
HIST 1302.501 (BURNETT) -- Course Syllabus

Course Information

HIST1302.501 -- U.S. History Survey from Civil War
Mondays & Wednesday, 5:30 - 6:45 PM, Aug. 26 - Dec. 11
JO 4.102

Instructor Contact Information

Ms. Lora Burnett
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Office: JO 5.206
Office Hours: Mondays 3-4, or by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

There are no course pre-requisites. Come ready to read, think, speak, and write.

Course Description

HIST 1302 - U.S. History Survey from Civil War (3 semester hours)

This course serves as an introduction to the methods of historical inquiry; our investigations will focus on the study of American history since 1865.

Class meetings will be a mix of lecture, discussion of assigned readings, and hands-on practice in analyzing a variety of historical texts. Such texts will range from works of fiction to circus advertisements, photographs, film clips, magazine articles, secret White House recordings, sheet music and recorded songs. Besides textbook chapters (listed in the syllabus below), assigned readings from additional sources will be posted to the class eLearning page and/or library course reserves. By looking at these texts together, we will be able to examine some of the broad currents of continuity and change in American history since the Civil War, and we will be able to practice some of the critical methodologies that constitute some of professional history's most broadly useful "transferrable skills."

Grades will be based on ten quizzes, ten homework assignments, two short writing assignments (750-1250 words each), and class attendance/participation.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Students will be able to identify and knowledgeably discuss significant developments in American history from the Civil War to the 21st century.
2. Students will be able to identify specific transformations in American institutional, social, political, cultural, and intellectual life from the Civil War to the 21st century.
3. Students will be able to interpret historical documents and construct / evaluate plausible historical arguments based on a methodologically sound use of evidence

Textbook

David M. Kennedy, Lizabeth Cohen, and Thomas A. Bailey, *The American Pageant*, Volume II: Since 1865

ISBN: 978-0-495-90348-2

Links to additional required readings will be posted on the course's eLearning page and/or library course reserves

Required Materials

Pen / pencil

Notebook / notebook paper

Class Schedule and Assignment Due Dates

MON, AUG. 26:	Introduction: "One damned thing after another"
WED, AUG. 28:	Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution? (Ch. 22) Quiz #1
MON, SEP 2:	LABOR DAY - NO CLASS MEETING
WED, SEP. 4:	Filthy Rich: The Swanky Swamp of the Gilded Age (Ch. 23) Homework #1 Quiz #2
MON, SEP. 9:	Iron Giants: The Second Industrial Revolution (Ch. 24) Homework #2
WED, SEP. 11:	No Place Like Home: Urbanization, Immigration, Dislocation (Ch. 25) Quiz #3
MON, SEP. 16:	No Place Like Home, cont'd. (Ch. 25) Homework #3
WED, SEP. 18:	The Great West: Swords and Ploughshares (Ch.26) Quiz #4
MON, SEP. 23:	The Octopi Movement: Empires at Home and Abroad (Ch. 27) Homework #4
WED, SEP. 25:	Ponderers, Peddlers, Meddlers, Settlers: Progressives Search for Order (Ch. 28) Quiz #5
MON, SEP. 30:	Woodrow Wilson, World War I, and Progressivism on Parade (Ch. 29) Homework #5
WED, OCT. 2:	WWI, cont'd. (Ch. 30)

- MON, OCT. 7: Fun While It Lasted: The Roaring Twenties (Ch. 31)
- WED, OCT. 9: Hoover Damned: The Country Goes Bust (Ch. 32)
Paper #1
- MON, OCT. 14: Alphabet Soup Kitchen: FDR and the New Deal(s) (Ch.33)
- WED, OCT. 16: New Deal, cont'd. (Ch. 33)
Quiz #6
- MON, OCT. 21: The Darkness Drops Again: America in the Shadow of War (Ch. 34)
Homework #6
- WED, OCT. 23: World War II: Superheroes, Superpowers (Ch. 35)
Quiz #7
- MON, OCT. 28: World War II, cont'd. (Ch. 35)
Quiz #8
- WED, OCT. 30: Shelter in Place: Cold War Suburbia (Ch. 36)
- MON, NOV. 4: Shelter in Place, cont'd. (Ch. 36)
Homework #7
- WED, NOV. 6: Outstanding Claims: Civilian Life and Civil Rights (Ch. 37)
- MON, NOV. 11: Outstanding Claims, cont'd. (Ch. 37)
Homework #8
- WED, NOV. 13: Making Right and Making Room: LBJ and the Great Society (Ch. 38)
Quiz #9
- MON, NOV. 18: Making Peace and Making Love: The New Left and the Counterculture (Ch. 38)
Homework #9
- WED, NOV. 20: Malaise Days: The 1970s (Ch. 39)

THANKSGIVING BREAK

- MON, DEC. 2: Morning in America: The Reagan Era (Ch. 40)
Homework #10
- WED, DEC. 4: King of the Hill: The Clinton Era and the Global Economy (Ch. 41)
- MON, DEC. 9: World Wide Webs: George W. Bush and the War on Terror (Ch. 42)
Quiz #10
- WED, DEC. 11: The View from Here and Now
Paper #2

Grading Policy

10% - attendance
10% - participation
15% - homework assignments
15% - quizzes
25% - Paper #1
25% - Paper #2

Letter grades will be assigned in accordance with the +/- grading scale outlined in the current undergraduate catalog: <http://catalog.utdallas.edu/2012/undergraduate/policies/academic>

Description of Assignments

Quizzes

Throughout the semester, you will take ten quizzes based on lectures and course readings. Dates for quizzes are listed in the syllabus. Readings/lectures on days for which no quiz is listed will be covered on the next listed quiz. These will be short-answer quizzes, and they will be graded in the following manner: *full credit, half credit, no credit*.

Homework Assignments

You will complete ten written homework assignments for this course. These assignments will consist of brief analyses of a variety of primary sources, including news articles, cartoons, photographs, movie clips, and other historic documents. In class, I will explain how you should approach this task and will provide you with a rubric for each type of source to be analyzed.

The sources you are to analyze will be chosen from the archival collections posted in eLearning. For each day's homework assignment, I will specify in class lecture, and post on eLearning, the specific archive and date range from which you are to select your sources for analysis.

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class (dates listed in syllabus). NO ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS AND NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. Like quizzes, homework assignments will be graded on the following scale: *full credit, half credit, no credit*.

Writing Assignments

You will write two short papers of 750-1250 words each.

Each paper will present a focused analysis of primary sources in order to illuminate the connection between one specific historic event/circumstance and one broad, significant theme in American history. Each paper will explore a *different* historic moment, but both papers will explore the *same* broad theme. The first paper will focus on an event/phenomenon/circumstance from American history *prior to World War I*. The second paper will focus on an event/phenomenon/circumstance from American history *since the 1920s*.

All primary sources analyzed in these papers *must* be drawn from the archives I have assigned to this class. You should draw upon course lectures and assigned readings to help you identify a theme broad enough to accommodate your analysis of sources from these two very different historic moments.

For example, you might be interested in debates about the role of science in American life. You might notice ideas about Darwinism and species evolution appearing in various sources -- in articles, speeches, political cartoons, even advertisements -- during the 1880s and 1890s. Your first paper could then draw upon these specific sources to explain what these discussions of "Darwinism" reveal about Americans' attitudes toward science in the late 19th century. Your second paper might look at debates about "Darwinism" at a later point in American history -- during the 1920s, or during the 1990s -- and discuss what those debates suggest about how Americans' views of science changed (or didn't).

You will hand in each paper in class, at the beginning of class, on the day that it is due.

NO ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS AND NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Course & Instructor Policies

Late work / make-up work / extra credit

No late work. No make-up work. No extra credit.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. You are expected to attend every class, on time, for the entire class period. Excessive tardiness -- arriving to class late, and/or leaving early, and/or taking ridiculously long "bathroom breaks" in the middle of class -- will be counted as absence for the purposes of grading. Keep in mind that absences/tardiness will also affect your participation grade.

If you *must* miss a class due to an emergency, notify me immediately and provide me with formal written documentation by the next class meeting. If you miss class, you should ask a classmate to fill you in on what you missed and/or provide you with notes. I will not be posting lecture notes, nor will I provide lecture summaries.

Class participation

Even though this is a large class, there will be opportunities for you to participate in classroom discussions. However, because this is a lecture-based class, in-class discussion opportunities will be limited. Therefore, I encourage you to use the discussion boards for this class, available through Blackboard/eLearning. Simply posting something on the discussion board does not count as "participation." Participation is interactive. I will judge the quality of your participation by the extent to which you thoughtfully engage the material covered in class, the ideas of your peers, and/or the ideas of your instructor.

For all discussions, whether in person or online, I will expect your interactions with your peers and your instructor to be thoughtful, respectful, and appropriate to a classroom setting among adult professionals. During discussion, substantive and respectful disagreement with someone else's ideas, based on a careful consideration of the evidence under discussion, is perfectly appropriate. However, condescending or critical remarks/behavior which belittle/demean others as persons or disrupt classroom instruction are not appropriate and will not be tolerated.

Electronics policy

Cell phones must be silenced and put away. You may use laptop computers, tablets, etc. to take notes and view online resources related to the course. However, if your use of electronics becomes a classroom distraction -- to you or to anyone else in the room, including the instructor -- you will be asked to put them away.

E-cigarettes are "electronics," and I find them distracting. Therefore, they are not permitted in my class.

You may not "live tweet," "live blog," or engage in any other real-time online broadcast of class discussions / lectures.

AT NO TIME may you take photographs or record audio / video during class. No Google Glass, no creep shots, nothing. Such conduct will be considered a violation of your classmates' / instructor's privacy and / or an unauthorized appropriation of others' intellectual property. Anyone who violates this policy will be referred to the Dean of Students and/or the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action.

Instructor email policy

You must use your UT Dallas email account when writing to me. While I do check my email frequently, please do not expect an immediate response. I will respond to your email within 36 hours.

I may send out important announcements or course information via email, but I will not send emails to a non-UT Dallas email account. Make sure you check your UT Dallas account regularly, and/or change its settings so that you can be pinged/notified regarding incoming messages.

Academic dishonesty

Academic dishonesty in any form, including but not limited to plagiarism, is unacceptable. Should I detect or even *suspect* academic dishonesty, I will immediately pursue the matter with the university's Judicial Affairs Office.

Academic accommodations

If you request/require any academic accommodations, you must provide me with a current written order from the office of Student AccessAbility: <https://www.utdallas.edu/studentaccess/>

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor