HIST 1302.01E
U.S. History From 1865
TIME / DATE: MWF 8:00-8:50am
LOCATION: SS 141
Call #: 20947
Spring 2013

Instructor: Robert A. Brown
Office Location: SS 144
Office Hours: MWF 10:00am-12:00pm and by appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5217
University Email Address: rbrown14@leo.tamu-commerce.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Required Books:

Volume 2: From 1865
Author: Eric Foner
ISBN: 9780393911916

The Great Gatsby
Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald
ISBN: 9780684801520

The Things They Carried
Author: Tim O’Brien
ISBN: 9780767902892

One copy of the text book will be on reserve at the University Library (Gee Library), and there are multiple copies of the novels available at the library as well for normal checkout. Students will not need to bring all of their books to class every day.

Any additional materials, such as brief articles, videos, or primary documents, will be supplied by the instructor in class or through e-college.
Course Description:

Catalog Description: This course is a survey of US history from 1865 to Present. History 1302 is a broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America since 1865.
Prerequisite and/or Co-requisite Classes: ENG 1301 or 1302.
Texas Common Course Number (HIST 1302)

Instructor’s Description: This class will focus on the development of the United States through the lens of conflict. Conflict is a theme that extends past war and into a discussion of ideologies and contradictions that make the United States unique. The student will be asked to engage in these discussions both in class and in papers. This class will focus heavily upon critical thinking, reading, and writing as these skills are fundamental to academic success regardless of major. Most students will find my approach to teaching history to be far more conceptually driven than pervious history courses they have taken. Memorization of dates and names will rarely, if ever, be essential to success in this course, but understanding ideas and conflicts that shaped the personality of American society will be required. This course will also introduce History as a debate and allow for the student to take positions on historical debates. Students will find that there is not one right answer to most questions asked of them.

Student Learning Outcome:

Students will evaluate the ways in which war impacted American society during the late nineteenth and twentieth century.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams: There will be four exams throughout the course of the semester. These exams will not be comprehensive. Exams will be writing intensive so that the student can show what he or she has learned on selected topics. Students will be required to bring a Bluebook to class for the examination. The instructor will not provide a Bluebook for unprepared students. Students will also be required to put away all electronic devices, take off all brimmed hats, and resist the temptation to talk on test days. If an electronic device is out on test day, the test will be picked up- resulting in a grade of ‘0’- and the student will be asked to leave. The top three test grades will count, at one-hundred points apiece.

Book Reports: Students will be required to write two book reports during the semester. Each report will be worth 100 points. One will be over The Great Gatsby and the other will be over The Things They Carried. The details of each assignment will be posted in eCollege under the Doc Sharing tab for easy access. Each report will be turned in through the eCollege Dropbox which will automatically run it through the plagiarism checker Turnitin.com. Student submissions will not be accepted by email or hard copy.

Attendance and Participation/Quizzes: Students are required to show up for class. Students cannot make up any work or tests that they miss due to an unexcused absence. Excused absences are determined by the instructor on a case by case basis. If a situation arises
before that class day the student should send an email to the instructor immediately or contact the office. If a student is going to miss class due to a university event that requires their attendance, the student is expected to inform the instructor of this event a week in advance so that any special arrangements can be made. If a student misses a class period (including a test day) and does not contact the instructor in the 48 hours following they will not be allowed to make up any assignment or test from the class day they missed.

Grading: Attendance and participation will be graded after the 2nd and 4th exams. Half of the grade (50%) will be for attendance, with one absence not counted against the student for each grading period. The participation part of the grade will take into account quizzes, small assignments, and in-class participation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>300 (3 at 100 apiece)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Reports</td>
<td>200 (2 at 100 apiece)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>200 (2 at 100 apiece)</td>
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Scale:

- 630-700= A
- 560-629= B
- 490-559= C
- 420-489= D
- 0-419 = F

Written work: Grading criteria for written work holds true for exams, written quizzes or occasional written “homework” assignments. It is based on the following:

A = Mastery of content and reading material; factual accuracy; thoughtful interpretation or argument that synthesizes original thoughts and ideas with content; technically clean

B = Good-to-excellent command of the majority of content and reading material; competent factual accuracy; a generally solid historical argument backed with adequate evidence

C = Fair command of content material; reasonable factual accuracy; ability to articulate a specific thesis or argument even if it is not original or is poorly supported by the evidence

D = Poor command of content; factual errors; no real argument driving the essay

**Students must complete all assignments and course requirements to pass this course. If a student fails to complete an assignment, this will result in failure**
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Word Processor:
This course requires Reading Responses written in any iteration of Microsoft Word. Therefore, you will need a computer that has access to such a word processor. If you do not have your own computer, feel free to take advantage of the computer labs on campus. There are labs located in the Hall of Languages and Gee Library that are free and will only require your student ID and myleo password for access.

eCollege:
This course is web-enhanced through eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To access eCollege you will need an internet connection, preferably high speed, and your CWID and password. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, please contact Technology Services at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamucommerce.edu/login.aspx. eCollege will be used to send you announcements and reminders, to post grades, and to provide access to course materials such as handouts and assignments. In addition, eCollege will be the primary means for me to communicate with you outside the classroom. **Be sure that you can access the email account the university has on record for you.**

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

The most effective/fastest way to get a hold of me is by email. I will respond to emails promptly as I check my email a few times a day. Make sure that you use your TAMU Commerce email address when sending me an email; I will not respond to emails from non-school addresses.

If you would like to meet me at my office at some time not specified as office hours by the syllabus, simply send me an email using your school email address (or eCollege) and I would be more than happy to arrange an alternative time to meet with you.

Whenever you need to turn something in, I require an electronic copy submitted in the eCollege Dropbox, but you can also turn paper copies in at the History Department office in the Ferguson Social Science building (SS 111) in extreme circumstances.

Also, I will not release the information about any student’s performance to any outside person, such as parents, without the express written consent of that student. This is to protect the legal privacy rights of the students.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Class Attendance and Behavior
1. Classroom: A record of each student’s attendance will be kept; see college catalogue or student handbook for details about attendance.
2. Excessive absences (4) should be avoided at all cost; it will/can cost a letter grade.
3. Lateness for class disrupts other students and the instructor. While anyone can be late on rare occasions, habitual lateness is unacceptable. Also, once in class, be prepared to
stay for the entire class period. If not, a letter grade will be lost.
4. All students are expected to observe basic tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive leaning environment (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

**Late Work**
Any work submitted late will not be accepted, earning zero course points. Work may be accepted late in extreme circumstances, at my discretion. If you are ever unsure as to whether or not I will accept an assignment, turn it in as soon as possible and get in contact with me.

**Academic Honesty**
In all courses, I expect that all work that you do and turn in is your own. It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and myself that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as deliberately taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is the selling of academic products with the intention that they be submitted to satisfy an academic requirement. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards at all times. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will automatically fail the assignment in question, will likely fail the entire course, and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University (See Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]). Further information on the History Department plagiarism policy can be found on the History Department web page. If you are ever unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask me.

**Instructor Rights**
As instructor, I reserve the right to amend and/or modify this syllabus as necessary.

**Writing Center**
Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance with drafting their papers. The Writing Center is a resource for you. They will not write your paper; they will help you improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, please plan ahead. They can only help you if you see them in advance and have time to incorporate their suggestions into the final paper. More information can be found at [http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/](http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/).

**ADA Statement**

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 have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**
**Gee Library 132**
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**
**Fax (903) 468-8148**
Note: All student disability accommodations need to be approved through the Office of Student Disability Resources and Services. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their office and make use of their resources.

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

**Week 1- Introduction and Civil War, No Reading**

January 14th- Course introduction and syllabus overview, “Why we hate history class”  
January 16th- “The powder keg that became the American Civil War”  
January 18th - “The end of American slavery and the scars of war”

**Week 2- Reconstruction, Chapter 15**

January 21st- “Presidential Reconstruction”  
January 23rd- “Congressional and Military Reconstruction”  
January 25th- “The Collapse of Reconstruction”

**Week 3- Gilded Age and Jim Crow, Chapters 16 & 17**

January 28th-  
January 30th-  
February 1st-  

**Week 4- Progressive Era, Chapter 18**

February 4th-  
February 6th-  
February 8th- **Exam 1**

**Week 5- World War I, Chapter 19**

February 11th-  
February 13th-  
February 15th-
Week 6- Roaring 20s and the Great Depression, Chapter 20

February 18th-
February 20th-
February 22nd - *The Great Gatsby Book Report Due*

Week 7- The New Deal, Chapter 21

February 25th-
February 27th-
March 1st-

Week 8- World War 2, Chapter 22

March 4th-
March 6th-
March 8th - **Exam 2**

Spring Break- No Class (11th thru 15th)

Week 9- World War 2, Chapter 22

March 18th-
March 20th-
March 22nd-

Week 10- The Cold War, The 1950s, Chapters 23 & 24

March 25th-
March 27th-
March 29th-

Week 11- The Civil Rights Movement, Chapters 24 & 25 (Focus on Voices of Freedom)

April 1st-
April 3rd-
April 5th-

Week 12- The Civil Rights Movement, Chapter 24 & 25

April 8th-
April 10th-
April 12th - **Exam 3**

Week 13- Vietnam War and the New Left, Chapter 25

April 15th-
April 17th-
April 19th - *The Things They Carried Book Report Due*
Week 14- The Rise of Conservatism, Chapter 26

April 22\textsuperscript{nd}-
April 24\textsuperscript{th}-
April 26\textsuperscript{th}-

Week 15- Globalization, September 11\textsuperscript{th}, and the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century, Chapters 27 & 28

April 29\textsuperscript{th}-
May 1\textsuperscript{st}-
May 3\textsuperscript{rd}-

Finals Week-

Exam 4