HISTORY 1302.01W
U.S. HISTORY FROM 1865
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2013

Instructor: Gina G. Bennett
Class Room: web-based class
Class Time: n/a
Office: SS130
Office Hours: Monday 9:30-10:00 am, 11:00-1:00, Wednesday 9:30-10:00, 11:00-1:00
University Email Address: gbennett@leomail.tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

TEXTBOOKS REQUIRED

James Roark, et al., *The American Promise, Vol. 2: Since 1865,* Fifth Edition. Bedford St. Martin's Press. ISBN: 1457613476. [Referred to as TAP for this class.]

Michael P. Johnson, *Reading the American Past, Vol. 2: Since 1865.* Fifth Edition. Bedford St. Martin's Press. ISBN: 0312563779. [Referred to as RAP for this class.]

A note about the Course Texts:

Students are expected to acquire the course texts prior to the start of class. Failure to do so will hinder a student's ability to keep up with the course, and the Instructor is in no way responsible for such an eventuality. Allowances will not be made for students who lack possession of any one or both of the textbooks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of US history from 1865. History 1302 is a broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America from 1865.

Pre-requisite and/or Co-requisite Classes: ENG 1301 or 1302.

This course introduces the field of US history by developing the students' skills at critical analysis of both reading and writing assignments and class participation. Students will explore the political, economic, social, and cultural history of the United States from Reconstruction through current history. Students will read a textbook, one primary source reader, and additional readings as needed. Through these readings, assignments, and discussions students will examine major themes in American history.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME

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**. 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 / ASSESSMENTS

This is an online course using eCollege. The course space in eCollege will include syllabus, gradebook, weekly reading assignments, all writing assignments, and all quizzes. Students will be submitting all of their completed assignments into the course space provided. Note: All student work will be submitted into eCollege. Students must have an email address listed on line with the university for Instructor communication, access to a computer with word processing capability, and reliable internet connectivity. All exchanges between the class and the instructor occur within the university approved internet "classroom" environment. If you are not comfortable conducting collegiate academic discussions in a private online class environment, you need to evaluate your decision to enroll in an online format class.

The reading assignments and class sessions are listed for each week. I expect you to complete your readings PRIOR TO any assignments for the week. This class requires a substantial amount of time to complete readings and assignments. Note taking and engagement are essential to doing well in this class. Chapters from *The American Promise* (TAP) give students a broad overview of major issues while the readings from *Reading the American Past* (RAP) delves more deeply into a few of those topics. Quizzes are an assessment of the student's ability to synthesize and understand the course material. As such, quizzes may include material from TAP and RAP or other material provided. Writing assignments such as the discussion posts and film analysis

allow students to develop better communication skills and demonstrate an understanding of course material.

ASSIGNMENT EXPLANATION

EXAMS

No exams are given for this course. HOWEVER, EXTENSIVE READING IS NECESSARY EACH WEEK. You will have a quiz and discussions every week over the material from both *The American Promise* (TAP) and *Reading the American Past* (RAP). (See below)

READING QUIZZES

Reading Quizzes are given every week and must be taken on eCollege. Each quiz will be open all week but students only have a set time limit to complete the quiz and the test can be taken only once. The quiz will be due at 11:59 pm on the Sunday ending the week on the syllabus. Students are free to use textbooks to complete the quiz but no outside sources are allowed. Quizzes will consist of short answer and/or multiple-choice questions and are worth 25 points each week. These quizzes cannot be made up and are worth over 30% of your semester grade.

DISCUSSION POSTS

The nature of an online class makes class participation challenging. To foster a healthy exchange of ideas you will participate in discussion posts through eCollege under Discussion. You must post one response to the question posed by the instructor. Your response will consist of a minimum of two (2) well-constructed paragraphs using at least of three (3) citations from resources found in your readings for the week to support your interpretations of the material. In addition to your post, you are expected to respond to a minimum of two (2) other postings from others in the class. While these posts are more informal than the Film Analysis Paper, spelling and grammar must be accurate.

Regarding responses to other post in the class: Your response must elaborate on a point or pose a related idea/question. Simply writing something like, "Good work, Joe! I completely agree," is insufficient and does not add to academic conversation. As such, no credit will be given for responses of this nature. Discussion points are 25 points for each week, cannot be made up, and are worth over 30% of your semester grade.

FILM ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT

We will be exploring various aspects of society through the use of film. A list of films will be provided to you select from. Only one person may select any film title. Concepts such as class, education, labor, economics, sexuality, domesticity, war and culture will be explored through the lens of the films you select resulting in the construction of a source bibliography and a collegiate level, fully cited academic five (5) page paper that considers the work of fiction against the backdrop of the actual events discussed online in the virtual setting and in your text books. Specific film list provided by instructor the first few weeks of class.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

This is a university level online course, as such your participation in virtual discussions are important to your understanding and exploration of issues covered in the class. There are opportunities to voice your informed opinions and debate certain issues. I do not grade on your opinion but rather on the quality of your analysis from the materials provided, your ability to support your arguments with citations, and your use of thoughtful, well-constructed collegiate level conclusions that are both grammatically and structurally sound.

GRADING

14 Reading Quizzes at 25 points each	350 points total
14 Discussion Posts at 25 points each	350 points total
1 Film Selection Assignment	25 points total
1 Film Source Assignment	75 points total
1 Film Analysis Paper	100 points total
Participation points	100 points total
Total points for the class	1000 points total

Semester Grades: A: 1000-900; B: 899-800; C: 799-700; D: 699-600; F: 599 and below.

****NOTE: Failure to complete any part of the film analysis portion of this class will result in an automatic failing (F) grade for the course. You must complete all these assignments.**

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

If you need to contact me outside of office hours, email is best. Unless otherwise announced, I will respond within 24 hours. Office hours are found at the beginning of this syllabus and are posted outside my office. Feel free to visit me during office hours any time.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES

The following are unacceptable or non-scholarly sources. Do not use or cite them:

Wikipedia
About.com
Ask.com
Encyclopedia Britannica (no general encyclopedias, specialized volumes are acceptable)
Infoplease.com

For other internet sites or possible questionable sources - when in doubt ask me.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Ample time is given for the completion of all assignments and there are no 'surprise' due dates. All due dates are listed in the course schedule below. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

CLASS CONDUCT

I will treat you with respect and I expect the same in return. Please exercise common classroom courtesy. This virtual world class operates under the same rules of decorum and courtesy as a traditional class. A healthy respect for others opinions is just as important to the understanding of the larger implications of culture in any society. Disagreements on the interpretation of history are a natural part of any discussion, and as such; do not be surprised if various perspectives arise which may challenge individually held interpretations. This format is an excellent platform to explore the implications of history on society in a way that is non-threatening and respectful.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and passing it off as your own words, thoughts, or ideas. This includes, but is not limited to, using direct quotes out of a book or from the internet as your own words, properly using quotation marks but noting the wrong person as the author, purchasing a paper from friends or strangers, using material from the internet verbatim as your own words, and cutting and pasting entire papers or internet pages as your final paper. Cheating on exams and discussion posts or allowing others to copy your answers is another form of academic dishonesty.

It is fine to use other people's words and ideas as long as they receive credit in citations. If you are unsure about the precise definition of plagiarism and/or think you may have committed this form of academic dishonesty, see me or visit the TAMU-Commerce Writing Lab before you turn in the assignment. I am always here to help you BEFORE you make this kind of error. After, you are on your own.

I have absolutely no tolerance for plagiarism! If a student commits academic dishonesty on any part of an assignment, the assignment will receive a zero with no possibility for make-up. If academic dishonesty is committed a second time, the student will immediately fail the course and the instructor will pursue the maximum university discipline possible.

This is not negotiable.
For more information from the Department of History, see the Academic Integrity Policy.

WRITING LAB

The TAMU-Commerce Writing Lab is a valuable service free to any student. They can help you get started on a paper, help with drafts, and answer specific questions about citation style, grammar, and spelling. While they will not write the paper for you, they are there to give feedback and guidance.

UNIVERSITY SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

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 Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).*

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

This schedule will guide you through the semester and indicates when you assignments are due. It should be referred to often. I will do my best to adhere to this schedule, but I reserve the right to make adjustments to it during the course of the semester as such circumstances arise.

Week 1 beginning Aug. 26: Introduction to Course and Chapter 16, Reconstruction
Discussion due Sept. 1 at 11:59 pm

Week 2 beginning Sept. 2: Chapter 17, Westward Expansion
Film Selection due Sunday, Sept. 8, 11:59 pm
Discussion & Quiz

Week 3 beginning Sept. 9: Chapter 18, Gilded Age
Discussion & Quiz

Week 4 beginning Sept. 16: Chapter 19 and 20, America Turn of the Century
Discussion & Quiz

Week 5 beginning Sept. 23: Chapter 21, Progressivism
Discussion & Quiz

Week 6 beginning Sept. 30: Chapter 22, World War I
Discussion & Quiz

Week 7 beginning Oct. 7: Chapter 23, 1920s
Discussion & Quiz
Film Sources due Monday, October 7 at 11:59 pm

Week 8 beginning Oct. 14: Chapter 24, New Deal
Discussion & Quiz

Week 9 beginning Oct. 21: Chapter 25, World War II
Discussion & Quiz

Week 10 beginning Oct. 28: Chapter 26, Cold War
Discussion & Quiz

Week 11 beginning Nov. 4: Chapter 27 and 28, Abundance and Rebellion
Discussion & Quiz

Week 12 beginning Nov. 11: Chapter 29, Vietnam
Discussion & Quiz

Week 13 beginning Nov 18: Chapter 30, America and the Right
Discussion & Quiz

---Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 28---

Week 14 beginning Dec. 2: Chapter 31, Globalization
Discussion & Quiz

Week 15: Final Week
Film Analysis Due