This course is a survey of U.S. History from 1865 to the present. My major objective in this class is to discuss the various forces that converge and shape the United States. Consequently, we will deal with the diverse populations that create this nation—and how they contest its meaning(s). The themes that we will deal with are: (1) The growth of the federal government; (2) U.S. national and international economic expansion; (3) reform versus revolution as a means for change; (4) the United States’ sense of mission at home and abroad; and, (5) struggles for equality.

Required Texts:
ISBN: 978019091021

ISBN: 9780553382518

Course Requirements:
During the course of the semester you will have four written assignments: one short paper, a midterm, a long essay, and final exam. The first paper will be a 2-3-page analysis of a primary source document (which will be posted on Blackboard) and is due on Thursday, February 14. The midterm will be administered on March 7, while the final will take place on Tuesday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. For the exams, you must integrate material from the readings and lectures. A 6-7-page paper based on Hunger of Memory: The Education of Richard Rodriguez is the second paper and will be due on April 18. We will also have two “pop” quizzes based on the lectures and readings during the semester, so be prepared. We will use iClicker REEF polling to take the quizzes. All papers must be written using a word processing program, preferably MSWord. The Liberal Arts Center for Instructional Technology (LACIT), located on the fourth floor of the Liberal Arts Building, as well as computer labs in the library and the Undergraduate Learning Center, can help you with this endeavor. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Course Objectives: By the end of the semester students will know the basic contours of U.S. history, from the end of the Civil War to the present. In addition, students will be able to think in a complex manner about the causes of key historical events and communicate this knowledge in a clear, concise, and intelligent manner both verbally and in writing. The
ultimate objective of this course is to teach students to think critically about history, a skill that they will hopefully use in their other classes and in life in general.

**Grade Distribution:** 2 POP Quizzes: 5% each; 3 PASS sessions 5% each; Midterm Exam: 15%; Final Exam: 20%; 1st paper: 10%; *Hunger of Memory* paper: 20%; Attendance and Participation: 10%.

**Attendance Policy:** We will be taking attendance using the iClicker REEF Polling system. We all benefit from you attending class because not only do you learn, but you also help us learn. Keep in mind that you can miss up to three classes before losing points for attendance.

**Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS)**

We are lucky to have access to Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS), a free tutoring program that consists of student led review sessions for historically difficult courses. The weekly review meetings are led by a student who has previously taken the course and works closely with the professor to help provide individualized academic support to students.

You have received an email from the Miner Learning Center (MLC) asking for your availability during the semester to attend PASS sessions. Please respond to this message by the second class meeting (1/24) in order to best provide you with sessions that will fit your schedule. Normally, there will be three scheduled sessions per week, so you can attend as many sessions as you would like.

It is mandatory to you attend three PASS sessions during the semester, but you are highly encouraged to go to as many sessions as possible. These sessions will be worth 5% each for a total of 15% of your final grade. If you attend more sessions, we will take that into consideration as we calculate your final grade.

Gustavo Rodríguez will lead these PASS sessions. Since he is not a TA (teaching assistant), but rather a peer leader Gustavo cannot extend deadlines, inform you of your grades or give you extra credit. However, Gustavo can help you gain the knowledge and skills that will help you excel in this class and others.

You have to attend your first PASS session before **February 14**. The second session must be attended between **February 18** and **March 14**, while the third session must be attended between **March 25** and **May 3**. Gustavo will also hold final exam review sessions at the end of the semester.

**SSSP Students Only:** This section is only for the students enrolled in the Student Support Services (SSSP) learning community. In order to get full credit, the students must attend their PASS sessions and they must complete the SSSP workshop’s final project. Your workshop instructor will provide you with the final project information and rubric.

**Plagiarism/Class Etiquette and Procedures**

I must remind you that academic dishonesty, including cheating on an exam or quiz, and plagiarism of any form, meaning presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, will not be
tolerated. Cutting and pasting information from a website without citing the data constitutes plagiarism. If anybody is caught committing this egregious offense she/he will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. To prevent you from committing plagiarism, your papers will be submitted to Safe Assign on Blackboard.

In addition, I ask that you respect your fellow students and me. If you are compelled to talk while in class—DO NOT. I find this habit annoying and just plain rude. I will not tolerate class disturbances of any kind. This means cell phones and other electronic devices (except computers) are prohibited. If you do not comply with these rules I will ask you to leave the room. Finally, I must remind you that this class starts when I walk in the lecture hall; therefore, you should be ready to pay attention and take notes when I start talking. I urge you to take notes—you will not be able to remember what was said if you do not, and a good deal of the exams are based on class content.

Blackboard:
We will use Blackboard to facilitate class discussion and process assignments. Your essays will be turned in online in order to safeguard against plagiarism; they will also be graded online.

REEF Polling:
We will be using iClicker REEF Polling in class, which is free and can be used on your phone, tablet, or computer. This will be used to register responses on quizzes in the class and also to record attendance. I will provide more details on it in class. A link to more information on the iClicker REEF Polling can be found on Blackboard.

Checking Your E-Mail Account:
It is very important that you check your official email account (for most of you this is your @miners.utep.edu address) on a regular basis.

Drop Deadline: April 5. If you need to drop the course, you must initiate the procedure. I will not drop you after this date.

Schedule

Week 1: January 22 & 24
Introduction; The Why and What of the Civil War.
Readings: Oakes, Chapter 15.

Week 2: January 29 & 31
Black Reconstruction.
Readings: Oakes, Chapter 15.

Week 3: February 5 & 7
The New Capitalism; Labor; European and Asian Immigration.
Readings: Oakes, Chapters 16 & 17.

Week 4: February 12 & 14
The West, American Indians and the "Closing of the Frontier"; Populism; Cuba and the Philippines: The Imperial Republic. 

**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 18 & 19. First Paper due.

**Week 5: February 19 & 21**
Progressivism: The Search for Order; Progressivism: Uncertain Victory. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 20; Rodriguez, Prologue and Chapter 1.

**Week 6: February 26 & 28**
World War I: Over There & Over Here; The 1920s: Culture and Society. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 21 & 22; Rodriguez, Chapter 2-3.

**Week 7: March 5 & 7**
Origins of the Great Depression; The New Deal. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapters 23; Rodriguez, Chapters 4-5. Midterm Exam.

**Week 8: March 12 & 14**
World War II. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 24; Rodriguez, Chapter 6.

**March 18-22: Spring Break**

**Week 9: March 26 & 28**
Cold War; 1950s America; Rock and Roll. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 25.

**Week 10: April 2 & 4**
Civil Rights Movement 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 26.

**Week 11: April 9 & 11**
1960s; Vietnam War 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 27.

**Week 12: April 16 & 18**
1960s Culture and Society; the Silent Majority. Hunger of Memory Paper Due. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 27.

**Week 13: April 23 & 25**
“Me” and Disco; 70s “Malaise”; the Reagan Revolution; AIDS. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 28.

**Week 14: April 30 & May 2**
The End of the Cold War and the Rise of Nationalisms. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapter 29.

**Week 15: May 7 & 9**
The 1990s and Beyond. 
**Readings:** Oakes, Chapters 30.

The Final Exam will be administered on Tuesday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.