History 1302: US History since 1865
Dr. Beth Robinson
Spring 2020

Section 008
T/TH 12:30-1:45pm
CI-108

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
Course Requirements

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 notes or PowerPoint slides. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate. You are responsible for signing in during each class.

Participation. To be adequately prepared for class, you need to have completed the assigned reading listed on the schedule below. Class sessions will be a mix of lecture, film, and discussion, and students are expected to participate regularly in these discussions. I will regularly ask you to complete short quizzes, in-class writing, and complete group activities. These cannot be made up and will be factored into your participation grade.

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.

Graded work:
• Reading Responses: You will turn in short “response papers” most weeks that analyze the week’s primary sources. Responses are typically due by 11:59pm CST on Wednesdays. These must be submitted as .doc/x or .pdf files to Blackboard.
• Quizzes: Most weeks, you will complete multiple choice quizzes for the assigned chapter(s) of Give Me Liberty covered that week. These are typically due by 11:59pm CST on Mondays via Blackboard.
• Exams: You will take three exams testing your mastery of the assigned readings, films, and lectures.

Grade Breakdown (out of 400):
Attendance/Participation (40 points)
Reading Responses (100 points)
Reading quizzes (50 points)
Midterm 1 (60 points)
Midterm 2 (70 points)
Final Exam (80 points)

Grading Scale: A = 90 – 100 B = 80 – 89 C = 70 – 79 D = 60 – 69 F = 59 and below

Late Work/Make Ups
I will not accept any late assignments, though you are welcome to submit them early. Please give yourself plenty of time to familiarize yourself with Blackboard before the first due date. If you need
to schedule a make-up exam due to an emergency, you must email me your request at least 24 hours before the exam.

**Academic Integrity**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in failure of the assignment, at minimum.

**Classroom/professional behavior**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Statement of Civility**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

**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. The last day to drop a class for the spring semester is April 10, 2020.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, 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.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf.

Week 1
- Tuesday, January 21: Course introduction
- Thursday, January 23: Reconstruction and the South

Week 2
- Tuesday, January 28: Emergence of Jim Crow
- Thursday, January 30: The American West

Week 3
- Tuesday, February 4: The Gilded Age
- Thursday, February 6: Imperial America

Week 4
- Tuesday, February 11: Progressives
- Thursday, February 13: World War I and the Roaring 1920s

Week 5
- Tuesday, February 18: Exam Review
- Thursday, February 20: First Midterm Exam

Week 6
- Tuesday, February 25: The Great Depression
- Thursday, February 27: The Great Depression
Week 7
- Tuesday, March 3: World War II
- Thursday, March 5: World War II

Week 8 // Spring Break

Week 9
- Tuesday, March 17: Origins of the Cold War
- Thursday, March 19: Domestic Cold War

Week 10
- Tuesday, March 24: The Golden Age?
- Thursday, March 26: Second Midterm Exam

Week 11
- Tuesday, March 31: The Sixties
- Thursday, April 2: The Sixties

Week 12
- Tuesday, April 6: The Sixties
- Thursday, April 8: The Sixties
  → Last day to drop a class is April 10

Week 13
- Tuesday, April 14: Backlash!
- Thursday, April 16: Backlash!

Week 14
- Tuesday, April 21: 1990s & Globalization
- Thursday, April 23: 1990s & Globalization

Week 15
- Tuesday, April 28: War on Terror
- Thursday, April 30: Movements of the Present

Week 16 // Course Conclusion
- Tuesday, May 5
- Final exam