

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

## Syllabus 1302

**The Instructor retains the right to amend this schedule as necessary.**

Fall 2017: United States History from 1876

HIST 1302.205: TR 1:00 – 2:15PM, RC 319

Instructor: Dr. Scott Buchanan

Email: [sbuchanan@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:sbuchanan@southplainscollege.edu)

**\*\*\*WARNING:** there are two of us on campus, **make sure** you are contacting **the History Professor!**

Office: LIB 330 Levelland Campus

Office Hours:

**M:** 10:45 – 11:00AM, 12:15 – 1:00PM, 2:15 – 2:30

**\*T:** 12:15PM – 1:00PM, 3:45 – 5:30PM. In RC319

**W:** 10:45 – 11:00AM, 12:15 – 1:00PM, 2:15 – 2:30

**\*TH:** 12:15 – 1:00PM, 3:45 – 4:00PM. In RC319

**F:** 10:00 – 12:00PM, and by appointment

**\*Tuesday - Thursday office hours are at Reese Center Bldg. 3, Room RC319**

Office Phone: (806) 894-9611 ext. 2465

Textbook: Pauline Maier, *et al*, *Inventing America: A History of the United States*, Vol. 2.

Reading: George Orwell, *1984*

There are three primary objectives for the student of American history at the college level. First is the acquisition of facts about American history that will give the student a degree of cultural literacy that is required for an individual to be considered college educated. Second is to imbue and develop in the student a faculty for critical thinking when addressing political, economic, cultural or social issues and institutions. The third objective is the combination of one and two. To create opinions and discussions rooted in fact and refined by the student's own logic.

This course will commence with the political and social settlements of the U.S. Civil War and Reconstruction eras. We will proceed through the Gilded Age, the World Wars, the birth of the modern era, and the Cold War and post-Cold War eras. The instructor will focus on the political, technological, military and economic facets of the material. Religious, social and cultural history will not be ignored, but will be secondary themes.

**Class Format:** The teaching style will consist almost universally of lecture. The board will be used to spell some terms from the lecture. Students should not hesitate to ask the instructor to define a term with which they are not familiar. Students are expected to take notes from the lecture to help them learn the material and study for exams. Laptops are no longer acceptable for note taking. Recording devices are allowed, but must be placed on the table at the front of the classroom prior to the start of class.

**Class Behavior:** Behavior during the class period that interferes with the learning process of other students, such as talking, excessive tardiness, and reading non-class materials or sleeping will not be tolerated. Cell phones in any incarnation will not be tolerated. Students will be penalized ten percent (one letter grade) from their final average for each cell phone use in class. Students attempting to utilize unapproved technology will be required to leave the class and be counted absent for the class period in which the infraction occurs. Students may return to the class

on subsequent days only after they have made an oral apology to the class (this process requires a form available from the instructor). The playing of audio devices in the classroom is not allowed.

**Attendance:** Attendance is expected and required. Roll will be taken at each class meeting. On the fifth unexcused absence, or on the third consecutive absence, the student will be dropped from the course with an F. Students who arrive late to class should talk with the instructor following the class or during office hours to prevent being counted absent.

**Time Management:** Success in a college level course requires that the student discipline themselves and spend significant time learning the course material outside of lecture. To determine the amount typically needed the student should take the number of credit hours of a given class and multiply by three. Thus for History 1302, a three credit hour class, the student should expect to spend nine hours a week outside of class working with the material.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529.

**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.

**Grade Calculations:**

- Examinations 25% each for 75% of total grade
- Participation and Attendance 5%
- 1984* assignment 10%
- Additional Readings 5% each for 10% of total grade
- (Additional readings will be provided by the instructor)

**\*GRADE INFORMATION CAN NOT BE SENT VIA EMAIL\***

**Examinations:** There will be four exams during the semester including the final exam. Exams will primarily be composed of multiple choice, matching and true/false questions. There will be identification or essay questions on at least two of the exams. There will be four exams given; the lowest grade from exams One, Three, or Four will be dropped from the average. The grade from exam Two will not be dropped. If a student misses an exam, they will be allowed to take a **comprehensive** make up exam on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM in the Administration Building Room 129 (Levelland Campus).

**Quizzes:** There are three quizzes, two from readings handed out by the instructor, and one from Orwell's *1984*. On the date listed, students are expected to have read the correct material and will take a brief quiz over the reading. Students will then be divided into small groups to answer questions about the reading. The assignments are each worth five percent of the final grade.

Students made substitute the LIFE assignment for one of the quiz assignments. Instructions for the LIFE assignment are available from the professor upon request.

**Make-up work:** If a student misses an examination or quiz, they may be given an opportunity to make-up the work if they can do so within a reasonable amount of time. In such a situation it is the responsibility of the student to schedule a make-up time and place with the instructor and to confirm the make-up via email one day previous to the scheduled make-up. If a student fails to keep a scheduled makeup appointment, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned for the assignment that cannot be removed from the average. Allowing make-up work is a courtesy extended by the professor and the student will be responsible for managing the arrangements.

**Extra-Credit:** Often during the semester students will find themselves in need of an extra-credit assignment to offset poor exam performance or an attendance issue. Students opting to undertake this assignment will produce a book review four pages in length over a historical monograph they have selected with the instructor's approval (see book review instructions below). The student will turn in a typed, double-spaced, twelve-point font, four page review of the work and meet with him during his regularly posted office hours do discuss the concepts of the work. This meeting will not normally exceed twenty minutes. The application of the extra-credit points will be agreed on before the project commences. Extra-credit assignments will improve the final grade **up to** five percent if completed satisfactorily. An additional two percent may be earned by reading the completed assignment to the class. Extra-credit assignments must be approved by March 28<sup>th</sup> and the final version is due April 20<sup>th</sup>, see the instructor between now and March 28<sup>th</sup> to receive the required cover sheet for the assignment

Extra-credit is accepted in hardcopy only, it cannot be submitted electronically.

**Note Taking:** Students are expected to take notes from the lectures. If a student wishes to use an electronic device to take notes, they must clear such with the professor and abide by the pertinent rules. Likewise students who believe they can function as auditory only learners must make the professor aware of their intention. Recording devices are allowed. However, any use of the lectures for any purpose other than classwork is strictly forbidden.

**The Instructor retains the right to amend this schedule as necessary.**

“Studying history, my friend, is no joke and irresponsible game. To study history one must know in advance that one is attempting something fundamentally impossible, yet necessary and highly important. To study history means submitting to chaos and nevertheless retaining faith in order and meaning. It is a very serious task, young man, and possibly a tragic one.”

---Herman Hesse, *Magister Ludi* 1943

**Course Schedule: History 1302.206, MW 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM, LIB RC319**

Victorian –ISMS

The West & Railroads

The Gilded Age

Populism & Progressivism

**Wednesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>: All the World Akin, assignment due (instructor will hand out reading)**

**Wednesday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>: EXAM #1**

Road to Twentieth-Century Super-Powers

World War I

**Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Exam #2**

The Twenties

Modern Times

The Thirties

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>: Advertising and Marketing assignment (instructor will hand out reading)**

Depression and Extremism

World War II

**Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>: Exam #3**

The Cold War begins

**Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>: Orwell Reading due**

Cold War America

**FINAL EXAM: Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>: 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM, RC319**

