



# **HIST 1302.03E United States History From 1865**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2018**

**Instructor:** Derrick McKisick, Ph.D.

**Office Location:** Ferguson Social Science 119

**Office Hours:** T 8:00 am-9:00 am / 12:30 pm -1:30 pm and R 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

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## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

#### **Textbook(s) Required**

Foner, Eric. Give Me Liberty: An American History, Vol. 2, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

Foner, Eric (ed). Voices of Freedom: A Documentary History, Vol. 2, 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: W.W. Norton, 2013.

Daniels, Roger. Prisoners Without Trial: Japanese Americans in World War II. New York: Hill and Wang, 2004 (revised edition).

#### **Optional**

Rampolla, Mary L. A Pocket Guide to Writing History. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012.

## **Course Description**

This course is designed to help students understand the developments, events, and issues that have impacted the United States of America from the Reconstruction Era to the present. The course will examine the emergence of modern America and the issues associated with the expansion of the United States since the end of the Civil War. During the course, all students will be required to identify themes and ideas fundamental to the development of US History, critically evaluate historical arguments, and analyze both primary and secondary sources. The development of critical thinking skills is an essential component in the course. In order to gain a more complete understanding of the changes in American history, each student will be required to participate in several different intellectual exercises, which are designed to help students to support and defend their arguments. Because critical thinking is so essential for any understanding of American history, students will be asked to critically evaluate, not just memorize, the course materials. In this class, we will work together to develop the skills necessary for all students to be successful; therefore, your participation and preparation are required. Last, enjoy the class!

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

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 and understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

# **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

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

The course requires a combination of class participation, quizzes, writing assignments, and examinations. ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE HANDED IN BY THE END OF THE CLASS PERIOD ON THE DAY THEY ARE DUE (NO LATE ASSIGNMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR FULL CREDIT). Students are expected to read the required readings before class in order to participate fully in the discussion. I will use a variety of different methods to engage the material in the course. Lecture, group discussion, class discussion and written assignments will be used as the methods of assessment.

## Attendance

All students will begin with 40 points for attendance. Starting with the fourth unexcused absence, your attendance score will drop by ten percent for each additional missed class. If you exhaust all of the participation points, the additional points will be subtracted from your final grade. Class attendance will be a part of your participation grade.

## Exams

The exams of the course will be a combination of identification, short answer, and essay questions based on the lectures, secondary and primary source readings.

## Participation

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 will not be allowed except in case of a student with a disability. All class periods will include some form of class participation activity. These will be part of your participation grade.

## Discussion Board

During the course of the semester, there will be weekly discussion board questions based on assigned readings from *Give Me Liberty!* and *Voices of Freedom*. All students must post an answer to the question and respond to the responses of two different classmates. There are three parts that count for twenty points. Your initial post counts for ten points and your responses to your classmates count for five points each if you receive full credit. To receive credit for the assignment, each student must respond to the discussion question with a 100-word post and respond to at least two classmate's questions with at least 75 word responses each that directly address their response. The first response counts for ten points and each response to questions from your classmates count for five points each for twenty total points. **If you do not participate in all parts of each discussion board thread, you will not receive any credit for your response.**

### **Discussion Board Post (Quantity)**

- You are required to post one original message for each topic.
- The post should be 100 words that directly address the discussion question.
- You must respond to at least two of your classmate's questions and your response must be at least 75 words each that directly address your classmate's response and question.

### **Discussion Board Post (Quality)**

- Your posts must demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the topic being discussed.
- You must demonstrate connections between lecture materials, textbook content, and discussion.
- You should relate discussion responses to material covered earlier in the course to give your responses clarity and context.
- Your post should go beyond reciting facts, but it should examine the material at a critical level and include facts that support your response.

### **Discussion Board (Timeliness)**

- You must provide at least three days for your classmates to respond, so it is incumbent on each student to post and respond as soon as possible to give each person an opportunity to participate. If you do not post a response with an ample amount of time for your classmates to respond, you will not receive credit for your discussion board post.
- You will be given one week to respond to each topic.

### **Reception Report**

Each student will be required to complete a three to four-page reception essay based on Roger Daniels, *Prisoners Without Trial*. In the paper, the student will respond to specific questions posed in the reception document outline posted on eCollege under the doc sharing tab. The paper must be in the form of an essay, not bullet points only addressing the questions listed in the reception paper document. The outline document should be used as a guide to help you organize your paper. Do not summarize the book! The due date is listed in the course outline.

## **GRADING**

### **Course Requirements**

Discussion Board 10x15	150 pts.
Exam 1	50 pts.
Exam 2	50 pts.
Exam 3	50 pts.
Reception Paper	20 pts.
Writing Assignments 2x20	40 pts.
Participation	40 pts.

### **Grades**

A 400- 359; B 358-319; C 318-278, D 276-238, F 237 – 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.

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.

**Required Reading:** All students will be required to read and to discuss the assigned books. The books are available for purchase at the campus bookstore, internet websites (Amazon), and at a variety of regional retailers.

**TURNITIN.COM:** All typed assignments, exams, papers, and reviews must be uploaded to the appropriate listing of the course's dropbox. Each assignment dropbox automatically uploads the work to turnitin.com for plagiarism checking. This is a requirement for the course, and the students will not receive a zero if they have not completed this process.

### **Writing Assignments**

All writing assignments must be typed in 12 pt. New Times Roman font, doubled spaced, stapled and paginated with a 1" margin. Additionally, all assignments must include, on the first page, your name, assignment, my name, course number, and date. Students must submit an electronic copy to dropbox that turnitin.com can analyze and a paper copy to the instructor. If the student does not do both, the assignment will not be graded, and the student will receive a zero.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

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

Internet access/connection  
high speed required (not dialup)

Word Processor (i.e. MS Word)

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0). Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems. Students using Google Chrome report consistent errors and failure to load. It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

### **Turnitin**

All written work must be submitted to Turnitin.com. Submissions to Turnitin are made through drop box on eCollege. All written work will be submitted through the drop box. If you have any questions, please let me know

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University – Commerce. To get started with course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu>.

Before you start, 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](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu)

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Students are encouraged to make use of the Instructors office hours. Otherwise, I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday thru Friday between the hours of 9 to 5. Any emails sent on the weekend will be answered at my discretion.

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

### **Course Specific Procedures**

Texas A&M- Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource materials are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam or the paper, failure in the course, and /or expulsion from the university. Cheating would include any communication between students during an exam concerning exam questions, looking at another student's exam for the purpose of obtaining information about the exam, or using any material that might assist the student with answering a question. The instructor reserves the right to question any individual he suspects may have engaged in plagiarism or cheating.

<http://www.plagiarism.org>

# **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](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

## **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*).

## **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.

# COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1      Orientation (January 16/18)

Topic: Reconstruction

Assigned Reading: Give Me Liberty (GML) Chapter 15: What is Freedom? Reconstruction: Voices of Freedom (VOF) 1-27:

Discussion Board Question: What course did Presidential Reconstruction take? How did Presidential Reconstruction impact the process of Reconstruction?

Week Two    (January 23/25)

Topic: Gilded Age

Discussion: The Birth of the New South and America

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 16): VOF, 28-47: Daniels, *Prisoners Without Trial*, 3- 21.

Discussion Board Question: What does the term “Gilded Age” mean? What does the term reveal or hide about the radical transformation of American social, economic, and political culture? : **See Doc Sharing for Primary Source Assignment**

Week Three    (January 30/ February 1)

Topic: Freedom’s Boundaries, at Home and Abroad, 1890-1900

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 17): VOF, 48-72: **Test 1 (February 1)**

Week Four    (February 6/8)

Topic: The Progressive Era

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 18): VOF, 73-99.

Discussion Board Question: How did the Progressives seek to change American society? How were they similar to or different from the Populists?:

**Primary Source Writing Assignment Due (February 8)**

Week Five    (February 13/15)

Topic: Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916-1920

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 19): VOF, 100-130.

Discussion Board Question: Did the Treaty of Versailles change the United States and its relationship with the world?

Week Six      (February 20/22)

Topic: From Business Culture to Great Depression: The Twenties, 1920-2932

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 20): VOF, 131-157.

Week Seven    (February 27/March 1)

Topic: The New Deal

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 21): VOF, 158-186.

Discussion Board Question: Define liberalism. How did the New Deal reshape the lives of Americans and create a new meaning for liberalism?

Week Eight    (March 6/8)

Topic: Fight for the Four Freedoms

Assigned Reading: VOF, 158-186: Test 2.

## **Spring Break March 12-16**

Week Nine (March 20/22)

Topic: Fight for the Four Freedoms

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 22): VOF, 187-209: : Daniels, *Prisoners Without Trial*, 22-87.

Week Ten (March 27/29)

Topic: The United States and the Cold War

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 23): VOF, 210-243.

Discussion Board Question: Why did the United States abandon isolationism as a policy after WWII?

Week Eleven: (April 3/5)

Topic: An Affluent Society

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 24): VOF, 244-276.

Discussion Board: How did the role of the family and specifically the role of women both in the fight against the cold War and as part of a new definition of freedom centered on consumerism?

**Primary Source Writing Assignment – See Doc Sharing for specific details**

Week Twelve: (April 10/12)

Topic: The Sixties

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 25): VOF, 268-300.

Discussion Board: Did the cultural movements of the Sixties expose the shortcomings and limitations of American political, economic, and social organization?

**Primary Source Writing Assignment Due**

Week Thirteen: (April 17/19)

Topic: Triumph of Conservatism

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 26): VOF, 301-323.

Discussion Board: Who were the “silent majority”? What did this term or idea reveal about the changes in American political life?

Week Fourteen: (April 24/26)

Topic: Globalization and Its Discontents, 1989-2000

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 27): VOF, 324-340.

Week Fifteen: (May 2/4)

Topic: A New Century and New Crises

Assigned Reading: GML (Chapter 28): VOF, 341-362.

Discussion Board: What the Presidential Election of 2008 mean for the United States and the World?: **Make-Up Exam (May 4)**

Final Exam