

History 1302: History of the United States from 1877
University of Texas-Dallas
Section 002
Fall 2015
8/24/15 – 12/15/15

Instructor: Dr. Ryan Pettengill
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Office: W-JO 5.109
Office Hours: By appointment

Meeting Days and Times:

Tuesday, Thursday , 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Room:

JO 4.614

Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours

Division: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Prerequisite:

Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.

Required Texts:

Kevin B. Sheets, *Sources for America's History*, ISBN: 9781457628917
Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*, ISBN: 0252014804
Richard Wright, *Native Son*, 978-0-06-235725-0
James Henretta, *America's History*, 978-1457628177 (**OPTIONAL**)

Intellectual Competencies:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national and global communities
- **Personal responsibility** - Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequence to ethical decision-making.

Exemplary Educational Objectives:

- To examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures and cultures
- To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary issues
- To understand the evaluation and current role of the U.S. in the world
- To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view
- To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of evidence and social research
- To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures

Course Objectives:

- **Critical thinking skills;** to analyze and think critically about some of the major political, economic, and cultural themes that characterize post-1877 American history (assessed via exam one, exam two, and the final exam).
- **Communication skills;** to write about your understanding of some of the major events that directly affected the trajectory of post-Civil War history (assessed via the short paper). This class is designed as a lecture, reading, and discussion course.
- **Social responsibility;** to become aware of how relations among and between co-cultures (e.g., race and gender) evolved from the era of post-Civil War reconstruction to the present day (assessed via the short paper).
- **Personal responsibility;** to analyze major events such as armed conflicts and government initiatives in terms of ethical decision-making (assessed via the short paper).

Students will be asked to express and examine their views on course issues and materials through discussion and in writing. Students will have opportunities to expand their knowledge, improve their critical thinking skills and strengthen their writing abilities as well as learn to integrate materials across the expanse of modern United States history.

NOTE: Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. Attendance and discussion participation are crucial to doing well in every aspect of the class. Your attention to lecture materials and assigned readings is **essential** to your performance on your papers, midterm and final exam. You will be asked to make connections between the readings and lecture materials. **The incorporation of outside materials (i.e. Wikipedia, Sparknotes, etc.) is strictly prohibited.**

Course Outline:**UNIT ONE: FROM RECONSTRUCTION TO A MATURE INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY 1877-1914**Week 1: Island Communities and the Coming of the Industrial Age, 1877-1900

Assignment: *Sources for America's History* (henceforth *SFA*), Ch. 17 and 18; start reading Sinclair

- Participate in Discussion Forum 1: Responses due Aug. 28 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 2: Industrial Metropolises

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 16 and 19; continue reading Sinclair

- Participate in Discussion Forum 2: Responses due Sept. 4 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 3: The Search for Order

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 20; **FINISH** reading Sinclair; **Paper 1 ASSIGNED**

Week 4: America as an Emerging World Power

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 21

- **Paper 1 DUE Sept. 18, 2015 – IN CLASS**

UNIT TWO: THE MODERN STATE AND SOCIETY, 1914-1945

Week 5: A Modern Society and a World War

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 22; view contents in World War I Propaganda folder (Blackboard)

- Participate in Discussion Forum 3: Responses due Sept. 26 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 6: The Roaring Twenties

Assignment: **MIDTERM: October 2, 2015 (available in Blackboard)**

- Start reading Wright (*Native Son*); Participate in Discussion Forum 4: Responses Oct. 2 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 7: The Great Depression, Franklin Roosevelt, and the New Deal

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 23; Continue reading Wright

- Participate in Discussion Forum 5: Responses due Oct. 9 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 8: The World at War

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 24; Continue reading Wright

- Participate in Discussion Forum 6: Responses due Oct. 16 11:59 p.m.

Week 9: America and the Cold War

Assignment: *SFA* Ch. 25; **FINISH** reading Wright;

- Participate in Discussion Forum 7: Responses due Oct. 23 by 11:59 p.m.

UNIT THREE: THE AGE OF COLD WAR LIBERALISM, 1945-1980

Week 10: The Affluent Society

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 26

- **Paper 2 DUE Oct. 29, 2015 – IN CLASS**

Week 11: An End to the Liberal Consensus, 1960-1968

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 27

- Participate in Discussion Forum 8: Responses due Nov. 7 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 12: Vietnam, Social Upheaval, and the Tumultuous Decade of the 1960s

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 28

- Participate in Discussion Forum 9: Responses due Nov. 14 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 13: The Rise of the Silent Majority

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 29 & 30

UNIT 4: A NEW ERA: CONSERVATISM, GLOBALIZATION, AND TERRORISM, 1989-2012

☺ **Nov. 23-27: Fall Break, Classes Cancelled** ☺

Week 14: Centrist Policies, Culture Wars, and Political Gridlock – the 1990s

- Participate in Discussion Forum10: Responses due Dec. 5 by 11:59 p.m.

Week 15: Into the 21st Century

Assignment: *SFA*, Ch. 31

- Review for Final Exam

Final Exam: Dec. 16, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Evaluations Procedures:

1. Participation and attendance (20 points) - In-class speaking/discussion, in-class activities and active, responsible listening constitute participation. Participation is a crucial element in this class. You are

expected to present your informed ideas as well as to listen to and show respect for others in the classroom. Simply showing up for class does not by itself constitute participation.*

*Participation is more than mental attendance in the course. You will be graded on how much you contribute to the learning environment of the class. This means that if you do not add anything to the class during the discussions, then you will not receive a good participation grade.

Behavior that disrespects or hinders the learning process of others **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. Examples of this behavior include: interrupting someone else, talking while others are speaking or during films, sleeping, showing disrespect to others, arriving late to class, packing up and/or leaving early, reading unrelated materials (newspaper, magazines, other courses' texts), cell phone use, PDA use, i-pod/MP3 listening device use, etc. Aggressive or hostile behavior directed at the instructor, classmates or any person(s) observing the class is not acceptable under ANY circumstance.

*You are **REQUIRED** to attend class. Attendance will be taken at **EACH CLASS MEETING**. If your name does not appear on the sign-in page, you will not receive credit for that day. Each student will be given two (2) excused absences with no questions asked. Save these for court dates, job interviews, religious holidays, or other obligations that require you to be somewhere else when class meets. After three absences, your participation grade will decrease by 0.5 points for each additional day you miss.

*Repeated tardiness and frequent absence will negatively affect your participation grade. You cannot fully participate in the course if you frequently miss all or part of class sessions, and you are disrupting the flow of the class as a whole when you come in late. Therefore, even if you actively participate in class discussions when you are in class, your participation grade will suffer if you are chronically late and/or absent.

The second part consists of participating in ten (10) online discussion forums. These forums will pose a question and ask students to weigh in on it. The question will involve a topic under examination for that week. Students are to respond in detail to the question but it is also important to engage classmates' opinions, observations, and/or perspectives in these discussions. A detailed overview of each forum can be found in the DISCUSSION section of Blackboard. The due date of each forum is clearly posted in the COURSE OUTLINE section of this syllabus.

2. Take-Home Quizzes (15 Points; 3 points each) – There will be five take-home quizzes that will be assigned throughout the course of the semester. These quizzes will ask you to address a specific issue within the assigned readings. The point of these quizzes is to ensure that students engage the readings and connect the themes and insights to the general historical narrative. You may work on these individually or in groups. If you choose to work in a group, however, you **MAY NOT** turn in word-for-word replicas. In other words, each student should have a relatively unique response to the questions posed in the quizzes. Please note well: **late quizzes will NOT be accepted**. If you fail to submit the quiz by the specified due date, it will result in a zero.

3. Papers (10 points each; 20 points total) – You will be asked to write **two** short papers, each approximately 2-3 pages in length and valued each at 10% of your overall grade. These papers will ask you to put an assigned novel into "conversation" with the rest of the course materials – assigned readings out of *SFA* as well as lecture materials. These papers are to be no shorter than two full pages and no longer than three.

All papers must be typed, in 12-point Times New Roman font, with one inch margins on all sides. For each day a paper is **late 2.5 points will be deducted** from the final grade.

The theme around which these papers will be organized will be distributed at a later date, approximately one week prior to when the papers are due.

4. Midterm (20 points) – There will be one midterm in this course. It will consist of a series of identification/short answer questions and longer essay questions. Students will be given a study guide one week prior to the exam. There will be no make-up exams for the midterm.

5. Final Exam (25 points) – The final exam will consist of a multiple choice section (which will be completed by each student online), a group presentation, and an individual essay. The group presentation will be organized around a central (semester-long) question, which will be distributed by the professor as the exam approaches. For the time being, however, it is important that students assemble themselves into groups of 7 or 8 individuals. If a student is unable to complete this exam, she/he must clear the issues with the professor. Make-up exams must be arranged with the professor **AHEAD** of time. Failure to communicate a need to make-up an exam **BEFORE** the scheduled date of the exam will result in a zero.

Grading Scale:

<u>Points</u>	<u>Grade</u>
100-92	A
91-80	B
79-72	C
71-62	D
61 and below	F

Late Work Policy:

- Late quizzes will NOT be accepted
- For every day an assigned PAPER is late, 2.5 points will be deducted from the final score

Make-up Exam Policy: if you have a conflict with a scheduled exam, it is your responsibility to arrange a time to make it up. Typically an exam will be left for you at the Testing Center and you will have a specified timeframe to complete it.

Classroom Behavior:

Behavior that disrespects or hinders the learning process of others WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Examples of disruptive behavior include but are not limited to the following:

- Texting, cell phone use, and/or use of electronic devices
- Talking (there is not a seating chart now, but I reserve the right to create one)
- Leaving early (without notifying the professor of the need to do so)
- Sleeping
- Computer use that **DOES NOT** relate to class (using computers to take notes or look up historical facts is fine)
- Reading unrelated materials (newspaper, magazines, other courses' texts)

*Acceptance of this syllabus indicates that you agree with the rules and provisions outlined in it. Students who choose to ignore the guidelines for classroom behavior may be asked to leave or even fail the course.

Supplemental Instruction:

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is offered for this course. For information about the days, times, and locations for SI sessions, refer to www.utdallas.edu/studentsuccess/leaders/si.html.

Withdrawal Policy:

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received by the Registrar's Office by **Oct. 29, 2015**. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an "F".

Academic Honesty:

Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Those who engage in the aforementioned infractions will fail the assignment and/or course. Their names will also be reported to the President's office. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult.

ADA Statement: If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires ADA accommodations, please contact Mountain View College Disability Services Office.

Religious Holidays: Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

Inclement Weather Statement:

In the event of severe weather conditions, please listen to local radio or television stations for information concerning official closing of UTD facilities.

The instructor reserves the right to change/alter course requirements with advanced notice.