

# History 1302—US History II

Section 501, Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30pm – 6:45 pm, in Room AH2 1.204

**Instructor:** Dr. Keith Volanto  
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**Office Hours:** Mondays, 5:00pm – 5:30 pm by appointment

## **Course Description:**

This course will survey the history of the American people from the pre-Columbian period through Reconstruction. In addition to touching on the key turning points—such as the introduction of European epidemics, the American Revolution, and the Civil War, for example—we will also explore a variety of regional political, economic, and cultural developments, particularly in the present-day American West and Southwest, while also focusing on the evolution of race and gender relations. The purpose of this course is to provide students with not only a general overview of American history up to 1877, but with a more complete understanding of how different segments of the American population experienced and influenced that history.

## **General Education Core Objectives:**

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following core objectives:

- **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.

## **Course Objectives:**

In this class, students will learn:

- **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 4 exams, 8 quizzes, and 3 homework assignments).
- **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 3 homework assignments).
- **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 4 exams, 8 quizzes, and 3 homework assignments).
- **Personal responsibility;** to analyze major events such as armed conflicts and government initiatives in terms of ethical decision-making (assessed via the 3 homework assignments).

## Required Textbooks and Materials:

*The American Challenge: A New History of the United States (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Vol. 2)* by Moretta, et al.

Bring a #2 pencil and a **Scantron Form 882-E** (small, rectangular, green & white) to each class.

## Grading Policy:

### Exams:

There will be four exams. The first three exams will be worth 100 points. **The final exam is non-cumulative and worth 150 points.** For each exam you will be responsible for important information from lectures and the textbook. The exams will have multiple choice and true/false questions.

An information sheet will be passed out no later than one week before each exam.

### Homework:

There will be 3 homework assignments worth 25 points each. (More info about the HWs to come on, but these will be 3-page essays based on information provided in a scholarly article or web site).

### Quizzes:

Over the course of the semester, we will have seven unannounced quizzes over the terms in the assigned textbook readings. These quizzes will consist of about 7 straight-forward multiple choice and true-false questions and will be worth 15 points per quiz. **You must bring a Scantron Form to record your answers.**

**It is important to be on time for the quizzes**—we will spend no more than the first 10 minutes of class on them. If you arrive late, you will only have as much time to complete it as will be left for the whole class. If you arrive after quizzes are collected, you will get a zero for the quiz.

There are no makeups for the quizzes, however, everyone will **drop their two lowest quiz scores (including zeros)** from calculation of their overall grade.

## CRITERIA FOR GRADING

Mid Term #1	100 pts.
Mid-Term #2	100 pts.
Mid-Term #3	100 pts.
Final Exam	150 pts.
7 Quizzes (Top 5 scores will be counted)	75 pts
3 Homework Assignments	<u>75 pts.</u>
	600 total points
600-- 540 = A	(100-90%)
539-- 480 = B	(89-80%)
479-- 420 = C	(79-70%)
419-- 360 = D	(69-60%)
Below 360 = F	(59% and below)

## Course & Instructor Policies:

### Seating Chart:

There will be a seating chart for all class meetings and exams. The seating assignments will be decided on a first-come, first-served basis at our second meeting – (so get to class early on that day if you have a strong preference for a specific seat). If you miss class when seats are assigned, you will have to get your seat assigned at the next class period.

### **Cell Phones/Computers/Tape Recorders:**

**Anyone text messaging in class will lose 10 points off their final grade per occurrence.** Leave the classroom temporarily if you feel the need to partake in that.

**Anyone using a laptop for “non-educational purposes” will lose 10 points off their final course grade per occurrence.**

**You have my permission to tape my lectures as long as you are using it for yourself and/or a classmate.** Lectures are legally copyrighted material, therefore they cannot be sold, bartered, etc. without my permission.

### **Missed Classes Notes:**

**I do not give out copies of lecture notes or PowerPoint slides.** It is the student’s responsibility to get information from missed classes from another student.

### **Make-up Exams:**

Students who miss an exam need to provide the instructor with a **valid, documented** reason for missing an exam in order to be allowed to take a make-up exam. If allowed, students have **seven calendar days** to make up the exam (basically, before the class meets again) or they get a zero for that test score.

**Note:** The makeup exams are usually longer and more detailed than the regular exams. They have many essays and challenging short-answer questions that are generally harder than the regular exams, so it is probably in the best interest of students to take all exams at the regularly scheduled times if at all possible. Specific information about the makeup exams will be given at the same time as the information for the regular exams.

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### **Student Conduct and Discipline**

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UT Dallas printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is available to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000*, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, and in *Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities* of the university’s *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>.

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents’ Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Students are expected to be attentive during class and to participate actively in group activities. Students are expected to listen respectfully to faculty and to other students who are speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in class. Classes may discuss issues that require sensitivity and maturity. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

## **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

*Scholastic Dishonesty:* Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline.

Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting for credit any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, or any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source, is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of *turnitin.com*, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

## **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's UT Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UT Dallas student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individuals corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UT Dallas furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at UT Dallas provides a method for students to have their UT Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

## **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal from any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course inventory and in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, a professor or other instructor cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

## **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in *Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities*, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate

Education, and the Dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

### **Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA)**

UT Dallas is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for students with documented disabilities to all University courses and programs. Any student with a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability, which affects his/her academic performance, is eligible for services. If you need classroom accommodations, please make an appointment with the Office of Student AccessAbility at: SSB 3.200 (3rd Floor in SSB), 972-883-2098. Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Evening appointments are available by request. <http://www.utdallas.edu/studentaccess/>

OSA provides registered students with an accommodation letter to present to faculty members. The letter verifies that the student is qualified to receive certain accommodations. The accommodation letter should be presented to instructors of each course at the beginning of the semester. The approved accommodations should be discussed at that time. It is the student's responsibility to notify his/her professor of their needs.

The University of Texas at Dallas is proud to be an educational institution that welcomes and supports a diverse student body.

### **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, *Texas Code Annotated*.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of *TEC 51.911(b)*, and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

## **Field Trip Policies, Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities**

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities.

Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at

[http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm). Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.

## **COURSE CALENDAR (subject to slight modification)**

**Major lecture Seating Chart on 1<sup>st</sup> class of 2<sup>nd</sup> week + Seating Chart on 1<sup>st</sup> class of 2<sup>nd</sup> week + topics are listed in chronological order with each line representing one class day**  
**[TEXTBOOK PAGES FOR YOU TO READ (AND KNOW THE TERMS FOR) ARE IN BRACKETS]**

**Course Introduction [no readings]**

**Civil War/Reconstruction Recap [no required readings; use Chapter 18 for reference]**

**Seating Chart on 1<sup>st</sup> class of 2<sup>nd</sup> week + Industrialization/Rise of Big Business [Ch. 19, pp. 497-511]**

**Carnegie & the American Steel Industry [Ch. 19, pp. 501-503 (again) on Carnegie + pp. 516-20]**

**No Class [Labor Day]**

**Rise of the Modern City/Immigration [Ch. 19, pp. 511-516]**

**American Overseas Expansion, 1865-1898 [Ch. 20, pp. 535-48]**

**MID-TERM EXAM #1 [Wed., Sept. 16]**

**Progressive Era I [Ch. 21, pp. 559-75]**

**Progressive Era II [Ch. 21, pp. 572-87]**

**US Foreign Affairs (1898-1914)/US Neutrality in World War I [Ch. 20, pp. 548-55 + Ch. 22, pp. 591-99]**

**U.S. in World War I/Treaty of Versailles [Ch. 22, pp. 600-615]**

**Society & Politics during the “Roaring ’20s” [Ch. 23, pp. 619-42]**

**1920s economy/Hoover/Great Depression Begins [Ch. 23, pp. 642-43; 647-51]**

**F.D.R. & the New Deal I [Ch. 24, pp. 651-66]**

**Homework #1 Due + F.D.R. & the New Deal II [Ch. 24, pp. 666-75]**

**MID-TERM EXAM #2 [approx. Mon., Oct. 19]**

**Coming of WW II [Ch. 25, pp. 679-88]**

**Coming of WW II [Ch. 25, pp. 688-95]**

**World War II in Europe/WW II Home Front [Ch. 25, pp. 695-97; 698-716]**

**WW II in the Pacific [Ch. 25, pp. 697-98; 716-723]**

**Truman & start of the Cold War in Europe [Ch. 26, pp. 727-37]**

**Homework #2 Due + Truman & expansion of the Cold War to Asia [Ch. 26, pp. 737-49]**

**MID-TERM EXAM #3 [approx. Wed., Nov. 11]**

**Eisenhower & the Cold War/Politics & Civil Rights in the 50s [Ch. 26, 749-59 + Ch. 27, pp. 763-76]**

**Kennedy & the early 1960s [Ch. 28, pp. 793-808 + Ch. 29, pp. 825-30]**

**No Class – Thanksgiving Week Break around here**

**Lyndon Johnson & the 1960s: Great Society Reforms/Civil Rights [Ch. 29, pp. 808-21]**

**LBJ & the Vietnam War [Ch. 29, pp. 830-847]**

**The Pivotal Year of 1968 [Ch. 30, 851-875]**

**Homework #3 Due + Nixon, the Vietnam War, and the Watergate Scandal [Ch. 31, 879-900]**

**No Class on Monday, December 14**

**FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 16 5:00-6:30 pm**