

HIST 1302 ~ “U.S. History II”
Spring 2017, Section 30, M/W 9:25am – 10:40am
Engineering Auditorium 1.300

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Office Hours: M/W 2pm – 4pm & by appointment

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Office Hours: Tuesday 12pm – 2pm, Wednesday 2pm – 4pm & by appt.



Confederate Civil War Veterans, Confederate monument in Murfreesboro, Sept. 27, 1929.
(Photo: Rutherford County Archives, Rutherford County Archives Historical Collections)

The statue of the Confederate soldier was erected in 1901, and then later moved downtown in 1914. Veterans of the war routinely posed in front of the statue at reunions. Questions about the role such statues play in public life erupted this year when confederate statues in Charlottesville, Virginia became the rallying point of white supremacists. While our class this semester examines American history from the end of Reconstruction through the present day, we will also be considering these questions of history, memory, and public commemoration. I look forward to our class this semester!

Course Learning Outcomes for Core Curriculum

- **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Students will demonstrate comprehension of a variety of written texts and other information sources by analyzing and evaluating the logic, validity, and relevance of the information in them to solve challenging problems, to arrive at well-reasoned conclusions, and to develop and explore new questions.
- **Communication Skills (COM)** – Students will demonstrate the ability to adapt their communication to a particular context, audience, and purpose using language, genre conventions, and sources appropriate to a specific discipline and/or communication task.
- **Social Responsibility (SR)** – Students will recognize and describe cultural diversity, the role of civic engagement in society, and the links between ethics and behavior.
- **Personal Responsibility (PR)** – Students will demonstrate an awareness of the range of human values and beliefs that they draw upon to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making.

Course Learning Outcomes for Department of History

Upon completion of this course, the successful student will be able to:

- describe the physical characteristics of the United States and the ways they affected on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present;
- analyze the various economic & social factors that influenced the development of industrial capitalism in the late 19th century & its development in the 20th century;
- evaluate and discuss American beliefs and principles, and the ways Americans' relationship with the government changed over the 20th century;
- evaluate major reform movements of the 20th century and examine the rights and responsibilities of citizens of the United States as well as the importance of effective leadership in a democratic society;
- evaluate the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the development of the United States;
- relate the relevance and significance of developments during this period to conditions in contemporary America;
- place the American experience, past and present, within a global context; and
- report findings clearly in language and style appropriate to an academic setting.

Required Textbooks (available at UTRGV Library Reserve Desk)

Making America: A History of the United States, **6th edition**, Carol Berkin, et al.

Print ~ ISBN-10: 0-495-91524-6 (available UTPA Bookstore)

See Cengage webpage for rental, eBook, and eChapter options at:

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9780495915249>

Graded Course Elements

Participation (15%) Your participation grade determines whether grades on the “bubble” (those within ten points of the next highest grade) will be rounded up or not; for this, students must have a B or higher in participation. **Please note:** Students who have more than FIVE absences for the class **will be dropped by the instructor** regardless of the reason (excluding dire emergencies, like your death, or attendance at a university-sponsored activity, such as an athletic event). *The last day to drop the class with a DR is April 12th.* I consider your attendance to be what they call in poker “table stakes.” You will not earn a grade for being a body in the room. Your participation grade will be determined by the document analysis exercises we will be doing on most Wednesdays. These activities will be evaluated using a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading system and follow a standard grading scale: the percentage of Satisfactory grades (# achieved/# given) x 150 = participation grade (out of 150 points)

Reading Quizzes (30%) Students will take an in-class individual and group reading quiz on Mondays (except as noted). Each quiz will be worth fifteen points (30 points total) and there will be ten quizzes total for the semester (300 points). *Practice quizzes will be available online.* **Note:** Students may replace ONE missed quiz with the group quiz grade.

Midterm (15%) and Final Exams (15%) These examinations will be composed of two parts: 1) identify, define and match terms from the textbook, and 2) write a historical essay based on a set of primary documents. Students will receive a list of possible ID terms before the examinations. The midterm exam will be in-class on **Wednesday, March 7th**. The final exam date will be updated.

Paper Outline and Research Paper (15%) Students will choose a research topic from the subject areas given. They will hand in a paper outline that identifies the paper topic, its working thesis (argument) and the major points. More information on this assignment will be posted on BB Learn later in the semester. Outlines will be due **Monday, April 7th**. Papers will be due **Monday May 7th**

Group Exhibit/Poster (10%) Students will be grouped together depending on their paper topic. While each student will write an individual paper, students will combine their knowledge and create a group exhibit (with poster) to be displayed later in the semester. Grades will be determined through self- and group assessments and criteria used to assess the quality of the final presentation. Presentation dates to be determined pending space availability.

Grading Scale

A (Superior): 900 -1000 points

D (Below Average): 600 - 699 points

B (Good): 800 - 899 points

F (Unacceptable): 599 points and below

C (Average): 700 - 799 points

Classroom Expectations, Requirements, and Outcomes

*Please refer to the UTRGV Institutional Policies posted on BB Learn regarding policies on student conduct, student accommodations, academic integrity, confidentiality in the classroom, student grievances, electronic communication, mandatory course evaluations, etc. **Our course policies also include the following –***

Classroom Demeanor Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned materials, listen to lecture and take notes, and be prepared for discussion. This requires that students silence cell phones and electronic devices, and refrain from reading other materials during class or not participating. Blatant disregard of these expectations **may be counted as an absence**. I expect courteous behavior from everyone, including myself. *Please note* that students may not use computers in class to take notes. I have implemented this rule based on studies that show students who take notes by hand learn the material better. If you are interested in reading on this see “Princeton University study finds students more likely to learn by taking handwritten notes,” http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2014/06/princeton_university_study_finds_students_more_likely_to_learn_by_taking_handwritten_notes.html

Academic Honesty Students are expected to show high ethical standards, and will be held severely accountable for any cases of academic dishonesty. Examples of such include plagiarism, copying during an examination/quiz, providing information for a paper or during an examination, and/or changing any grades. Each student will be required to pass an online plagiarism exam before turning in any written work. In cases of documented dishonesty, students will receive a zero for the assignment. Depending on the severity of the offense, they may fail the class. All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Class Accommodations Please note that learning accommodations cannot be applied retroactively. I must receive the proper documentation which includes the specific accommodations.

Class Communication Policy Per UTRGV policy, all email communication between the UTRGV faculty and staff and students must be conducted through the students’ official University supplied Vaquero email account. Other email accounts may be blocked by the spam filter. You are responsible for the consequences of an undelivered or delayed email. **Email is the best way to contact me, amy.hay@utrgv.edu** I normally answer emails within 24 hours, Monday – Friday, and will most likely take more time on the weekends.

Course Schedule (Class Schedule & Readings)

Required readings and quizzes are listed in our weekly schedule. It is usually recommended that students spend a **minimum** of two hours outside of class time studying for each class credit hour. This means our class requires at least six hours of study. The schedule may be modified as needed; no new assignments will be added.

Week One ~ Introductions!

January 15th – January 17th

Introductions, Syllabus, Housekeeping

Readings ~ Course Syllabus

Week Two

January 22nd – January 24th

The American West, Industrialization, Working-Class Culture,

Gilded Age Politics, *Laissez faire* economics, & Populists

Readings & Quiz: Chapters 15 & 16, *Making America*

Week ThreeJanuary 29th – January 31st

Jim Crow and Lynching in America

Manliness & Civilization

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 17 & 18, Making America***Week Four**February 5th – February 7th

America becomes “modern,”

Social reform in urban America

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 19, Making America; Plagiarism Exam must be completed***Week Five**February 12th

Rebirth of the Klan

Imperialism & World War I

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 20, Making America***Week Six**February 19th

The Roaring 20s,

The Dust Bowl & Great Depression

Making a New Deal

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapters 21 & 22, Making America***Week Seven**February 25th

World War II

The Birth of the Cold War

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 23, Making America***Week Eight**March 5th*The Most Dangerous Woman in America**Midterm Examination (Chapters 16 – 23) in-class**SPRING BREAK MARCH 12TH - MARCH 16TH Have fun, be safe, come back!***Week Nine**March 19th

The Vital Center - Origins of the Cold War Consensus

The International & Domestic Cold War(s)

Readings & Quiz: Chapters 24 & 25, Making America

Week TenMarch 26th*Eyes on the Prize**Readings ~ Public History***Week Eleven**April 2nd

Paper & Presentation Workshops

Week TwelveApril 9th

Civil Rights Movement

Student Democracy Movement

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 26***Week Thirteen**April 16th

Women's Liberation

Power Movements

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapter 27***Week Fourteen**April 23rd

The "Me Generation"

America's Right Turn & the Personal is Political

*Readings & Quiz ~ Chapters 28 & 29***Week Fifteen**April 30th

The American Century

******Final Papers Due Monday, May 7th Online by midnight******

Final Exam Time TBA

Thank you! I hope you had a great semester, have a wonderful summer!