Huron Statement  
Lewis, *March: Book 2*  
VOF 173, Port Huron Statement  
VOF 175, *The National Organization for Women* |
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Rise of Conservatism</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 176, Chavez, “Letter from Delano”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 178, Brochure on ERA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 181, Falwell, <em>Listen America!</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 183, Watt, “Environmentalists...”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 182, Schlafly, “The Fraud of the ERA”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 184, <em>Reagan’s Inaugural Address</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Deindustrialization and Globalization</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 186, Clinton, <em>Speech on Signing NAFTA</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blackboard, <em>Behind the Swoosh</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>The 21st Century</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 190, <em>National Security Strategy of the US</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF 193, Mahoney, “Called by God to Help”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VOF, 194, Kennedy, <em>Lawrence v. Texas</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Course Conclusion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>