



**HISTORY 1302.01E and HISTORY 1302.04E**  
**The United States Since 1865**  
**Course Syllabus: Fall 2013**



**Instructor:** Manuel Antonio Grajales  
**Office Location:** Ferguson Social Science Building, Room 144  
**Office Hours:** Monday & Wednesday, 12:30pm to 3pm. Friday 12pm-2pm or by appointment  
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**Course Information**

**Course Materials:**

The following required books are available in the book store. They can also be found through online distributors:

- Foner, *Give Me Liberty*, Vol. II, 3<sup>rd</sup> Seagull Edition (W. W. Norton, 2011) ISBN 978-0393911916, \$46.25. You may purchase an ebook if you like. This is the link to the appropriate version: <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail.aspx?ID=22147>

Additional materials will either be handed out in class or made available to you through E-College or email.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the political, social, economic, and cultural events occurring in the United States since 1865. Students are expected to expand their critical thinking and analytical skills while improving their reading comprehension and writing capabilities.

Several basic questions will arise throughout the course. What major historical events have impacted America's development as a nation during the last 150 years? How have issues of

race, imperialism, and national identity influenced the patterns of America's history and growth? What has been the minority experience in American history? How does our understanding of past events in US history impact our interpretations of current world affairs, and also, what national events or figures have contributed most significantly to the development of the United States' national self-image? This course will explore the chronology of political, social, and economic events in the United States of America since 1865 in an attempt to isolate and analyze the factors that contributed most prominently to America's development as a nation.

Prerequisite and/or Corequisite: ENG 1301 or 1302

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will be able to form substantive and evidence driven arguments to propose solutions to problems or explain phenomena.
2. Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose, and message.
3. Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.
4. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.

### **Student Responsibility Sheet**

The student responsibility sheet is designed to measure the Student Learning Outcome that assesses students' role in their education. It will be distributed to students electronically, via email or eCollege, in the first week of the semester. Completed responsibility sheets are **due on or before 5.00pm on Friday September 13** (note: not our usually-scheduled class meeting time). The completed sheets may either be printed and submitted in person to the instructor, or may be emailed to the instructor. ***Failure to submit these sheets will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of any other work that has been completed for the course.*** Consequently, responsibility sheets that are submitted late will not be accepted. For further explanation of this requirement, please do not hesitate to ask the instructor.

## **Course Requirements**

### **Instructional/Methods/Activities Assessments**

#### **Attendance Policy and Participation**

Being present and participating in class is one of the surest ways for success. Each day I will take attendance and keep track of students' participation in class throughout the semester. Students' overall attendance and participation will count for 10% of their final grade. Excused absences will only be allowed if the student can provide a written excuse considered acceptable by the University and the instructor. Specifically this includes participation in University-sponsored events, illness with a doctor's note, death in the student's family, or a court appearance. **Each missed day after 4 unexcused absences will result in a letter grade reduction from the semester/participation grade. More than 8 unexcused absences will result in an "F" for participation and may result in a failing grade for the course at the instructor's discretion.** Students are expected to engage in class room discussions. Please bring any questions you have on the material presented during lecture to class.

### Quizzes

There will be seven quizzes throughout the semester, given in class during the last 10 minutes. Quizzes will generally be multiple choice or short answer. Quizzes will cover lectures, in-class discussion, videos/movies shown in class, etc. Lowest quiz score will be dropped.

### Exams

Students will have four exams throughout the semester, as indicated in the syllabus. Each exam will cover assigned readings, lectures, class discussions, films, etc. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions, a short answer identification section, and an essay question. The written component affords students opportunities to discuss and analyze the significance of the course materials and historical content. Students are required to bring an Examination Blue Book (available in the Campus Bookstore) to class on the day of the exam. Exams are closed book. The only materials that need to be on your table during the exam are your Blue Book and your writing utensil. **All electronic devices must be turned off/ placed on silent and put away during exams. Failure to do so may result in an automatic "F" on the exam.**

### Written Assignments: Movies and Historical Themes

Students will write one essay of 4-5 pages. The films chosen will focus on the time periods we will discuss throughout the semester. The student will choose from a list of movies that will be provided by the instructor. **Students are allowed to choose a movie not on the list with instructor approval.**

After the film has been chosen, a project proposal with a list of at least five secondary sources (books, journal articles, reputable Movie reviews, etc.) will be turned in. Further details of the assignment will be made available by the instructor during the semester and the due date is listed in the Course Schedule below. Students will have the opportunity to rewrite their paper to improve their grade if they so chose.

Your grades for written work will be determined based on the following rubric:

A = Mastery of reading and class material; factual accuracy; thoughtful, historical argumentation demonstrating ability to synthesize and/or some originality of thought; technically clean

B = Good to excellent command of most reading and class material; accuracy; good level of historical argumentation; reasonable thesis statement

C = Good command of class material; accuracy; ability to articulate a historical point of view, even if it is not compelling or is poorly reasoned

D = Poor command of required assignments; errors; ahistorical or narrow reasoning

### **Grading**

Grades for the semester will be determined according to the following breakdown:

4 Exams (15% each)	60%
Quizzes (6 quizzes, 5 count for grades)	10%
Paper Proposal/Bibliography	5%
Paper Assignment	15%
Attendance/Participation	10%

The grading scale used for this course is as follows:

90-100 =	A
80-89 =	B
70-79 =	C
60-69 =	D
59 or less =	F

### **Course expectations:**

The following are the basic expectations for success in this course.

- **Complete all reading and writing assignments before coming to class.** You must keep up with the assignments to perform well in this course. All of the readings can and should be applied to exam responses and writing assignments.
- Written assignments are expected on the assigned due date.
- **All assignments can be discussed with the instructor by email or in person during office hours.**
- Exams must be completed on the scheduled due date, unless the student provides a valid, documented excuse. Absence on exam days will only be excused with appropriate documentation (e.g., medical documentation). **If a student must miss an exam, the instructor must be notified of the absence prior to the exam and a make-up exam must be rescheduled within one week's time. Absences without a valid excuse or exams that are not made-up per these guidelines will result in a "0" grade for the exam.**

**To pass this class, all assignments must be completed! No Exceptions!**

### **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

#### **Interaction with Instructor:**

Students are encouraged to contact me for any issues you might have. Beyond the classroom, the best way to get in touch with me is through email. I am also available during my office hours. Please come to talk to me about any concerns you might have and about any problems or issues that arise during the semester. **The more you let me know what is going on with you, the better I can help you out when necessary.**

### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS, AND NAVIGATION**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course:

#### *Internet/Word Processing/eCollege:*

Students will need internet for email and e-college access concerning course-related communications, etc. **You should get into the habit of checking the eCollege site for this course on a daily basis.** You will need access to a word processor (Microsoft Office or equivalent) and printer to prepare for written exams and research projects. You should be able to insert footnotes in your papers.

This course is web-enhanced through eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. eCollege will be used to send you announcements and reminders, to post grades, and to provide access to course materials (except required readings) such as handouts and assignments. 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@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

*Turnitin:*

Students must submit all written work to Turnitin. Work is submitted through the dropbox eCollege. All student work must be turned in to the dropbox on eCollege and will automatically be submitted to Turnitin. Please let me know if you have any problems.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### ***Classroom Behavior***

All students are expected to observe basic tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). During class time, I expect your undivided attention. **This means turning off/silencing cell phones, pagers, iPods, and other devices** for the duration of the class period (exceptions will be allowed for emergencies with advance permission of the instructor). Please come to class on time and plan to stay for the entire period. Coming late and/or disrupting the learning environment shows disrespect for me, your colleagues, and the educational endeavor in which you are engaged. **If you must leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class. I can be very understanding of problems that might arise, but only if I know what is going on with you.**

### ***Late Papers***

All written assignments are due at the start of class on the date listed in the Course Schedule below. Late assignments may be accepted only with my **advance approval** and will be assessed a penalty of one letter grade for every three days late. If you have a problem with a due date because of a specific emergency, please notify me in advance or plan to turn the assignment in early. **Notifying me in advance DOES NOT mean an email the night before the assignment is due (unless in case of emergency). I can be very understanding and flexible with you, but only if you come to talk to me in advance.**

### ***Academic Honesty***

In all courses, we 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 even unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please ask.

### *Writing Center*

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the Writing Center for assistance 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 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/>.

### *Students with Disabilities*

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**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

### **Course Outline/Calendar**

This schedule will guide you throughout the semester and indicates when quizzes and exams will be done or assignments due. **I will do my best to adhere to the schedule but I reserve the right to make adjustments to the syllabus during the course of the semester as circumstances arise.**

#### Week 1

August 26: Introductions

August 28: Chapter 15, Reconstruction, 546-561

August 30: Chapter 15, Reconstruction, 561-583

#### Week 2

September 2: Labor Day-No Class

September 4: Ch.16, Second Industrial Revolution, 585-596

September 6: Film, Geronimo

Week 3

September 9: Ch.16, Transformation of the West/Plains Wars, 596-609

September 11: Ch.16, Gilded Age Politics, 609-627, **Quiz 1**

September 13: Ch.17, Populist Challenge, 629-640

Week 4

September 16: Ch.17, US Imperialism/Origins of a Power, 655-671

September 18: **Review Day**

September 20: **Exam 1**

Week 5

September 23: Ch.18, Progressive Era, 672-696

September 25: Ch.18, Progressive Era, 697-712

September 27: Ch.19, US Intervention, 714-722, **Quiz 2**

Week 6

September 30: Ch.19, US and World War I, 722-755

October 2: Ch.19, US and World War I cont.

October 4: Ch. 19, Votes for Women

Week 7

October 7: Ch. 20, US Prosperity, 757-777, **Paper Proposal Due**

October 9: Ch.20, Start of the Great Depression, 777-793

October 11: Film, Civilian Conservation Corps

Week 8

October 14: Ch.21, Beginnings of New Deal, 794-813, **Quiz 3**

October 16: Ch. 21, New Deal cont., 813-833

October 18: **Review Day**

Week 9

October 21: **Exam 2**

October 23: Ch. 22 World War II, 835-877 Origins and Homefront

October 25: Ch. 22 World War II European and Pacific Theater

Week 10

October 28: Ch. 23, Origins of the Cold War and Korean War, 879-912, **Quiz 4**

October 30: Ch. 23, U.S.-Latin America during the Cold War

November 1: Ch. 23, Sports as an Avenue of Integration

Week 11

November 4: Ch. 24, An Affluent Society, 914-955

November 6: Ch. 24, Growth and Prosperity/Rebel Without a Cause

November 8: Ch. 24, Civil Rights Movements 1950s , **Movie Paper due**

Week 12

November 11: **Review Day**

November 13: **Exam 3**

November 15: Film, Freedom Riders

Week 13

November 18: Ch. 25, Civil Rights Movement 1960s and Liberation Movements

November 20: Ch. 25, Vietnam: Origins of US Involvement until 1968

November 22: Ch. 25, 1968, A year of Domestic and Global Upheaval, **Quiz 5**

Week 14

November 25: Ch. 26, Nixon and the end of Vietnam, 1003-1042

November 27: Film, TBA

November 29: Thanksgiving Day-No Class

Week 15

December 2: Ch. 26, End of a Golden Age, **Movie Paper rewrites due**

December 4: Ch. 26, Reagan Era and End of Cold War

December 6: **Review for Final Exam**

Week 16

December 9 through 13: Finals Week

**8am class, Final is Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 8am to 10am**

**11am class, Final is Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:30a-12:30pm**