

Common Course Syllabus
History 1302
Department of History

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: History

Course Number: HISTORY 1302

Course Title: United States History II

Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab

Foundational Component Area of Core Curriculum: American History

Prerequisites: TSI compliance in Reading

Available Formats: Conventional, INET, ITV

Campus: Levelland, Reese, ATC, Plainview

Textbook: Varies according to instructor.

Course Specific Instructions: Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions.

Course Description: A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.

Course Objectives:

1. **critical thinking:** demonstrate creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **communication:** demonstrate effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **social responsibility:** demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **personal responsibility:** demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Course Purpose: To acquaint students with the diversity of American history and to promote critical thinking in interrelating the past to the present. Fundamentally, the course promotes general understanding of a body of knowledge any student should know.

Course Requirements: To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, they should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

Attendance Policy: Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students should demonstrate familiarity with the evolution of the nation and its role in the world from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century. This would include the following themes:

- American culture
- religion
- civil and human rights
- technological change
- economic change
- immigration and migration
- urbanization and suburbanization
- the expansion of the federal government
- the study of U.S. foreign policy

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

SPC Standard Disability Statement - Any students 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 and necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations until appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office has been provided. For more information, you may contact the Disability Services Office (located in the Health & Wellness Center) at 806-716-2529 or visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/health/disabilityservices.php>.

Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Non-Discrimination Statement - South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360. South Plains College is dedicated to providing a safe and equitable learning environment for all students. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the college. The Health and Wellness Center offers confidential support (806-716-2529) and Voice of Hope has a 24-hour hotline: 806-763-7273. You are encouraged to report any incidents online at <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/about/campussafety/complaints.php>.

Pregnancy Accommodation Statement - If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. Students who wish to request accommodations must contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 to initiate the process.

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College 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 South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: (http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Modern American History
Course Instructions
1302.155

Instructor: Christina Bearden-White

Email: cbeardenwhite@southplainscollege.edu

Virtual Office hours: M - R, 1 – 2:30 and F 11 - 1

Or by appointment. Please email me 24 hours in advance.

Office: AD 121

Telephone: 806/716-2646

Required Texts: (This is also the correct bibliographic entry for the Works Cited page of your essays.)

Corbett, P. Scott, et al. *U.S. History*. OpenStax College. <https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history>.

Accessed May 25, 2016. Web.

Larson, Erik. *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*. New York: Vintage Books, 2004. Print.

You may download a free copy of the textbook, read the textbook online for free, or purchase a copy from the bookstore. We will begin with Chapter 16, “The Era of Reconstruction, 1865 – 1877.”

The Devil in the White City is available as an audio book, in paperback form, and as a kindle edition. The bookstore will have a few copies available as well. Please begin reading this book immediately as the paper is due February 25th.

This is an online course; consistent access to the internet and to a computer is required for this class. If you have computer problems or internet issues, you may use a computer at one of the computer labs on any SPC campus. I do not accept interrupted computer service or lack of a computer as an excuse for late work in online classes.

Essay on <i>The Devil in the White City</i>	10%
Exam Essays (4)	40%
Chapter Assignments	50%

Essay on *The Devil in the White City* (10% of your grade)

The 3 – 5-page essay will cover Erik Larson’s book, *The Devil in the White City*. Larson’s book is about the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair, the *Columbian Exposition*, and about the first documented serial killer in the United States, H. H. Holmes. Please begin reading this book immediately as the paper is due at the end of Week 6, on February 25th. As you read the text, consider how Holmes was able to use the Chicago World’s Fair to hide his crimes.

Exams (40% of your grade)

There will be 4 Exam essays approximately four weeks apart. Each exam will cover materials for those weeks. For example, the first exam will cover weeks 1 – 4 and the final exam will cover week 13 – 15. This will include assigned readings, discussion questions, and videos. The essays are not timed and can be completed in advance, however, there will be no essays accepted after the due date. These essays will connect specific information from the readings with the broader themes of the course. **Do not use outside sources;** the assigned readings will be all that you need to complete the essays.

Weekly Assignments (50% of your grade)

Each chapter in *U.S. History* has a corresponding quiz and/or writing assignments in Blackboard. Complete each assignment as you finish the readings. Please note: no assignment will count after its due date.

Important Dates and Deadlines

Weekly Assignments	Each Thursday, due in Blackboard by 11pm.
Exam Essays	Weeks 4, 8, and 13, due in Blackboard on Thurs. by 11pm.
Essay over <i>The Devil in the White City</i>	Week 6, due in Blackboard on Thursday by 11pm.
Final Exam	Tuesday, May 11, due in Blackboard by 11pm.

Course Rules

Late Assignments: Make-up exam, quizzes, and papers are not allowed without a written excuse from a healthcare provider or other professional for incomplete work. Only when you have presented your written excuse will you be allowed to make up an exam or assignment and it must be within ONE WEEK of your return to class. There may be a 5-point penalty for each day an assignment is late after the original due date.

Feedback: I will reply to all messages or emails within 48 hours during the week. I will grade your short essays in one week. I will grade exams within two weeks. I typically grade Discussion Board posts in 1 week. I will not respond to every discussion post, rather, I might add something or emphasize a point made in the post. Sometimes I ask for clarification if I am unsure what the poster was trying to share.

Attendance: Since this is an online class, we will not meet in person. Your 4th missed assignment may result in being dropped from the class. However, it is your responsibility to drop the class if you are no longer able to meet the requirements.

Discussion Boards: Some of your weekly assignments will use the Discussion Board tab in Blackboard. Those will be indicated by date. During the semester, I will also post links in the Discussion Board to address any questions you might have about the Syllabus, Exams, Response Papers, and Blackboard. Please post any question you might have on the appropriate Discussion Board. Please do not hesitate to email me or message me through Blackboard with any issues of a more personal nature or if the discussions do not fully answer your questions. I check my messages and emails for the last time each weekday before 5 pm; please do not expect an answer after 9 pm or while I am in a class.

Netiquette: Netiquette is the etiquette used online. Remember, every poster on Blackboard is a living, breathing human being. It should be a positive exchange of ideas. Remember to treat people with the same respect as you would in person. Please don't use ALL CAPS; this is the same as yelling. Simply put – be polite.

Blackboard Messages: The best way to contact me is through Blackboard Messages. Messages are private, and all correspondence about the course should go through Messages. Please, only use my email if Blackboard is unresponsive. Do not send assignments through email; **I will not accept any assignment through email.**

Plagiarism will not be tolerated: I consider academic dishonesty (cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, interference with another student's work) to be serious misconduct. Anything that is plagiarized will receive an automatic Zero (0) and possible expulsion from the course or disciplinary action through the school. Simply stated, plagiarism is claiming another author's work as your own. **If you quote or use another author's work, you must cite that author.** You can find information about proper citation here: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/information-for/current-spc-students/library/cslibrarylvl/plagiarism.php> If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please feel email or meet with me as soon as possible.

Other concerns: I strongly encourage you to meet with me or email to discuss any circumstances that might affect your performance in this class. I cannot assist you if I do not know you have a problem.

Course Schedule

Week 1, January 19 - 22, Reconstruction and the New South

Readings: Chapter 16, *U. S. History*

Week 1 Assignment, complete by Thursday, September 7 at 11pm.

Week 2, January 25 -29, Transforming the West

Readings: Chapter 17, *U. S. History*

Week 2 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 3, February 1 - 5, Industrialization and Factories

Readings: Chapters 18, *U. S. History*

Week 3 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 4, February 8 - 12, Urbanization, the Great Migration, and Immigration

Readings: Chapters 19, *U. S. History*

Complete Exam Essay 1 by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 5, February 15 - 19, Politics in the Gilded Age

Readings: Chapter 20, *U. S. History*

Week 6, February 22 - 26, The Progressive Era

Readings: Chapter 21, *U. S. History*

Week 6 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Essay Over *The Devil in the White City*, due by 11pm on Thursday.

Week 7, March 1 - 5, An American Empire

Readings: Chapter 22, *U. S. History*

Week 7 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 8, March 8 - 12, The Great War

Readings: Chapter 23, *U. S. History*

Week 8 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Complete Exam Essay 2 by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 9, March 15 - 19, Spring Break

Week 10, March 22 - 26, The Decade that Roared

Readings: Chapter 24, *U. S. History*

Week 10 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 11, March 29 - April 2, And It All Came Crashing Down

Readings: Chapter 25, *U. S. History*

Week 11 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 12, April 5 – 9, The Great Depression

Easter Break, April 2 - No office hours.

Readings: Chapters 26, *U. S. History*

Week 12 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 13, April 12 – 16, The Second World War

Readings: Chapter 27, *U. S. History*

Week 13 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Complete Exam Essay 3 by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 14, April 19 – 23, The Cold War and Foreign Policy

Readings: Chapter 28, *U. S. History*

Week 14 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 15, April 26 – 30, The 1950s: Age of Conformity?

Readings: Chapter 29, *U. S. History*

Week 15 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Week 16, May 3 – 7, November 30 – December 4, The 1960s: Age of Rebellion? Vietnam, Watergate, and the Middle East

Readings: Chapter 30, *U. S. History*

Week 16 Assignment, complete by Thursday at 11pm.

Final Exam Week, May 10 – 13

The exam is due on **Tuesday**, May 11th by 11pm in Blackboard.

Any exams turned in after the due date and time will not be accepted.