Class Meets: M/W, 2-3:15 PM, EN108
Office Hours: M/W 11:30-1:30 and by appointment.
Come eat lunch!
What are office hours? Watch the clip “Introducing FOH” on youtube.
Office: FC 253B (2nd floor, end of the hall on the parking-lot side of the Starbucks building, behind the glass door)
Email: eliza.martin@tamucc.edu
Office Phone: x3930

Course Description:
This course will introduce you to North American and United States History from Native American habitation to the Civil War. We will use a few “big questions” to 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. What does it mean to be an American, who can claim membership in the nation, and how do these things change over time? By the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of the founding, expansion, and temporary disintegration of the United States taking place before 1865.

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 three in-class exams. These are NOT cumulative. You will provide your own bluebook (see supplies).
Exam 1 – 15% of your overall grade
Exam 2 – 20% of your overall grade
Exam 3 – 25% of your overall grade

Quizzes – Almost weekly online reading quizzes. Your two lowest scores will be dropped. Your quiz for the week will open on Blackboard every Wednesday at 4PM, and will close the following Monday at 1PM. 20% of your overall grade.
Quests – Weekly assignments you will submit by the start of class (2PM) each Wednesday (earlier is fine). These must be submitted in person (not email), by you. They will open at the same time as your quizzes, every Wed at 4PM, giving you a week to work on each of them. 20% of your overall grade. A separate document is posted on Blackboard that talks more about this.

Attendance - I expect you to attend every class. Knowing the material covered in lecture is essential to doing well on the exams. I do not post or share my notes or slides – you must attend class to get that information. Occasionally we will complete in-class assignments that I will collect. At the end of the semester, if you’re sitting at an 89 or 79, this work will determine whether I bump you to a higher grade or leave you where you are.

Grade Breakdown:

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

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 have a 24/7 rule: if you would like to dispute your grade, I am more than happy to speak with you, but you need to wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned before approaching me. Once 7 days have passed since the grade posted, your grade is set.

Texts:

Required:
You DO NOT need the online access code.

Supplies: Three bluebooks, three scantrons (Form 882-E – the long, green ones), and a #2 pencil.

Policies and Expectations:

By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by these policies.
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. The seminar leaders will help enforce this policy in large lecture.
- 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. With repeated offences your laptop privileges will be suspended.

- Under normal circumstances, I WILL NOT accept late work. All assignments must be submitted on the due date at the beginning of your class time – no exceptions. If assignments are turned in after I start the day’s lecture, they are considered late and points will be docked. I expect you to be in class to take all exams. I only offer make-ups 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. If you do have an extraordinary circumstance come up, I will expect you to contact me right away, and provide documentation.

- 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 – I can’t do this for you.

- 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

- TAMUCC’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.

- In the event of a hurricane, flooding, or other event, I will follow the published policies of TAMUCC. 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, so come prepared.
Provisional Course Outline  
(this is subject to possible change)

**Week 1**
8/27 Expectations and Introductions
8/29 Native America
   Complete for 9/3: read Foner CH 1
   Quest 1 opens – take a look at it

**Week 2**
9/3 Labor Day – No class
9/5 Europe and First Contacts
   Complete for 9/10: read Foner CH 2, take quiz CH 1 and quiz CH 2 on Blackboard (remember, your quizzes always open Wed at 4PM and close the following Mon at 1PM),
   Quest 1 con’t

**Week 3**
9/10 British Colonialism – Jamestown and Chesapeake
9/12 British Colonialism – New England and South
   Complete for 9/17: read Foner CH 3, take quiz on Blackboard, Quest 2

**Week 4**
9/17 City on a Hill – Puritans and Native Americans
9/19 Review Day
   Complete for 9/24: Nothing – study for your exam

**Week 5**
9/24 **Exam 1**
9/26 No Class, but you still have reading and quizzes due Monday!
   Complete for 10/1: read Foner 4 and 5, quizzes on Blackboard, Quest 3
   Read The Declaration of Independence (Click on “read transcript”)
Week 6
10/1  The Road to Revolution
10/3  Independence and Meanings of Liberty

Complete for 10/8: read Foner CH 7 (we’re skipping CH 6), quiz on Blackboard, Quest 4

Week 7
10/8  Winning Independence
10/10  A New Nation

Complete for 10/15: read Foner CH 8, quiz on Blackboard, Quest 5

Week 8
10/15 “A Midwife’s Tale”
10/17  A Cotton Kingdom

Complete for 10/22: read Foner CH 9, quiz on Blackboard, Quest 6

Week 9
10/22  The Market Revolution
10/24  Life Under Slavery

Complete for 10/29: Nothing – study for your exam

Week 10
10/29  Review
10/31  Exam 2

Complete for 11/5: read Foner CH 10 and 11, quizzes on Blackboard, Quest 7

Week 11
11/5 A Growing Republic and The Age of Jackson
11/7  Indian Removal

Complete for 11/12: read Foner CH 12, quiz on Blackboard, Quest 8
Read Seneca Falls “Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions”
http://ecssba.rutgers.edu/docs/seneca.html
Nov 9 – Last day to drop a class

Week 12
11/12 Abolition and Women’s Rights
11/14 Texas and the War with Mexico

Complete for 11/19: read Foner CH 13, quiz on Blackboard, Quest 9

Week 13
11/19 Rising Sectional Tensions
11/21 Reading Day – No class

Complete for 11/26: read Foner CH 14, quiz on Blackboard, Quest 10

Week 14
11/26 The Second American Revolution - The Civil War
11/28 The Civil War con’t

Complete for 12/3: Nothing - study

Week 15
12/3 Review day – extended office hours
12/5 Exam 3

Overall grades will be available on SAIL, around Dec 18.

Have a great break!
Other required information:

**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.

**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/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. 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 in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.