

# HIST 1302: United States History since 1865

## Syllabus

Spring Semester 2020

CRN 22255

**Class meeting time: Tues and Thurs 12:00 – 1:20 pm**    **Class Location: Physical Science Bldg 115**

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### Faculty Contact

Dr. Eric Rodrigo Meringer

Email: [ermeringer@utep.edu](mailto:ermeringer@utep.edu)

Office: LART 329

Office hours: Mon and Wed 1:00pm – 2:00pm; Tues and Thurs 10:30am – 11:30am

### UTEP Dates and Deadlines

Jan 21	First day of classes
Jan 21-24	Late registration (fees incurred)
Mar 16-20	Spring Break – No classes
Mar 27	Cesar Chavez Day – No class
Apr 3	Spring drop/withdrawal deadline
Apr 10	Spring study day – No class
May 7	Last day of classes
May 12	Final Exam Tuesday May 12 1:00pm – 3:45pm

### Course Description

HIST 1302 is a survey of social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the post-Civil War Reconstruction era to the early 2000s. Topics explored in this class include: Reconstruction; industrialization; the Progressive Era; Spanish American War; World Wars I and II; the Great Depression; the Cold War; the Rise of the Conservative Right; Globalization. Important themes within these topics include: race and ethnicity; social and economic development; American imperialism; expansion and contraction of the federal government; U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War era; multiculturalism. In addition to critically analyzing US history and American exceptionalism in a global context, students in the course will also examine and interpret primary and secondary sources to create clear and concise historical arguments based upon historical evidence.

### Textbook

[The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook](#), Volume 2: Since 1877. Edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright. Stanford University Press, 2019. ISBN 978-1503606883. We will be using both the textbook and the reader. Online versions of the textbook are open-access and free at: <http://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>.

You can also acquire a hard-copy text at the UTEP bookstore under [HIST 1302 required materials](#).

## The Weekly Module

Course material is presented in weekly modules on the Blackboard website. This semester is 17 weeks long so there are correspondingly 17 modules. Each module treats a different chapter and a different topic. For more information see the Assignment Schedule below.

## Grading Information

Final Grades will be determined by points earned in the following areas

8 Quizzes (50 pts each, lowest score dropped)	350 points
6 in-class activities (50 points, lowest dropped)	250 points
1 mid-term test	200 points
<u>1 final exam</u>	<u>200 points</u>
Total Points Possible	1000 Points

## Grading Scale

900-1000 points	A
800-899 points	B
700-799 points	C
600-699 points	D
Below 600	F

**Exams** (40% of final grade): There will be two exams, a mid-term and a final. Each exam is worth 200 points. Exams consist of a combination of multiple-choice questions and a short essay. Exam questions will draw on required readings and information presented in the quizzes. **Make-up exams** in cases of unavoidable scheduling conflicts must be arranged prior to exam date. Exceptions for unanticipated medical or family emergencies will require written documentation from the student.

**Quizzes** (35% of grade): There are a total of 8 quizzes. Each is worth 50 points. The lowest quiz score is dropped for a total of 350 points possible. Quizzes consist of between 10 and 25 questions. Quizzes are online and you will have numerous days to take them. You will also have two attempts at each quiz with only the highest score counting. Don't forget to take quizzes by the due date though as they will not be reopened once they are closed.

**In-Class Activities** (25% of grade): There will be six in-class, team-writing exercises worth 50 points each. Students will form small groups in class and collaboratively answer questions based on specific readings or other related materials. As these are in-class activities students must be present to earn points for these exercises. Groups will share one grade. In these activities the lowest score will again be dropped but any assignments missed beyond the one dropped grade cannot be made up.

**Extra Credit** Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis. Occasionally, however, the instructor may opt to have an extra credit activity in class in order to raise the class average as a whole. As such activities are offered in class you have to be present to participate in any such activity.

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## Communication

**Office Hours:** Students can visit the instructor during regular office hours in LART 329 Mon and Wed 1:00pm – 2:00pm; Tues and Thurs 10:30am – 11:30am

**Tips for effective student online communication:** To facilitate prompt and effective email communication, make sure that you have thought out your question before sending a message. Be sure to first check to make sure the answer cannot be conveniently found using other course resources (syllabus, discussion boards or other). Make sure also to **include the course name and class time** in the **subject line** in addition a brief word or two regarding the subject matter as the instructor generally has numerous course offerings in a single semester.

**Closing the Loop:** In all email exchanges with the instructor, make sure to respond to the instructor's message in order to confirm that the message was received and either a satisfactory answer was provided or that further information is needed. This is called "closing the loop" and is an important aspect of maintaining effective online communication.

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## Using Library Services

Extensive Library resources, including Library research databases covering a wide variety of subject areas with thousands of full text articles and other materials as well as extensive ebooks collections, and services are available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <https://www.utep.edu/library/>. To find the library links within this course, click on the "Student Services" tab located in the navigation bar at the top, then select from the "UTEP Library Resources for Students" links.

The UTEP Library provides research assistance in creating search strategies, selecting relevant databases, and evaluating and citing resources in a variety of formats via its "Ask Us" service at <https://www.utep.edu/library/>. The Research Guides area of the library's website provides a search engine, research guides, scholarly article and other databases, and other resources along with technical and citation assistance.

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## Special Accommodations

Students with physical or other challenges who require accommodation(s) in order to participate in this course should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (Union Building, East, room 106). Telephone: +1.915.747.5148. Email: [Cass@utep.edu](mailto:Cass@utep.edu). Internet: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>. It is your responsibility to speak with a counselor in order to receive necessary help. Within the first week of the beginning of the semester, you must provide documentation from CASS in order to receive any accommodation(s). Failure to contact CASS and provide documentation in a timely manner may delay such accommodation(s) being made.

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## Student Services: Blackboard Support

To successfully navigate the online classroom new students are encouraged to view the "Blackboard FAQs for Students" links, or the "Student Bookmarks" links, which are located under the "Student

Services” tab at the upper right hand side of the Blackboard header. Those requiring technical assistance can access “UTEP’s Help Desk” under the “UTEP Blackboard” header. Scroll down to the lower right hand of the page to find it under “UTEP Resources.” Technical support is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week via the Help Desk link or via phone at +1.915.747.5257.

## **Student Course Evaluations**

UTEP values its students' feedback. You will be asked to complete an online evaluation toward the end of the term. The primary purpose of this evaluation process is to assess the effectiveness of classroom instruction in order to provide the best learning experience possible and make continuous improvements to every class. Responses are kept confidential. Please take full advantage of this opportunity to provide your feedback.

## **More Information**

For more information about student services and other general information, visit the “Community and Student Services” tabs on the Blackboard header.

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## **Course Policies and Information**

You are responsible for understanding and abiding by the policies and procedures described below. Any problems that the Instructor encounters in this course may be reported to the Dean of Students.

### **Course Civility**

You must uphold a mature level of interaction with fellow students and with the instructor. Please respect other students, showing courtesy in all interactions.

### **Disputed grades**

If you disagree with a grade, you should consult the instructor.

### **Dropping the Class**

You are entitled to drop this class with a grade of “W” until the official university drop deadline, as described in the Schedule of Classes and the University Catalog. You are responsible for dropping the class. There will be no faculty-initiated drops, except under special circumstances if you request the Instructor to drop you.

### **Academic Honesty and Integrity**

As a member of the University of Texas at El Paso academic community that honors integrity and respect for others, you are expected to maintain a high level of personal integrity in your academic work at all times. Your work should be original and must not be reused from other courses.

According to the Merriam Webster Online Dictionary, plagiarism can be defined as “the act of using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person” (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarism>). In other words, it is literally a form of theft. You are expected to do your own work on all graded material submitted for all course requirements.

All work submitted must be written for this course during the term in which the course is being completed. Work from other courses or from other academic or non-academic settings, past or present,

is not acceptable and will result in failure for that assignment. No opportunities for resubmission or revision will be granted.

The names and student numbers of students suspected of knowingly using, or attempting to use, another person's work as though such work is their own, and of students suspected of permitting, or attempting to permit, another student to use their work, will be given to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Such conduct may constitute grounds for sanctions ranging from the assignment of a grade of "F" for the work to expulsion from the University.

If you are uncertain regarding what actions constitute plagiarism, or about the University policy, then you should consult the instructor.

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## Course Management

I will promptly grade all assignments, and other work submitted for a grade soon after your deadlines.

## External Link Disclaimer

This course may contain links to external sites neither owned nor maintained by UTEP. UTEP bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality, or content of external sites or for that of subsequent links. In addition, the terms of use, security policies, and privacy policies may differ from those of UTEP. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content, terms of use, and policies.

## Syllabus Changes

Though unlikely, items on this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.

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## Assignment Schedule

Module number/Week number And Topics	Assignments	Due Date
<b>Module 1 (Week of Jan 20)</b> <b>Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Syllabus and Introductions</li><li>• Reconstruction</li></ul>	Become familiar with syllabus and textbook  Textbook: Read Chapter 15 (this is available in the online version <a href="#">American Yawp</a> )	
<b>Module 2 (Week of Jan 27)</b> <b>Capital and Labor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• March of Capital</li><li>• Gilded Age and Rise of Inequality</li><li>• Labor Movement</li></ul>	Textbook: Read chapter 16  Document Reader: #1 William Graham Sumner on Social Darwinism  Quiz 1	Due Sunday Feb 2 at midnight

<p><b>Module 3 (Week of Feb 3)</b> <b>Conquering the West</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westward Expansion</li> <li>• Indian Wars</li> <li>• Myth of the West</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Read Chapter 17</p> <p>Document Reader: #4 Frederick Jackson Turner, “Significance of the Frontier...”</p>	
<p><b>Module 4 (Week of Feb 10)</b> <b>Life in Industrial America</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immigration and Urbanization</li> <li>• New South and Problem of Race</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 18</p> <p>View Video: Slavery by Another Name</p> <p><b>In-class activity 1</b></p> <p><b>Quiz 2</b></p>	<p>In class activity done in class on Feb 13.</p> <p>Due Sunday Feb 16</p>
<p><b>Module 5 (Week of Feb 17)</b> <b>American Empire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spanish American War</li> <li>• American Interventions</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 19</p> <p>Additional Blackboard readings</p> <p><b>In-class activity 2</b></p>	<p>Be present for activity 2 of Feb 20</p>
<p><b>Module 6 (Week of Feb 24)</b> <b>The Progressive Era</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muckrakers</li> <li>• Progressive Reformers</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 20</p> <p>Document Reader: #2 Jane Addams “The Subjective Necessity of Social Settlements</p> <p><b>Quiz 3</b></p>	<p>Quiz due Sunday Mar 1</p>
<p><b>Module 7 (Week of Mar 2)</b> <b>World War I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World War I</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 21</p> <p><b>In-class activity 3</b></p> <p><b>Quiz 4</b></p>	<p>Activity 3 in class Mar 5</p> <p>Due Sunday Mar 8</p>
<p><b>Module 8 (Week of Mar 9)</b> <b>Review and Midterm exam</b></p>	<p>Review chapters 15 – 21</p> <p><b>Mid-Term Exam</b></p>	<p><b>Multiple choice section is online and due by class time on Mar 12.</b></p> <p><b>You will write your essay in class on Thursday Mar 12.</b></p>
<p><b>Module 9 (Week of Mar 16)</b> <b>Spring Break</b></p>	<p>Relax – No class</p>	

<p><b>Module 10 (Week of Mar 23) New Era &amp; Great Depression</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roaring 20s</li> <li>• Great Depression</li> <li>• New Deal</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 22 and Chapter 23 (on Depression)</p>	
<p><b>Module 11 (Week of Mar 30) WWII</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World War II – origins in Japan and Europe</li> <li>• World War II at home</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 24</p> <p><b>In-class Activity 4</b></p> <p><b>Quiz 5</b></p>	<p>Activity in class Apr 2</p> <p>Due Sunday Apr 5</p>
<p><b>Module 12 (Week of Apr 6) The Cold War</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cold War at Home and abroad</li> <li>• Decolonization</li> <li>• Cold War in Latin America</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 25</p> <p>Document Reader: #2 NSC-68 (1950)</p>	
<p><b>Module 13 (Week of Apr 13) Affluent Society and 1960s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Rights</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 26 and 27 (section on Civil Rights)</p> <p><b>In Class Activity 5 (Civil Rights)</b></p> <p><b>Quiz 6</b></p>	<p>Activity in class Apr 16</p> <p>Due Sunday Apr 19</p>
<p><b>Module 14 (Week of Apr 20) 1960s</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Society</li> <li>• Vietnam</li> <li>• Rights Revolutions</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 27</p> <p><b>Quiz 7</b></p>	<p>Due Sunday Apr 26</p>
<p><b>Module 15 (Week of Apr 27) Unraveling &amp; Triumph of the Right</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deindustrialization</li> <li>• Rise and Fall of Nixon</li> <li>• Reagan Revolution</li> </ul>	<p>Textbook: Chapter 28 and Chapter 29</p> <p><b>Quiz 8</b></p>	<p>Due Sunday May 3</p>
<p><b>Module 16 (Week of May 4) Review and final activity</b></p>	<p><b>In Class Activity 6</b></p>	<p>Submit May 5 This one is on a Tuesday!</p>
<p><b>Module 17 (Week of May 11)</b></p>	<p>Final Exam</p>	<p>Final Exam Tuesday May 12 1:00pm – 3:45pm</p>

