

## **United States History after 1865**

Examining History, Thinking Critically, and Writing Academically

Fall 2017, HIST 1302, CRN 11260

TR 10:30-11:50, UGLC 116.

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION and OBJECTIVES:**

In this course, students will examine United States history through the periods of Reconstruction, Westward expansion, the Gilded Age, the Progressive Era, World War 1, the Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement into the turn of the twenty-first century. Thinking critically, students will analyze various primary and secondary sources, interpret them, and form their own conclusions based on their investigations. In this way, students will learn that writing history involves a process of analysis, synthesis, and translation in which historians constantly reinterpret the past. This course will also introduce students to academic writing through various exercises in which they will learn about essay structure and formatting. Students will also consider the experiences of many diverse historical actors. Examining history and writing academically, students will offer their own interpretations of the past in course papers and exams as they learn to think like historians.

### **REQUIRED READINGS**

Oakes, James. et al. *Of the People: A History of the United States Since 1865*. Volume 2. Third Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

In addition, students will be responsible for reading various chapters and articles that will be available on Blackboard.

## COURSE POLICIES

1. **Attendance is mandatory** for this class. Students are expected to attend class, take notes, and complete all reading and writing assignments. Please arrive to class on time and show respect to your fellow classmates. Students are expected to take notes in this class. Note taking and attendance will help you succeed in this class. Regular attendance is also necessary because a significant part of this class involves group work and in class assignments. **There is no makeup for missed in class assignments** unless you have

valid documentation that you missed class because of a school sponsored activity. Makeup exams will only be available to those who have valid documentation for missing a regular exam. **Students will be dropped for excessive absences.**

### Thinking Historically

**Interpretation:** History is not merely a set of facts to be memorized; instead, historians interpret the past and their interpretations continually change as a result of new evidence and changing perspectives.

**Causation:** Historians debate the causes of historical events and, since history is an interpretative exercise, historians often disagree over why events happened.

**Change:** Historians investigate what has changed over time and what has remained the same.

**Connections:** To avoid past mistakes and to make sense of the present, historians identify connections between the past and present.

**Context:** Historians insist that the past must be understood on its own terms; thus, any historical event, idea, or person must first be understood in the context of their historical era.

**Contingency:** Historians are aware that events happen for a range of reasons, but change one factor and that event may not have occurred as it did.

**Attendance will be taken at each class meeting using UTEP student ID cards. Card readers are located at the entrance of the classroom.** When you enter class, simply hold your student ID card against the reader. It may not be necessary to remove the card from your wallet or purse. If the light on the device turns green or blue, your card has been read properly and your attendance has been recorded. If the light remains red, the device was unable to read your card; please present it again gently until the green or blue light appears. If you do not see the green or blue light, you may need to remove your card from your wallet or purse in order to ensure that it is detected. Your attendance will be recorded up to 15 minutes before and 15 after your class is scheduled to start.

2. **Laptop computers** may be used for note taking only. Laptop computers may not be used for checking e mail, surfing the internet, or visiting web sites (Absolutely No Facebook). The use of cell phones or other electronic devices for text messaging is strictly prohibited. **During examinations and/or quizzes absolutely no electronic devices may be used.** Violators will be immediately reported to the Dean's Office.

3. **Classroom conduct:** Students must conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a university classroom. Any behavior that is distracting to other students or to the instructor is strictly out of order. This includes arriving late to class and leaving early except in the case of extreme emergencies. Disruptive students will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) and the Deans Office. Regents Rules and Regulations for classroom conduct are available for inspection

electronically at <http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules.htm>.

4. **Students must have** a UTEP e mail account. Students also must have access to **Blackboard**. Computers are provided at the UTEP library and at computer labs in the UGLC and Liberal Arts buildings.
5. **Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:** According to sections 1.3.1 of the UT Regents' Rules and Regulations, "It is the official policy of the University that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. It is contrary to University policy for a faculty member to assign a disciplinary grade such as an "F" or a zero to an assignment, test, examination, or other course work as a sanction for admitted or suspected scholastic dishonesty..." In short, anyone caught cheating will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. For more on cheating see UT Regents' Rules and Regulations section 1.3.1.1. **Don't plagiarize, be original and always cite your sources** (paraphrases and direct quotes).
6. **Students with Disabilities:** If you require accommodations or suspect that you have a disability please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) or visit Room 106 of the Union East Building. For more info visit <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>.
7. **Scantron Cards and Bluebooks required.** There are two exams for this class: a mid-term and a final. Students must bring one bluebook for each exam. In addition, students must bring scantrons for various workshops and quizzes. Be smart and be prepared. Get your scantrons and bluebooks early and have them ready.
8. **Students are required to read before class.** Students are required to read chapters before class in order to effectively participate in class discussions. Success in workshops and quizzes depends upon student knowledge of the readings.

## COURSEWORK AND GRADING

**Essays:** Each student will submit two 750-1000 word essays. These papers must be computer-generated, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and 12 pt. font (Times New Roman). Paper 1 is worth 150 points, whereas Paper 2 is worth 200 points. Students must submit these papers by the end of the class period on the assigned due date. Late papers will only be accepted for up to 24 hours after class, though they will be penalized (-25 points for Paper 1 and -35 points for Paper 2). All late papers submitted by email must also be submitted as hard copies within a week of the original submission. Moreover, they must include a print out of the email submission, as that will serve as the paper's time/date stamp. Together these papers represent 35% of the student's total grade. See Blackboard for further Instructions.

*(PAPER ONE: A=135-150 B=120-134 C=105-119 D=90-104 F= 0-89)*

*(PAPER TWO: A=180-200 B=160-179 C=140-159 D=120-139 F= 0-119)*

**Exams:** There will be a midterm and a final exam, both of which will require Blue Books. Both the midterm and the final will be based on a central question. Student answers should be based on specific examples provided in lectures and course readings, and their essays should demonstrate mastery of the writing skills developed in the course workshops. The midterm exam represents 15% (or 150 points) of the student's total grade, while the final exam represents 20% (or 200 points). All examinations must be completed at the time scheduled unless the student can present a verifiable and acceptable excuse. Make-up exams must be scheduled within one week of the original exam.

(MIDTERM: A =135-150 B=120-134 C=105-119 D=90-104 F= 0-89)  
(FINAL EXAM: A=180-200 B=160-179 C=140-159 D=120-139 F= 0-119)

**Quizzes and In Class Assignments:** Students will work in small groups in class and complete short quizzes and workshop assignments based on class readings. This is why it is very important that students read all class readings before class. Each workshop and quiz is worth 15 points, and these will count for 30% of your final grade. There are a total of 23 workshops and quizzes; the extra three may be completed for extra credit. **Missed workshops and quizzes cannot be made up.** Please bring scantron cards for all quizzes. Some workshops will also require scantron cards. Be prepared.

### Grades:

-Essay 1 (15%)	150 points
-Essay 2 (20%)	200 points
-Midterm Exam (15%)	150 points
-Final Exam (20%)	200 points
<u>-Workshops and quizzes (30%)</u>	<u>300 points</u>
Total	1000 points

A = 900-1000, B= 800-899, C = 700-799, D = 600-699, F = below 599.

### Class Calendar—Reading and Assignment Schedule

<b>Week 1</b>	Aug 29	Course Introduction. Form Groups. Reconstruction Era. Chapter 15 in <i>Of the People</i> .
	Aug 31	Reconstruction Era. <b>Workshop 1 Due:</b> See Blackboard.
<b>Week 2</b>	Sept 5	Westward Expansion & Gilded Age. Chapter 16. <b>Workshop 2:</b> See Blackboard
	Sept 7	Chapter 16. <b>Quiz 1.</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	Sept 12	“Cultural Struggles of Industrial America,” Chapter 17 <b>Workshop 3.</b> See Blackboard.
	Sept 14	Chapter 17 <b>Quiz 2.</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	Sept 19	Populism and Imperialism. Chapters 18-19 <b>Quiz 3=</b> thesis workshop
	Sept 21	<b>Workshop 4.</b> Blackboard

<b>Week 5</b>	Sept 26	Progressive Era Chapter 20 <b>Quiz 4 = topic sentence workshop</b>
	Sept 28	Chapter 20. <b>Workshop 5.</b> Blackboard
<b>Week 6</b>	Oct 3	<b>World War 1</b> “A Global Power,” Chapter 21 <b>Workshop 6.</b>
	<b>Oct 5</b>	<b>Quiz 5 = peer review – bring Essay 1 rough draft to class.</b> You must have a full printed rough draft to participate in this activity. Must be printed.
<b>Week 7</b>	Oct 10	“The Modern Nation,” Chapter 22. <b>Quiz 6</b>
	<b>Oct 12</b>	<b>Essay 1 Final Draft Due.</b> Please read instructions carefully.
<b>Week 8</b>	Oct 17	The Great Depression and the New Deal. Chapter 23. <b>Workshop 7.</b>
	<b>Oct 19</b>	<b>Midterm Exam Bluebook required</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	Oct 24	<b>World War II.</b> Chapter 24 <b>Workshop 8.</b>
	Oct 26	Chapter 24 <b>Quiz 7.</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	Oct 31	<b>Cold War.</b> Chapters 25-26 <b>Quiz 8</b>
	Nov 2	Chapters 25-26 <b>Workshop 9</b> Drop/Withdrawal Deadline is Nov 3
<b>Week 11</b>	Nov 7	<b>Civil Rights Era.</b> Chapter 27 <b>Quiz 9</b>
	Nov 9	Chapter 27 <b>Workshop 10</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	Nov 14	<b>Vietnam and the 1970s.</b> Chapter 28 <b>Workshop 11</b>
	Nov 16	Chapter 28 <b>Essay II Rough Draft Due for Quiz 10 = peer review.</b> Must bring printed copy of rough draft for Essay II to participate in <b>peer review.</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	Nov 21	<b>Essay II Final Draft Due</b>
	Nov 23	Thanksgiving Holiday—University Closed
<b>Week 14</b>	Nov 28	Chapter 28-29 “ <b>The Triumph of Conservatism.</b> ” 1970s-80s <b>Workshop 12</b>
	Nov 30	“The Globalized Nation,” Chapter 30 1980s, 1990s.
<b>Week 15</b>	Dec 5	Chapter 30, 1990s <b>Workshop 13</b>
	Dec 7	<b>The New Millennium</b> Epilogue, Chapter 31 <b>Workshop 14</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	Dec 14	<b>Final Exam Thursday, Dec 14: 10:00am – 12:45pm.</b>

**Please read everything in this syllabus very carefully. It is your roadmap to success. All items on this syllabus schedule are subject to revision.**