History 1302: United States History II

Instructor: Dr. Michael Perri                Office: 903-223-3194
Office: 227                          E-mail: mperri@tamut.edu

**Course Description:** This is a course on the historical development of the United States since 1877. Students will study the people, events, and ideas that influenced United States history in the Gilded Age, Progressive Era, Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, New Deal, Second World War, and Postwar Era. Readings, lectures, and discussions will consider the American experience as a unique experiment in enlightened liberty and self-government.

**Required Textbook:** The Brief American Pageant, 8th Edition.

**Course Requirements and Means of Evaluation:**
90–100% = A, 80–89% = B, 70–79% = C, 60–69% = D, 59% or less = F. In accordance with university policy, grades will not be posted nor reported over the telephone or e-mail.

- Examinations: 300 points (100 each)
- Critical Essay: 200 points (See “GUIDE TO WRITING THE CRITICAL ESSAY”)
  - Choosing a topic and writing an outline (20 points)
  - Submitting a confirmation form signed by a Success Center tutor that verifies the student and tutor reviewed a draft of the essay (20 points)
  - Submitting a draft to the instructor (60 points)
  - Submitting a final critical essay (100 points)
- Assignments: 50-200 points
- TOTAL: Between 450-500 points, depending on the number of assignments

**Examinations (300 points):**
Three examinations worth 100 points each. The examinations will be a mixture of multiple-choice questions, identification questions, short-answer questions and essay questions. The examinations may also have a take-home component.

**Absences from examinations:** Students are expected to take the examinations when they are scheduled. They must make arrangements for missed examinations in advance of their absence or prior to the next class. Documented medical and job-related issues are appropriate excuses for missing an examination. The deadline for arranging a makeup examination is the first class period following the scheduled examination day. All examinations should be completed within one week of the scheduled date. Students who do not adhere to this deadline may receive a grade of “F” for the examination. Make-up examinations may be essays.
Request for Permission to Makeup an Examination or an Assignment

I, ______________________________________, a student in _________________, request permission to makeup ___________________________ (examination or assignment). The reason for this request is__________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________
If the makeup is approved, I will complete the assignment by _______________________ .

_________________________________________
Signature

Class assignments (50-150 points): The instructor designs assignments to encourage critical thinking, enhance class discussions and assist students’ performance on examinations. There will be a minimum of one and a maximum of twelve class assignments. The aggregate value of the assignments will be between a minimum of 5 points and a maximum of 100. The assignments will vary and will not all have the same value, although most will be worth either 10 or 50 points. They may consist of short essays, short written answers to specific questions, quizzes, or participation in group projects and presentations. The instructor will determine the number of assignments based on the pace and needs of the course. The number of assignments has been purposely left undetermined to provide the course an element of flexibility. Students do not know when there will be an in-class assignment, so assignments also serve the purpose of encouraging regular attendance. Missed in-class assignments cannot be made up. Late take-home assignments will be penalized the equivalent of one letter grade.

Critical Essay (200 points): See “GUIDE TO WRITING THE CRITICAL ESSAY”

Course Reading: Students must carefully read the assigned readings before the class. For each hour in class, students are expected to spend 2-3 hours of study outside of class. Reading for a college course differs significantly from casual reading. Course materials should be read actively.

Active reading involves:

• taking note of major points
• writing down questions or concerns
• summarizing important paragraphs or sections.

Please use formal language in your assignments. In other words, use a professional writing style that pays attention to correct spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and citation of borrowed material. Students should avoid contractions and colloquialisms.

Drop Policy: To drop this course after the census date (see semester calendar), a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html) or obtained in the Registrar’s Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana,
TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned. **Dropping the course prior to the deadline is the student’s responsibility.**

**Disability Accommodations:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of ‘F’ in the course and/or disciplinary actions. **Do not rely on copying and pasting information from the internet. If you do use information from the internet in an assignment, you must cite it.** For additional information, see the university catalog.

Some helpful websites on how to cite your work:

- [http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite7.html](http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite7.html)
- [http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/guides/chicagogd.html](http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/guides/chicagogd.html)
- [http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/cite/works_cited.htm](http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/cite/works_cited.htm)

**A&M-Texarkana Email Address:**

*Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.*

**Student Learner Outcomes:** Students who successfully complete HIST 1302 will be able to

- describe the people, events, and ideas that influenced United States history since 1877;
- summarize the ways in which religious, ethnic, social, and racial diversity has contributed to the development of an American culture;
- justify the American experience as a unique experiment in enlightened liberty and self-government;
- argue or defend a position regarding a historical issue;
- enhance their reading, writing, and analytical skills.

**Perri’s Rules of Class Decorum:**

1. Students must set their cell phones on vibrate and take any calls outside the classroom. Other cell phone functions (i.e. games, e-mail, texting, and apps) should not be used during class time.
2. The instructor prohibits the use of laptop computers or tablets during class.
3. The instructor prohibits the use of all music playing devices during class, even when such devices are used with earphones or headphones.

4. Overall, students should be considerate of their fellow students. Playing with devices, chitchatting, and otherwise distracting your fellow students during the lecture does not benefit the course. If you wish to engage in these activities, please do so outside of the classroom.

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

**Week 1: January 13-18**
Readings: Chapter 23: Political Paralysis in the Gilded Age, 1869-1896

**Week 2: January 19-25**
Readings: Chapter 24: Industrial Comes of Age, 1865-1900

**Week 3: January 26-February 1**
Readings:
1. Chapter 25: America Moves to the City, 1865-1900
2. Chapter 26: The Great West and the Agricultural Revolution

**January 31: Step 1 of Critical Essay Assignment due.** (Choose an essay topic from a list of essay questions in the Writing Guide. Write and submit an outline of your essay.)

**Week 4: February 2-8**
Readings: Chapter 27: Empire and Expansion, 1890-1909

**February 4: Step 2 of Critical Essay Assignment due.** (Make an appointment with a tutor in the Success Center (UC 330) to review draft of your essay.)

**Week 5: February 9-15**
Readings:
1. Chapter 28: Progressivism and the Republican Roosevelt, 1901-1912
2. Chapter 29: Wilsonian Progressivism at Home and Abroad, 1912-1916

**February 18—**[EXAMINATION 1: The examination will be based on the material in chapters 23-29.](#)**

**Week 6: February 16-22**
Readings:
1. Chapter 30: The War to End War, 1917-1918

**Week 7: February 23-March 1**
Readings: Chapter 32: The Politics of Boom and Bust, 1920-1932

**Week 8: March 2-8**
Readings: Chapter 33: The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1933-1939
Readings: Chapter 34: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Shadow of War, 1933-1941
Week 9: March 9-15  Spring Break

Week 10: March 16-22
Readings: Chapter 35: America in World War II

Week 11: March 23-March 29
Readings: Chapter 36: The Cold War Begins, 1945-1952

**April 1—EXAMINATION 2:** The examination will be based on the material in chapters 30-36.

April 1: Step 3 of Critical Essay Assignment due. (Students must submit on April 1 (not before) a confirmation form signed by a Success Center tutor. This form will verify that you reviewed a draft of your essay with a Success Center tutor. (20 points)

Week 12: March 30-April 5
April 8: Step 4 of Critical Essay Assignment due. Turn in rough draft of the essay to the instructor. (60 points)

Week 13: April 6-12
Readings: Chapter 38: The Stormy Sixties, 1960-1968

Week 14: April 13-19

Week 15: April 20-26

Week 16: April 27-May 3
Readings: Chapter 41: America Confronts the Post-Cold War Era, 1992-2010

**Step 5 (due May 1): Final copy. (100 points)**

Week 17: May 4-7.
Final Exam Week (Day and time TBA) The Final Examination date may change according to the university’s final examination schedule
FINAL EXAMINATION. The examination will be based on chapters 37-42.