



**History 1302.02E**  
The United States Since 1865  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2018

**Instructor:** Elaina Friar Moyer

**Office Location:** Ferguson Social Sciences 144

**Office Hours:** M/W 10-1 & by appointment

**University Email Address:** Elaina.Moyer@tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** I will be available during office hours for any questions or concerns. If you are unavailable during my office hours, please feel free to email me.

**E-mail Communication:** All course communications will come through your university email account. Be sure to check it regularly. You should contact me through my TAMU-C email address ([Elaina.Moyer@tamuc.edu](mailto:Elaina.Moyer@tamuc.edu)). Students can expect replies to their e-mails within 24 hours from 8 am-5 pm Monday – Friday. A failure of planning on your part does not constitute a crisis on my part.

**History Department Phone:** 903-886-5226

**History Department Fax:** 903-468-3230

## COURSE INFORMATION

### Required Materials

Eric Foner, Give Me Liberty: An American History, Seagull 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Volume 2. New York: Norton, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0393614190

The American Yawp Reader: A Documentary Companion to the American Yawp (2016).

- Document companion: <http://www.americanyawp.com/reader.html>

\*NOTE: Used and/or older editions of the text are sufficient for this course. However, when purchasing used textbooks, it is recommended that you check inside to be sure that they are not damaged or incomplete. 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 textbooks.

Additional required readings have been prepared by the instructor, who will upload these materials to eCollege early in the semester. This reading packet introduces primary materials that complement lectures and provide the foundations for classroom discussions. This collection also includes the specific documents needed to complete this course's short written assignments.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

It is imperative that you complete the assigned readings. The material contained in reading assignments drives classroom discussion, an important way to learn the material, and these discussions also help explain specific moments in U.S. history. Students are responsible for all the material contained in assigned readings; if you do not read these materials, you will have a difficult semester.

### ***Course Description***

This course is a broad survey of American history from the beginning of Reconstruction to the present day. This course is designed to introduce students to this period in American history and to provide the student with practical historical skills that not only lay a foundation for any future studies in history, but also have cross-disciplinary applications that will contribute to their success in any field. Students are expected to expand their critical thinking and analytical skills while improving their reading comprehension and writing capabilities.

Every reading, discussion, test, and writing assignment for this course will seek to answer several basic questions. 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 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*** (Should be measurable; observable)

1. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances, data, texts, or art.
2. In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
3. Students will understand and practice academic honesty.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Instructional Methods***

The reading assignments are listed for each week. It is expected that you read the chapter AND any listed primary sources for that week, prior to class. Students need to be prepared to participate, discuss, and take notes in class. This is an electronically enhanced course, so you will need to be able to access eCollege.

### **Interaction with Instructor**

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Students are encouraged to contact the professor 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. Students should feel welcome to contact me freely.

### ***Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course***

Following are the basic expectations for success in this course.

- Complete all reading and writing assignments before coming to class. The reading assignments listed in the course calendar below should be completed prior to class on the date listed.
- **Taking notes is essential to success in the course.** Notes you take during class will help in understanding historical complexities and aid you in preparation for exams.
- All of the reading assignments can and should be applied to the exam's essay responses.
- **Late assignment policy:** Students have or will have ample warning of assignment due dates—computer/printer/technology malfunctions or meltdowns or any other last-minute hiccups are not acceptable excuses. The assignments must be submitted on the assigned due date. Any late work will receive five percent deduction for each day it is late.
- All assignments and exams may be discussed with the instructor by email or in person during office hours.

### **GRADING**

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

3 Exams (15% Each)	45%
Writing Assignment 1	10%
Film Paper	20%
4 Primary Source Assignments	10%
<u>Attendance/Participation</u>	<u>15%</u>
	100%

***Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:***

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

***The grading criteria of all written work will be based on the following descriptions:***

A = Superior mastery of content and reading material; clear organization and factual accuracy; innovative interpretation or argument that responds to the specific directions of the assignment, test, or essay; clearly written.

B = Excellent command of the content and reading material; factual accuracy; a generally solid thesis driven historical argument backed with specific relevant evidence.

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C = Average command of content material; reasonable factual accuracy; ability to produce a specific thesis driven argument that may not be original and is not supported by the evidence.  
D = Poor command of content and failure to follow directions; historical errors of fact; no real thesis or argument driving the essay.

***Assessments:***

**Attendance and Participation**

Class attendance and participation are crucial to your success in this course. Students are expected to come to class prepared to engage with and discuss the material. University policy does allow excused absences in certain situations, such as documented illness, school sponsored events, jury duty, and military service. Please bring documentation for excused absences within a week of the absence. A daily sign-in sheet will be passed around at the beginning of class. Students coming in late who miss the circulation of the sign-in sheet will be considered absent. If you are on your phone during class, you will be counted absent. Additionally, students may miss three classes for whatever reason without penalty. You are responsible for the material covered in class, regardless of your physical presence in the room.

During the course, we will examine historical documents for general discussion about the significance of the moments, events, historical figures, etc. The student's participation grade will be earned through taking part in classroom discussion sessions. Each student is encouraged to participate and prepare questions for class. Class disruptions will not be tolerated. These include but are not limited to the following: ringing cell phones, phones, tardiness, laptop computers, and PDAs. Tape recorders and laptops will not be allowed except in case of a student with a disability. All cell phones, laptops, tablets, and any other hand-held device must be stored away during class. All class periods will include some form of class participation activity. These will be part of your participation grade. Your participation grade will be based on your engagement in our class discussions, and is evaluated by the following rubric:

- A = Always prepared, frequently participates, rarely absent
- B = Always prepared, participates only when called on, rarely absent
- C = Usually prepared, rarely speaks, rarely absent
- D = Often unprepared, several absences
- F = Usually unprepared, frequent absences

**Exams**

There will be 3 non-cumulative in-class exams, including the final. The dates are indicated in the Course Schedule. The exams consist of essay questions, chronology, and short-answer identification. They will be based on lectures, class discussions, and the assigned readings. Students are **required** to bring Examination Blue Books (available at the university bookstore) to the exam. ***Missed exams can only be made up on the last class day of the semester. If you miss more than one exam, please see the instructor to schedule an additional make-up.***

**Exams submitted on lined notebook paper will not be accepted.**

**During the exam, students will be required to put all electronic devices away.** This includes phones, computer, iPods, and headphones.

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### **Writing Assignment**

Students will submit a short writing assignment (2 pages) on two primary sources. The due date is listed in the course outline. A prompt will be given to students and two primary sources must be used to answer the question. Additional instruction will be posted on eCollege. The writing assignment must be turned in electronically in dropbox on eCollege and a paper copy on the due date. ***Failure to turn in a hard copy and electronic copy may result in a failing grade.***

### **Film Paper**

Students will submit a 3-4-page paper. A list on eCollege of appropriate films (films are available at Gee Library) and primary sources will be uploaded. The student will watch a film (on their own time). The paper should set out the historical issue addressed by the film and the book, drawing on relevant lecture material as well. Papers should then compare the treatment of the historical issue in both the film and the primary sources, highlighting both the elements that are presented accurately as well as any liberties taken in each case with historical reality. Papers should provide an assessment of how accurately the film and the book portray or reflect the historical issue. Further instructions will be uploaded to eCollege. The due date is listed in the course outline. The writing assignment must be turned in electronically in dropbox on eCollege and a paper copy on the due date by end of class. ***Failure to turn in a hard copy and electronic copy may result in a failing grade.***

### **In Class Primary Source Exercises**

There will be four classes in which primary sources will be analyzed by small groups. The dates for the in-class assignments are listed in the calendar. Students will be split up into groups at the beginning of class. Each group will receive a different primary source and a set of questions that must be answered. After the questions are answered the groups will explain and present their findings on the primary source to the class. A paper outlining their answers will also be turned in during class time. An excused absence is the only way that you can make-up any primary source exercises that you miss. **You must notify the instructor within 48 hours of the missed assignment to obtain the make-up assignment, failure do so may result in a failing grade for the assignment.** If you do not have an excused absence, then you will receive no credit for that exercise.

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

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

**Word Processing:** You will need access to a word processor and printer to prepare written papers and research projects. You should be able to insert footnotes in your papers.

**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](mailto:helpdesk@tamu-commerce.edu). To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx>. 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

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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. You should get into the habit of checking the eCollege site for this course on a daily basis.

**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**

### ***Course Specific Procedures/Policies***

#### **Classroom Behavior**

To avoid being a distraction to other students or the instructor, please take care of personal needs before class begins and please turn off mobile phones. Do not send/read text messages, review/post Facebook updates, etc. during class; although you think you can do these things subtly, you cannot—it is a distraction for the instructor and your classmates. 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 over the course of the semester, but only if I know what is going on with you.

#### **Written Assignment Format & Late Assignment Policy**

Papers must be typed and double-spaced with one-inch margins. Pages must be numbered. Your name, the course number and the date must appear at the top of the first page; no cover page is necessary. Pages should be stapled. Any authors' quotations of ideas that are used or referenced in your work must be cited. The instructor will briefly discuss citation format with the class, but students should contact the instructor with specific questions about how to cite, what to cite, when to cite, etc. Any papers that do not conform to these assignment guidelines will be returned to the author for reformatting and resubmission and will be penalized as a late submission. All written assignments must be submitted on or before the announced due date. Students will have ample notice regarding all written assignments, so late assignment will be penalized 5% for each day that it is late.

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

1. Compliance with the assignment
2. The presence, strength, and originality of a thesis
3. The proper use of evidence to support that thesis
4. The degree to which the paper is analytical and evaluative rather than narrative
5. Evidence that the sources used and listed in the bibliography were read and understood
6. Organization of the paper and logical progression of the argument
7. Mechanics (spelling, grammar, syntax and punctuation)

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## **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## ***University Specific Procedures***

### ***Student Conduct***

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

### ***Academic Integrity***

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

#### [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

In all their courses, history faculty members expect that all work submitted by students for grades is their own work. It is the policy of the university, the Department of History, and the instructor **that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion, or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated**. Plagiarism is defined as taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. 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. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest possible academic standards at all times. Any student found guilty of violating academic integrity policy automatically will fail the assignment in question, may fail the course, and will be subject to disciplinary action. Further information about the Department of History's plagiarism policy can be found at the department webpage. If you are confused about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask the instructor.

### **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

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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.tamuc.edu/litlang/CSC/>.

### ***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 162  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
Email: [rebecca.tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:rebecca.tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)  
<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

#### ***Nondiscrimination Notice***

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.

#### ***Campus Concealed Carry Statement***

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This schedule will guide you through the semester and indicates when your 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 during the semester as such circumstances arise.

### ***Week 1: Introductions and Reconstruction, 1865-1877***

January 15: **University Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

January 17: Introductions/What is Freedom?: Reconstruction, 1865-1877, no reading

January 19: Reconstruction Continued, Chapter 15. P. 579-594

### ***Week 2: America's Gilded Age, 1870-1890***

January 22: The Second Industrial Revolution, Chapter 16 p. 605-622

January 24: Politics in the Gilded Ages Chapter 16 p. 629-639

January 26: Gilded Age Continued, no reading

### ***Week 3: Freedom's Boundaries, At Home and Abroad 1890-1900***

January 29: The Populist Challenge, Chapter 17 p.651- 674

January 31: Becoming a World Power, Chapter 17 p. 677-689

February 2: **Primary Source Class Activity 1**

### ***Week 4: The Progressive Era, 1900-1916***

February 5: An Urban Age and Consumer Society, Chapter 18 p. 691-703

February 7: The Politics of Progressivism, Chapter 18 p.715-724

**Writing Assignment 1 Discussed/Prompt posted on eCollege**

February 9: **Primary Source Class Activity 2**

### ***Week 5: Safe For Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916-1920***

February 12: An Era of Intervention, Chapter 19 p.734-742

**Study Guide Exam 1 Posted on eCollege**

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February 14: American and the Great War, Chapter 19 p. 742-755

**Writing Assignment 1 Due**

February 16: Who is an American? An Examination of War Propaganda, Chapter 19 p.755-778

***Week 6: Business Culture to Great Depression: The Twenties, 1920-1932***

February 19: **Exam 1**

February 21: Business and Government, Chapter 20 p. 779-795

February 23: Birth of Civil Liberties/Cultural Wars Chapter 20, p. 795-810

***Week 7: FDR's America, 1932-1940***

February 26: The First New Deal, Chapter 21 p. 818-838

February 28: A Reckoning with Liberty, Chapter 21 p. 838-852

March 2: A New Conception of America 852-860

***Week 8: Fighting For the Four Freedoms: World War II, 1941-1945***

March 5: Fighting World War II, Chapter 22 p. 861-884

March 7: **Primary Source Class Activity**

**Film Paper Discussion/Prompt Posted on eCollege**

March 9: Dilemma, Chapter 22 p. 884-904

**Study Guide Exam 2 Posted on eCollege**

***Week 9: SPRING BREAK (Mar 12-18)***

***Week 10: The Cold War, 1945-1953***

March 19: Origins of the Cold War, Chapter 23 p. 905-922

March 21: The Truman Presidency, Chapter 23 p. 922-936

March 23: **Exam 2**

***Week 11: An Affluent Society, 1953-1960***

March 26: The Golden Age, Chapter 24 p. 942-968

March 28: **Primary Source Activity 3**

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March 30: The Election of 1860, Chapter 24 p. 979-1981

***Week 12: The Sixties, 1960-1968***

April 2: Civil Rights Revolution, Chapter 25 p. 985-999

April 4: **Writing Day for Film Papers**

April 6: **Primary Source Activity 4**

***Week 13: The Sixties Continued***

April 9: The Changing Black Movement, Chapter 25 p. 99-1002  
**Film Paper Due**

April 11: Vietnam and the New Left, Chapter 25 p. 1002-1014

April 13: The New Movements and the Rights Revolution, Chapter 25 p. 1014-1024

***Week 14: 1968/Fighting the Counterculture, 1969-1988***

April 16: 1968, Chapter 25 p. 1024-1029

April 18: President Nixon, Chapter 26 p. 1031-1043

April 20: The End of the Golden Age, Chapter 26 p. 1043-1058

***Week 15: Triumph to Tragedy, 1989-2001***

April 23: The Reagan Revolution, Chapter 26 p. 1058-1070

April 25: Post-Cold War, Chapter 27 p.1073-1080

April 27: Cultural Wars, Chapter 27 p. 1086-1102

***Week 16: Triumph to Tragedy Continued***

April 30: Impeachment and Election of 2000, Chapter 27 p. 1102-1105

May 2: September 11 and War on Terror, Chapter 27 p. 1105-1113

May 4: Make-up Exam Day

\*If no one needs to make up an exam, then this will be a review day for the final\*

***Week 17: Finals Week***

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Final Exam, Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 8-10:00 am.

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