HIST 1302.09E
US-U.S. History to 1877
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2016

Instructor: Cynthia Loftin Graduate Assistant/Teacher
Office Location: 146
Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday or by appointment or Email
Office Phone: 903-468-3030
University Email Address: Cynthia.Loftin@tamuc.edu
Classroom: SS 143

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:
Textbooks(s) Recommended:


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

“A broad interdisciplinary course in the historical development of the United States and North America from 1865. Assignments will focus on reading, writing, and analysis. Prerequisites: (ENG 1301 or ENG 1301 Concur) or (ENG 101 or ENG 101 Concur) or (ENG 1302 or ENG 1302 Concur) or (ENG 102 or ENG 102 Concur)

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.

The historical biography will be graded as part of your grade, however, this will also be the instrument used for your Student Learning Outcome. Your historical biography in its finished form will demonstrate your ability to form substantive and evidence-driven arguments with explanations, follow conventions of grammar and syntax, demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues, and the work put in will show your understanding of your role in your 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. Complete and submit Student Responsibility Sheet in class on or before Friday January 22, 2016. University policy states: failure to submit these sheets when due will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of other work completed. 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:**
- Regular attendance is a requirement to pass this course. Each missed class day past 2 absences will result in a 10% deduction from the semester attendance grade. More than 5 absences may result in a failing grade for the course at the instructor’s discretion.

- Students are expected to sign in on an attendance sheet provided. If a student does not sign the sheet (s)he will not be counted as present for the day. Any student leaving class early without having given prior notice to the instructor will be counted as absent.

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**
The reading assignments and class sessions are listed for each week. I expect you to complete your readings prior to class on Monday and be prepared to discuss or address specific issues raised in the readings. You will submit all written assignments electronically through eCollege. With regards to the historical biography it will be uploaded to eCollege and a hardcopy in class on or before the due date so be sure to familiarize yourself with the application before any assignments are due. To access this course, go to MyLeo, login, click eCollege on the right side of the screen, then click My Courses on the left side of the next screen and look for this course.

**Participation/Discussion:**
- In-class discussion is an important part of this course. A grade will be given based on participation in discussion, asking questions, making comments, etc. during class. Constructive comments and questions will earn high grades for this portion of the class. On the other hand, excessive
distractions, interruptions, tardiness, sleeping, etc. will result in a low participation grade.

**NOTE**: Failure to attend class will result in a 0 for that day’s participation grade.

**NOTE**: If no one attempts to answer questions from the instructor, the instructor reserves the right to call a **POP-QUIZ. Pop-quizzes cannot be made up due to an absence.**

**Assignment Explanations:**

**Discussion Posts**

Discussion Post count as part of participation. Discussion Posts will open on Thursday of the designated week and close on Sunday. A prompt will be in eCollege under Discussion Forums. Discussions Posts must contain two paragraphs (at least six sentences total). Failure to post will result in a drop in participation grade. **Responses** to classmate’s Discussion Posts is **HIGHLY Recommended**

**Discussion Posts cannot be made up. No late work accepted.**

**Assignments/Quizzes/Exams:**

-Writing Assignment: We will be exploring various aspects of society in the United States throughout the course. To demonstrate knowledge of these various aspects including but not limited to class, race and gender/sexuality, students will complete a biographical paper on a historical figure of their choice.

*The paper will be 3-5 pages, with one-inch margins, double-spaced, in Times New Roman font, and with at least two scholarly sources. Wikipedia will not be accepted and will result in a 20 point reduction in grade. NO PDF FILE ACCEPTED*

*The Historical Biographical paper will be placed in the appropriate Dropbox basket, which is linked to Turnitin (Turnitin checks for plagiarism). Plagiarism will not be tolerated.*

**NOTE**: At least two sources for this paper are to be either peer-review journal articles, examples are (American Historical Review, History and Memory, Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Handbook of Texas, etc.) or books.

The Research librarians are happy to help students find the proper materials.

Research librarians may be contacted as follows:

Sarah Northam
Head of Research and Instruction Services
Tutors:  
Tutors are available at Gee Library and are available to offer assistance in finding appropriate research materials and with the mechanics of writing a historical biography, and it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED students avail themselves of this resource.

Historical Paper

A list will be distributed at the beginning of the semester. The process of choosing a historical figure will be through eCollege and only two students per figure and will be conducted on a first-come-first-choice basis. However, choosing a figure not featured on the list is fine, but it must be cleared with the instructor first. More details over the biographical paper can be found on eCollege and will be covered more thoroughly throughout the semester. Written assignments are expected on the assigned due date. Five percent of the assignment grade will be deducted for each day it is late.

-The paper will be graded according to the following criteria:

-Compliance with the assignment

-The presence, strength and originality of a thesis

-The proper use of evidence to support that thesis

-Social/Civic relevance of the topic of the paper

-The degree to which the paper is analytical and evaluative rather than narrative

-Evidence that the sources used and listed in the bibliography were read and understood
-Organization of the paper and logical progression of the argument

-Mechanics (spelling, grammar, syntax and punctuation)

-Readings Quizzes: Four quizzes based on the assigned readings in class on eCollege. The quizzes are found under the appropriate week under assignment. The quizzes are fifteen multiple-choice questions and must be finished within the hour allotted. No late quizzes will be accepted. The quizzes are open for three days, the dates are in the class calendar, and therefore, there are no surprises.

Electronic devices:
Electronic devices are allowed in class. However, if these items become a problem i.e. playing games, listening to music, etc. electronic devices will no longer be allowed in class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All exams online, however, if Instructor suspects cheating at any time, Exams, quizzes and Discussion Posts will become in-class assignments!

-Exams: There will be three exams in this course, none of which will be cumulative. Each exam will be composed of multiple choice questions, and two essay questions. Exams will be primarily based on the assigned reading, but some questions (including the essay portion) may/will be taken directly from lecture. Exams will be given online in eCollege. The exams will open at 2 p.m. on Thursday afternoon and will close at 11:59:59 on Sunday night.

Multiple-choice questions will be scored immediately in eCollege while essays will be scored by the instructor. Students are encouraged to type and save their essay responses in Word, NO PDF FILE ACCEPTED then cut and paste them into the exam app in eCollege to avoid losing work in the case of an outage. Students are free to use the textbook, reader, notes, and information in eCollege to complete the exam but no outside sources are allowed. Any specific evidence such as quotations, statistics, or paraphrasing someone else’s ideas in your own words must have a citation with the author and page number. Significant latitude is given for writing style but spelling and grammar must be accurate. For any questions on spelling and grammar, contact the instructor or visit the TAMU-Commerce Writing Lab. More than three typographical errors results in 1 full letter grade deduction from the exam score. Exams cannot be made up. No late work accepted.
Grading
3 Exams 50%
Biographical Paper 25%
4 Quizzes 15%
Discussion Posts 5%
Attendance/Participation 5%

_____________________________________________________________
_________________
Total 100%

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

Written work: Grading criteria for written work holds true for exams, written quizzes and writing 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

NOTE: General grammatical disorder in written work will result in point deductions (excluding timed in-class quizzes).

Course expectations: 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.

- 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.

-Ample time is given for the completion of all assignments and there are no ‘surprise’ due dates. **Late work will not be accepted.**

-Reading assignments in the course schedule must be completed prior to the class day for which they are assigned. The general trend for this course will be to cover a chapter per week.

-Instructor reserves the right to modify course schedule as needs arise; i.e. moving through chapters either slowly or ahead and will notify students of any changes via email and in class.

**All assignments must be completed and submitted to pass this course.**

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - speakers or headphones.

- Depending on your course, you might also need a:
  - webcam
  - microphone
For courses where interactive tools are used, like VoiceThread or Class Live Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

- You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader
  - Adobe Flash Player

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

- For additional information about system requirements, please see: https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**Pearson LearningStudio Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.
It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

**Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on ‘Live Support’ on the tool bar within your course to chat with an Pearson LearningStudio Representative.

- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

**Accessing Help from within Your Course:** Click on the ‘Tech Support’ icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

**Note:** Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

**Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio**
Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at
2. helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
3. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
4. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number
5. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson help desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

**Internet Access**
An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

**myLeo Support**
Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [https://leo.tamuc.edu](https://leo.tamuc.edu).

**Learner Support**
Go to the following link [One Stop Shop](https://tamuc.edu) - created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
Go to the following link [Academic Success Center](https://tamuc.edu) - focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**
**Interaction with Instructor Statement**

For general questions and assistance with the course, the instructor will keep a schedule of 5-10 regular office hours per week. If a student cannot meet during the designated schedule, arrangements can be made to meet at a more convenient time. An email should be sent to the instructor at least 24 hours prior to the time the student plans on meeting. A reply can be expected within 24-36 hours.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Course Specific Procedures**

**Class Decorum**
Civility in the classroom or online course and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom/online course. Courteous behavior and responses are expected. To create and preserve a learning environment that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that does not disrupt teaching or learning. Faculty have the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class/online course and may refer serious offenses to the University Police Department and/or the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. (See Student Guidebook)

**Academic Honesty**
It is the policy of the University, the History Department, and the instructor that no form of plagiarism or cheating will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as the deliberate use of another’s work and claiming it as one’s own. This means ideas as well as text, whether paraphrased or presented verbatim (word-for-word). Cheating is defined as obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is defined as selling or purchasing academic products with the intention that they be submitted to fulfill an academic or course requirement. Proper citation of sources must always be utilized thoroughly and accurately. Cheating/plagiarism/collusion will result in a grade of “0” for the assignment, and may also result in failure of the course and/or disciplinary action by the University. Any student found guilty of violating academic integrity policy will fail the assignment in question, will automatically fail the 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’s plagiarism policy can be found on the department webpage. If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, ask.
**Late Assignments:**
Ample time is given for the completion of all assignments and there are no ‘surprise’ due dates. *Late work will not be accepted.*

**Extra Credit:**
There is no extra credit in this course.

**Writing Center**
Students are encouraged to take advantage of the Writing Center’s resources for assistance with drafting their written assignments. Although the center will not write your paper for you, it may help you to improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, plan in advance because it can only help you if there is adequate time to incorporate their suggestions into your paper. Additionally, I am willing to read rough drafts (and even multiple drafts) of your written work so long as the drafts are submitted at least one week prior to the due date.

**Non-Discrimination Statement**
Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**University Specific Procedures**

**ADA Statement**

**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- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
Non-Discrimination Statement
“Texas A&M University – Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.”

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

Week 1:
Introduction to Course, Syllabus and Introductions
Readings: TAP Chapter 16 Reconstruction 1863-1877
Chapter 17 The Contested West 1865-1900

RAP, Introduction for Students, Chapter 16 & 17

Assignment:
Complete and submit Student Responsibility Sheet in class on or before Friday January 22, 2016. University policy states: failure to submit these sheets when due will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of other work completed.

Week 2:
The Contested West 1865 Conclusion &
Railroads, Business, and Politics in the Gilded age, 1865-1900
Readings: TAP, Chapter 17 & 18
RAP, Chapter 17 &18

Assignment:
Discussion Post: Opens Thursday January 29, 2016 and closes Sunday January 31, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Week 3:
The City and Its Workers, 1870-1900
Readings: TAP, Chapter 19
RAP, Chapter 19

Assignment:

None 12th Day Census
Quiz # 1
Opens Thursday February 4, 2016 and closes Sunday February 7, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Historical Topic list open for choice

Week 4:
Dissent, Depression, and War, 1890-1900
Readings: TAP, Chapter 20
RAP, Chapter 20

Assignment:

Discussion post #2 Opens Thursday February 11, 2016 and closes Sunday February 14, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Historical Topic list open for choice

Week 5:
Progressivism from the Grass Roots to the White House, 1890-1916
Readings: TAP, Chapter 21
RAP, Chapter 21

Choice of Historical Topic closes

Week 6:
World War I: The Progressive Crusade at Home and Abroad, 1914-1920
Readings: TAP, Chapter 22
RAP, Chapter 22

Assignment:

EXAM I: TAP CHAPTERS 16-21 Opens Thursday February 25, 2016
and Closes Sunday February 28; 11:59 p.m.

Week 7:
From New Era to Great Depression
Readings: TAP, Chapter 23
RAP, Chapter 23
Assignment:

Quiz # 2 Opens Thursday March 3, 2016 and closes Sunday March 6, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Week 8:
The New Deal Experiment, 1932-1939
Readings: TAP, Chapter 24
RAP, Chapter 24

Assignment:
None

Spring Break March 14-18, 2016 Have a good and safe Spring Break

Week 9:
The United States and the Second World War, 1939-1945
Readings: TAP, Chapter 25
RAP, Chapter 25

Assignment:

Discussion Post Opens Thursday March 24, 2016 and Closes Sunday March 27, 2016; 11:59 p.m.

Week 10:
Cold War Politics in the Truman Years, 1945-1953
Readings: TAP, Chapter 26
RAP, Chapter 26

EXAM II: TAP CHAPTERS 22-26 Opens Thursday March 31, 2016 and Closes Sunday April 3, 2016; 11:59 p.m.

Week 11:
The Politics and Culture of Abundance
Readings: TAP, Chapter 27
RAP, Chapter 27

Assignment:

Preliminary Historical Biography Due in Class AND Dropbox by the Beginning of Class Wednesday April 8 2016 (ANY PAPERS NOT IN DROPBOX WILL NOT BE GRADED)
Week 12:
Reform, Rebellion and Reaction, 1960-1974
Readings: TAP, Chapter 28
RAP, Chapter 28

Assignment:

Writing Clinics Location TBA
Discussion Post Opens Thursday April 14, 2016 and Closes Sunday April 17, 2016; 11:59 p.m.

Week 13:
Vietnam and the End of the Cold War Consensus, 1961-1975
Readings: TAP, Chapter 29
RAP, Chapter 29

Assignment:

Quiz # 2 Opens Thursday April 2, 2016 and closes Sunday April 24, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Final Draft of Historical Paper Due in Class AND Dropbox by the Beginning of Class Monday April 18, 2016 (ANY PAPERS NOT IN DROPBOX WILL NOT BE GRADED)

Week 14:
America Moves to the Right, 1969-1989
Readings: TAP, Chapter 30
RAP, Chapter 30

Assignment:
Discussion Post Opens Thursday April 28, 2016 and Closes Sunday May 1, 2016; 11:59 p.m.

Week 15:
The Promises and Challenges of Globalization
Readings: TAP, Chapter 31
RAP, Chapter 31

Assignment:
EXAM III: TAP CHAPTERS 27-31 Opens Friday May 5, 2016 and MUST BE COMPLETED BY 11:59:59 PM ON Tuesday May 10, 2016

Week 16:
Finals Week
Dates TBA