HIST 2301: History of the United States Since 1877
Spring 2016 - (Section 015), MWF 9:00–9:50am – 104 Holden Hall

Professor (Contact Information):
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Course Description and Purpose:
- This course provides a broad overview of United States history from 1877 to the present and will cover various themes in political, social, cultural, economic, military, and diplomatic history. Students will be expected to read three books, take three book quizzes, three primary source quizzes, and three exams which will cover information conveyed by lecture, through readings, and in videos. The course satisfies 3 hours of the State of Texas legislative core curriculum requirement in American history.

Required Texts:
- Rauchway, Eric, Murdering McKinley: The Making of Theodore Roosevelt’s America
- Bailey, Beth, From Front Porch to Back Seat: Courtship in Twentieth-Century America
- Rorabaugh, W. J., American Hippies

- Custom CLeBook: TTU HIST 2301 (Cengage ISBN: 978-1305379060)
  - a.k.a. “Online Custom Reader”
  - login at: https://login.cengagebrain.com/cb/

Assignments and Grading:
- Your overall grade in this course will be based on the following assignments:
  - 1 – Book Quizzes (2 of 3): 20%
  - 2 – Primary Source Quizzes (2 of 3): 20%
  - 3 – Exam I: 20%
  - 4 – Exam II: 20%
  - 5 – Exam III: 20%

- Overall course grades will be determined on the following scale:
  - 93 – 100% = A
  - 90 – 92% = A-
  - 87 – 89% = B+
  - 83 – 86% = B
  - 80 – 82% = B-
  - 77 – 79% = C+
  - 73 – 76% = C
  - 70 – 72% = C-
  - 67 – 69% = D+
  - 63 – 66% = D
  - 60 – 62% = D-
  - <60% = F

- Book Quizzes:
  - Student will read three books and take three quizzes over the content of those books.
  - Only the two highest book quiz grades will count toward the student’s final average; the lowest book quiz grade will be dropped.
  - Quizzes will be administered in class and will consist of multiple-choice and/or true-false questions.
Primary Source Quizzes:
- Student will take three quizzes over the primary source readings found in the “Online Custom Reader.”
  - Only the two highest primary source quiz grades will count toward the student’s final average; the lowest primary source quiz grade will be dropped.
- Quizzes will be administered in class and will consist of several short-answer and multiple-choice questions and/or true-false questions.
- Students will be required to use a blue book for each primary source quiz, but will not be allowed to use the same blue book each time.
- Each primary source quiz will cover the following chapters from the “Online Custom Reader”:
  - Quiz 1: CHs 1-4
  - Quiz 2: CHs 5-9
  - Quiz 3: CHs 10-11

Exams:
- Students will take three exams in this course. Students will be allowed 45 minutes for the first two exams, and 60 minutes for the third exam. The third exam is not comprehensive.
  - Exam I will be administered on Friday, February 19.
  - Exam II will be administered on Friday, April 1.
  - Exam III will be administered on Thursday, May 12 at 7:30am.
- Students will be required to use a blue book for each exam, but will not be allowed to use the same blue book for each exam.
- Exams may consist of some combination of multiple choice, short answer / ID, short essay, and / or longer essay questions covering lectures, videos, and readings.

Lecture Notes:
- Lecture outlines, potential essay questions, and summaries are available online and may be accessed in advance of each class by visiting the course page on the professor’s website: (myweb.ttu.edu/secunnin/Courses.htm).
- However, students will NOT be provided with digital or paper copies of lecture notes unless the professor is unable to make it class due to illness, emergency, or other complications.
- Students absent from class, regardless of reason, are responsible for acquiring all missed information.
- Students with a documented learning disability who are registered through Student Disability Services should contact the instructor about necessary classroom accommodations, including the designation of an in-class notetaker. Again, however, students will NOT be provided with digital or paper copies of the instructor’s lecture notes.

Component Area: American History

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Core Foundational Component Area Criteria Description:
- Courses in this category focus on the consideration of past events relative to the United States, with the option of including Texas History for a portion of this component area. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Courses involve the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Core Objectives Description:
- Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
Texas Tech University College-Level Core Competency Statement:
- Students graduating from Texas Tech University should demonstrate an understanding of the historical origins of the United States and be able to identify and describe the importance of key individuals and events in United States and/or Texas history. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Texas Tech University Core Student Learning Outcomes:
- Identify and explain the origins and evolution of the political systems and political cultures that have shaped the United States and Texas. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Identify and analyze the various social and cultural factors that have shaped the daily experiences of people living in the U.S. and Texas. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Develop and demonstrate analytical arguments in written and/or oral forms, related to American and Texas history. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Texas Tech University Academic Honesty Statement

It is the aim of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Cheating: Dishonesty on examinations and quizzes or on written assignments, illegal possessions of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination or quiz, obtaining information during an examination from the examination paper or otherwise from another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry to or unauthorized presence in an office are all instances of cheating.

Plagiarism: Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgement, is plagiarism; therefore any student who fails to give credit for quotations or an essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines, and other reference works, of from themes, reports, or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

Professor’s Academic Honesty Statement

Any student caught cheating – whether that be through plagiarism of a published or unpublished work, the use of a paper purchased online, improper collaboration with a fellow student, or any other act which undermines your ability to produce original work – will receive a zero on their assignment, will not be permitted to repeat the assignment, may fail the course, and could be subject to punishment that includes expulsion from the university.

Attendance Policy:

- It is almost impossible for a student to succeed in this course if they are not consistently attending class. Students are expected to attend all classes, though formal attendance is not taken and is not directly calculated as part of final grades.
- Students missing exams or quizzes due to an EXCUSED absence will receive one opportunity for a makeup. All makeup exams and makeup quizzes will be offered ONCE, on Thursday, May 12 at 8:45am.
  - Makeup exams and quizzes will contain a different combination of questions than was offered in the original exam or quiz.
- All EXCUSED absences require proper documentation and must fit one of the below categories:
  - Illness requiring the student, by written doctor’s orders, to miss a regularly scheduled exam or quiz or at least one week of classes leading up to the date of an exam or quiz.
  - University-sponsored events – professional, academic, or athletic – that require the student to miss a regularly scheduled exam / quiz or at least one week of classes leading up to the date of an exam or quiz. See University Standard Operating Procedure 34.06.
  - Unexpected emergencies or immediate family death/tragedy that can be verified and/or documented, which requires the student to miss a regularly scheduled exam or quiz or at least one week of classes leading up to the date of an exam or quiz.
  - Religious Holy Days: (See Below)
In unusual cases that do not conform to the above policy on EXCUSED absences, the instructor reserves all rights to grant or refuse a student’s request for a makeup exam or quiz.

- In cases where an opportunity to take a makeup exam or quiz has been granted despite the lack of proper documentation related to EXCUSED absences (see above), the student’s maximum grade for that makeup exam or makeup quiz will be capped at 80 percent of the total point value related to the makeup quiz or exam being taken.

Religious Holy Days

- Any student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. See University Operating Policy 34.19.

ADA Statement

- Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor’s office hours. Please note: instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, please contact Student Disability Services in West Hall or call 806-742-2405.

Classroom Behavior

- Professional, courteous, and appropriate classroom behavior is expected at all times. Since this class demands everyone's complete attention, students should avoid all forms of inattentive and/or offensive behavior.

- Examples of behavior that will not be tolerated include reading newspapers, surfing the web, listening to music on a cell phone or similar device, working on assignments for other classes, napping, talking with fellow classmates, coming to class excessively or consistently late, leaving before class is over and without prior notice, text messaging or other cell phone usage, or any other behavior that distracts either you, other students, or the instructor from the complete focus and attention of the class.

  - All cell phones MUST be turned off or silent at the beginning of each class. Students violating this policy may be asked to leave class.

  - The professor reserves the right to dismiss any student from class for any of the above-listed activities and, if necessary, issue a reduction of up to 5 percentage points (one-half letter grade) in the student’s overall final grade average for the course.

Lecture and Assignment Schedule

**Week One:**
- Friday, January 22: Class Introduction; Syllabus Overview

**Week Two:**
- Monday, January 25: LEC: Prologue: Why History?
- Wednesday, January 27: LEC: Reconstruction
- Friday, January 29: LEC: The American West

**Week Three:**
- Monday, February 1: LEC: Populism & the Jim Crow South
- Wednesday, February 3: LEC: Industrialization & Labor
- Friday, February 5: VID: Filthy Cities: Industrial New York
Week Four:
- Monday, February 8: LEC: Imperialism
- Wednesday, February 10: LEC: Progressivism
- Friday, February 12: LEC: The Great War

Week Five:
- **Monday, February 15:** Book Quiz I: Rauchway, *Murdering McKinley*
- Primary Source Quiz I: Custom eReader, CHs 1-4
- Wednesday, February 17: Review for Exam I
- **Friday, February 19:** Exam I

Week Six:
- Wednesday, February 24: LEC: The Roaring Twenties: Part II
- Friday, February 26: LEC: The Great Depression

Week Seven:
- Monday, February 29: LEC: The New Deal
- Wednesday, March 2: LEC: America and the Second World War: Part I
- Friday, March 4: DIS: Mid-Semester Q&A w/ Teaching Assistants

Week Eight:
- Monday, March 7: LEC: America and the Second World War: Part II
- Wednesday, March 9: LEC: Origins of the Cold War
- Friday, March 11: LEC: Cold War Expansion & Red Scare

Week Nine:
- Monday, March 14: NO CLASS: Spring Break
- Wednesday, March 16: NO CLASS: Spring Break
- Friday, March 18: NO CLASS: Spring Break

Week Ten:
- Monday, March 21: VID: *America in Primetime: Man of the House*
- Wednesday, March 23: LEC: The ’50s: A “Culture of Conformity”
- **Friday, March 25:** Book Quiz II: Bailey, *From Front Porch to Back Seat*
- Primary Source Quiz II: Custom eReader, CHs 5-9

Week Eleven:
- Monday, March 28: NO CLASS: Student Holiday
- Wednesday, March 30: Review for Exam II
- **Friday, April 1:** Exam II

Week Twelve:
- Monday, April 4: LEC: JFK
- Wednesday, April 6: VID: *JFK: Breaking the News*
- Friday, April 8: VID: *The Kennedy Half-Century*

Week Thirteen:
- Wednesday, April 13: VID: *The Murder of Emmett Till*
- Friday, April 15: LEC: The Black Freedom Struggle: Part II
Week Fourteen:
- Monday, April 18: LEC: Vietnam: Part I
- Wednesday, April 20: LEC: Vietnam: Part II
- Friday, April 22: Review (w/ TAs) for Book Quiz III and Primary Source Quiz III

Week Fifteen:
- Monday, April 25: Book Quiz III: Rorabaugh, *American Hippies*
  Primary Source Quiz III: Custom eReader, CHs 10-11
- Wednesday, April 27: VID: *Summer of Love*
- Friday, April 29: LEC: Nixon & Watergate

Week Sixteen:
- Monday, May 2: LEC: Modern American Conservatism
- Wednesday, May 4: VID: *Do You Believe in Miracles? The Story of the 1980 US Hockey Team*
- Friday, May 6: LEC: The “Totally Awesome” ‘80s

Week Seventeen:
- Monday, May 9: Review for Exam III
- Thursday, May 12: Exam III (7:30 – 8:30am)
  Makeup Exams / Quizzes (8:45 – 10:00am)

The instructor reserves the right to make alterations to this syllabus. Alterations, should there be a need, will always be announced in class and/or in an email. Students are responsible to attend class, regularly check their ttu.edu email, and make note of changes to the schedule. The instructor is not responsible for the student’s failure to make note of schedule changes.