

Social Sciences Department

Division of Arts and Sciences

South Plains College

Levelland Campus

Fall 2017

Sanford B. Hunt

**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:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
2. **communication:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
3. **social responsibility:** to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
4. **personal responsibility:** to include 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, he/she 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 be familiar 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.

HIST 1302.271

U. S. History from 1877

Classroom: LC128 Time: 1:00 - 2:15 PM; Tuesday & Thursday
 Instructor: S. B. Hunt
 Contact: 806-716-2463; shunt@southplainscollege.edu; sbhfour@yahoo.com
 Office: RC 318F (Reese Center)
 Office Hours: 1:00 - 1:45 PM (Tuesday & Thursday) or by appointment

Required Texts & Materials:

1. Text: <http://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/us-history>
2. Equipment: one clean 4 gigabyte USB flash drive (aka "thumb drive," "jump drive" or "stick drive")
3. Access to Microsoft Word

Course Description and Purpose:

This course is a part of the Texas Core Curriculum. It surveys U.S. history from roughly the end of the post-Civil War Reconstruction Era to the present. It examines people, forces, and series of events influencing the further development of U.S. society and government and leading the United States into and through three major global conflicts. The student should leave this course with a basic understanding of the evolution of American democracy, some of the social and political issues of democracy, and the internal and external pressures conditioning the development of that democracy.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

The student who fulfills the requirements of this course will be able to:

- (1) Describe key points and key issues in the development of the Republic, its institutions, and its identity since Reconstruction.
- (2) Demonstrate general recognition of political, cultural, and religious figures who played significant roles - positive or negative - in the development of the Republic.
- (3) Trace the general course of events influencing the struggle for all inclusive social justice - domestic and international.
- (4) Describe various forces, political, cultural, commercial, moral, et al, influencing the conduct of the United States in the world theater.

Methods for achieving these expected learning outcomes: Lecture, discussion, assigned reading, and structured independent study.

Methods for assessing these expected learning outcome: Written examinations (3), in-class discussion and challenge, *muddiest point* classroom assessment techniques, graded quizzes, in-class writing.

Exam Structure and Assessment Policy (Grading):

Exams (65%): There will be two major exams during the semester, a mid-term and a final. These will cover materials in the lecture, and readings. Each will consist of essay or id questions and 20-40 short answer questions and essay or id questions. Your exam average will account for 65% of your overall grade.

Reading quizzes and "in-class quizzes" (15%): The student will be tested weekly on assigned readings and current class materials. **Readings assigned in the class schedule must be completed by the indicated class.** The average of the quiz scores will constitute 15% of your final grade.

Book analysis (15%): A roughly 5-page analysis of a book approved by the professor on a subject with relevance to the subject matter of the course.

Class Participation (5%): This class is one in which the student is required to **think** about the concepts being discussed and to participate in discussions. **Mere presence in the class room in no way guarantees a passing grade.**

Grading: The grading scale will be as follows: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; and 59 or below = F.

Attendance: Regular attendance is mandatory; attendance will be taken. It is in **your best interest** to attend class regularly and on time. Material that will be covered in class goes well beyond the assigned reading, i.e. many questions that will be on exams come exclusively from lectures rather than the book. If you **DO** miss a class, **you and you alone** are responsible for finding out what you missed from a classmate. I do not repeat lectures in office hours. Any student who misses more than five class sessions shall be dropped with a grade of "X" if the student has a passing grade average at that time. If the student is failing, due to poor work or missing assignments, the student will be assigned a grade of "F". An absence is defined as failing to attend class, missing 15 or more minutes of class, or leaving class without the instructor's approval. Additionally, a student accrues an absence each time he or she accumulates a total of three late arrivals (i.e. 5+ minutes late). Whenever feasible, students should let the instructor know about expected absences as soon as possible.

Students who have approved absences for athletic or other school approved activities should provide a schedule within the first two weeks. Students who miss classes or exams due to verifiable circumstances such as medical emergencies should provide the documentation to the professor or facilitator as soon as they return to classes.

Student Performance: You must maintain your standards throughout the duration of the semester. There will be no extra credit and there will be little time for playing "catch-up." **If you fail four (4) "in-class" or reading quizzes, you will be dropped from the class with a failing grade with no further warning.** If you fail to submit required work on time, you may also be dropped from the class at the discretion of the instructor.

GENERAL POLICIES

- **BEHAVIOR IN CLASS:** Students are expected to be considerate of one another as well as of the instructor. Conduct that interferes with other students' right to learn will not be tolerated. Laptops and touchpads should not be used in class unless there is a specifically documented medical requirement. **Turn off cell phones before class.**
- **GETTING HELP:** Office hours are listed at the top of this page. I will always be available at those times on a "walk in" basis. My email address is also listed. Come see me or email me if you have a problem with reading, lecture, or assignments. If you are having difficulty of any sort, **the sooner you ask for help, the easier the solution to your problem will be.** If you come in at the last minute, about all I will be able to do for you is offer tissues to wipe your eyes. Whatever the problem, ask for help. There are no stupid questions. If you don't know----ask.
- **HONESTY:** Honesty is the expected standard. **Plagiarism and cheating** will not be tolerated and can be grounds for dismissal from South Plains College. Incidents of cheating on examinations will also result in failure of the course and potential consequences such as dismissal from South Plains College.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Student Absence for Observation of Religious Holy Days: A student who is absent from classes for the observation 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 if, **not later than the fifteenth day after the first day of the semester, the student had notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.**

Americans with Disabilities Act: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Students should present appropriate verification for Disabled Students Services, Dean of Students Office.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

I will accommodate students who have the appropriate documentation of disability. Document or not, however, see me during the first week of class. Whatever the problem, we will work together to find a solution.

This schedule of classes is provided as a general guide to the course and its requirements. I will attempt to adhere closely to the following class schedule, but it is **subject to modification**. Any changes will be announced in class. Absence from classes when announcements are made in no way excuses you from responsibility for their content. *Ignorantia juris non excusat*. Note that there are no specific reading assignments from the text. You should keep current in the text with topics that are being covered during lectures.

You are encouraged to communicate directly with me in person or via the Blackboard message center (use the e-mail address provided above only in an emergency). If you send an e-mail, put your name and class number in the subject line.

Analytical Papers

Some history classes have long essay questions on their exams; some require formal term papers. This class combines a minimal degree of independent study, reading, and analysis into a relatively painless exercise that I call "analytical essays." While you **do** have to read a book, **you** choose the book, there is much less time wasted on deciding what to write, and there is a greater opportunity to get help, revise and earn an excellent grade. Directions and a more detailed explanation of the essay can be found on Blackboard in the course

The grade on this will constitute 15% of your overall grade for this course.

Book selection deadline: 8 September (request approval no later than 11:30 PM)

Final submission deadline: 13 December (no later than 11:30 PM)

Week	Lecture & Readings	Assignments	Misc
28 Aug	Introduction & Review of Reconstruction	Quiz 1	
4 Sep	Rushing into the Gilded Age: the new South, the West, & Gilded Age Industry 4 September Labor Day	Quiz2	
11 Sep	Gilded Age Politics and Social Issues	Book selection deadline (5 Feb); Reading & Quiz (3) on the Populists	12 th Day 3 Feb
18 Sep	Leaving the Gilded Age: the Imperialists and the Progressives	Reading: "To the Person Sitting in the Darkness" Quiz 3	
25 Sep	The Reformers, the States, and the Courts	Quiz 4	
2 Oct	The Progressive Presidents	Quiz 5	
9 Oct	Exam I (24 & 25 February) The Great War: Staying out, Getting In & Failure of Leadership		
16 Oct	Interbellum America: Social Movements & Politics		
23 Oct	Interbellum America II	Book completion deadline	
30 Oct	World War II: U.S. Neutrality - U.S. Involvement & Key Turning Points	Reading & Quiz 6 on Guadalcanal	28 Mar - Easter Break
6 Nov	Exam II (6 Nov) The Conferences and the Origins of the "Cold War"	Reading & Quiz 7 on the War-time Conferences	
13 Nov	Containing the Invisible Enemy with Real Bullets	Book analysis submission 17 Nov	
20 Nov	A Changing Society	Reading & Quiz 8 on Civil Rights Legislation	
27 Nov	Thanksgiving Holliday: 22-24 Nov		
4 Dec	The Beginning of the End: Vietnam and Afghanistan	TBA	
11 Dec	Final Exams		