

History 1302: United States History II

Spring Semester, 2010

Blinn College – Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet

Section:

I3; TR 2:50-4:05p in A276

J3; TR 5:40-6:55p in A276

Instructor: Jason Godin

Office Number: A216

Office Hours: TR 11a-12p

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

History of the United States II (1302) is a survey of United States History since the Reconstruction Period. The course covers the industrial, social, and political problems of the nineteenth century as well as the emergence of the United States as a world power in the twentieth century. This survey discusses the Progressive period, World War I, the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, and contemporary America.

CORE CURRICULUM COURSE:

This is a Core Course in the 42-Hour Core of Blinn College. As such, students will develop proficiency in the appropriate Intellectual Competencies, Exemplary Educational Objectives, and Perspectives. The URL for the Blinn College Core Curriculum website is <http://www.blinn.edu/corecurriculum.htm>.

COURSE OBJECTIVES and STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students should have working knowledge of the following topics after successfully completing History 1302:

- explain the rise of big business and labor unions
- analyze the main reform movements of the 19th and 20th centuries
- summarize the causes and consequences of the major foreign wars of the 19th and 20th centuries
- evaluate the principal changes in US foreign policy during this period
- examine the major social, cultural, and economic issues of the 19th and 20th centuries
- determine the cause and effects of the Cold War on the latter half of the 20th century

BOOKS, SUPPLIES, AND MATERIALS:

Textbook (T&S): *America: A Narrative History*, Vol. 2, 7th ed. by George Brown Tindall and David Emory Shi. ISBN: 0-393-92733-4

Reader (RUSH): *Readings in United States History*, Vol. 2, 5th ed. by Ron Wright, Larry Watson, and Blanche Brick. ISBN: 0-759-38878-4

Biography (HST): *Harry S. Truman and the Modern American Presidency* by Robert H. Ferrell. ISBN: 0-673-39337-2

Supplies and Materials: 3 Scantron Forms (1 for each exam) and #2 pencils

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT:

Blinn College does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or collusion. The Scholastic Dishonesty Policy outlines procedures for dealing with these acts.

ADA STATEMENT:

Blinn College makes reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities. Students must present documentation as soon as possible for the instructor to arrange accommodation. Students can obtain information regarding procedures for documenting disabilities from the Counseling Office.

CIVILITY STATEMENT:

Blinn College expects all faculty, staff, and students to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others.

If the instructor asks the student to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for this conference.

COURSE POLICIES:

Class Attendance and Participation

Students at Blinn College are required to attend all their classes promptly and regularly. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in this class. **If a student has one week's worth of absences (or 2 lectures) during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact the instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. The College will administratively withdraw him/her from class if the student accumulates two weeks' worth of absences (or 4 lectures).**

Excused Absences

Blinn College recognizes the following forms of excused absences:

- observance of religious holy days. The student should notify his/her instructor(s) no later than the 15th day of the semester concerning the specific date(s) that the student will be absent for any religious holy day(s)
- representing Blinn College District or an independent high school district at an official institutional function
- military service
- discretion of the instructor

Electronic Devices

Students must turn off and place away out of sight all electronic devices including, but not limited to, cellular phones iPods, and laptop computers during lecture.

Food and Beverages

Absolutely no food and/or drink allowed in the classroom.

eCampus

The instructor employs eCampus extensively for this course. eCampus contains a digital copy of the course syllabus, Writing Guide, as well as all the PowerPoint lectures, online reading guides, and long essay question prompts released for the two major and final exams. **The student must consult eCampus frequently in order to succeed in this course.** The student is responsible when missing any lecture(s) to download and consult the missed material(s) before speaking with the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance

The instructor measures student attendance each lecture by passing around a sign-in sheet that the student initials by his/her name. Attendance for each lecture is worth six (6) points.

The instructor documents a student as “tardy” to lecture when the student:

- arrives more than ten (10) minutes after the instructor releases the sign-in sheet
- departs early without consulting the instructor as to the reason beforehand

The student loses three (3) points from their overall attendance grade for each lecture “tardy”.

If the student arrives to lecture less than 10 minutes after the instructor released the sign-in sheet and he/she did not initial it, the student alone is responsible for speaking with the instructor after lecture to initial the sign-in sheet for credit. The instructor will document as an unexcused absence any students who attend lecture but fail to initial the sign-in sheet. The student will receive an attendance grade of zero (0) for any lecture that he/she does not attend, regardless of whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Participation: Online Reading Guides

The instructor measures student participation throughout the semester using reading guides completed entirely online by the student on eCampus. The reading guides serve multiple functions to the student:

- aid in the study of the required readings
- generate student responses to any questions posed by the instructor during lecture
- provide study resources for examinations

The student submits an online reading guide before each scheduled lecture throughout the semester (see “Course Calendar”, p. 5). The point value for each online reading guide varies, ranging anywhere between ten (10) and twenty (20) points. The student may only submit the online reading guides once for a grade. The format for the online reading guides is multiple choice and/or multiple select, with the questions derived only from the assigned readings for that scheduled lecture day. **The instructor will not accept any reading guides submitted from the student in cases of an unexcused absence, completed on paper, and/or via email. The student will receive a grade of zero (0) on any uncompleted reading guide, or for any reading guide submitted in the above listed manner(s).**

Exams

The instructor administers two (2) major exams throughout the semester worth 175 points each, and a final exam at the end of the semester worth 250 points. The two major exams cover units 1 and 2, respectively, while the final exam is comprehensive in scope. All exams for the course contain three elements:

- objective section composed of multiple choice as well as true/false questions, all derived solely from the PowerPoint lectures and readings guides
- short essay(s) based on one of the PowerPoint lectures
- long essay based on one of the assigned RUSH readings

For the major exams, the instructor first releases the long essay question prompt on eCampus two (2) calendar days prior to the scheduled exam date (see “Course Calendar”, p. 5). The student completes the long essay outside of lecture, and submits it to the instructor on eCampus using the Turnitin drop box. Students must type their long essay responses following all provisions outlined in the Writing Guide available on eCampus. **The instructor will not accept long essays that are handwritten, emailed, or submitted in hard copy format. Failure to follow the Writing Guide provisions results in loss of points on the long essay.** The long essays for the two major exams are all valued at twenty-five (25) points, and are added to the student’s overall major exam score. The student completes the remaining elements of the major exam in lecture on the scheduled date using a Scantron form (Form 882-E or PDP-100) and paper provided by the instructor. The two major exams each consists of an objective section of seventy (70) multiple choice and true/false questions worth two (2) points each, and one (1) short essay worth ten (10) points.

For the final exam, the instructor first releases the long essay question prompt on eCampus immediately following lecture on the last scheduled class day of the semester. The student completes the long essay outside of lecture, and submits it to the instructor on eCampus using the Turnitin drop box. Students must type their long essay responses following all provisions outlined in the Writing Guide available on eCampus. **The instructor will not accept long essays that are handwritten, emailed, or submitted in hard copy format. Failure to follow the Writing Guide provisions results in loss of points on the long essay.** The final exam long essay is valued at fifty (50) points, and is added to the student's overall final exam score. The student completes the remaining elements of the final exam in lecture on the scheduled final exam date using a Scantron form (Form 882-E or PDP-100) and paper provided by the instructor. The final exam consists of 90 multiple choice and true/false questions worth two (2) points each, and two (2) short essays collectively worth twenty (20) points.

Students may schedule to make up the two major exams up to five (5) calendar days before or after the scheduled date for excused absences only. **The make-up format for the two major exams is a single essay worth 175 points, administered in the Student Learning Center, and requires the student purchase a Bluebook for the exam. A student who fails to complete or make-up any of the two major exams will receive a grade of F for the course.**

Grade Enhancement: Think Pieces

Students may submit up to two (2) think pieces no longer than one (1) page in length for five (5) points each for grade enhancement. The instructor derives the think piece questions listed below beforehand specifically from the T&S assigned readings. To receive credit, think pieces response(s) must answer the entire question, use only supporting evidence derived from T&S, and follow the Writing Guide available on eCampus. **The student may only submit think pieces for the questions listed for the corresponding scheduled exam.** The instructor will accept think pieces from the student for grade enhancement only on scheduled exam days.

Grade Enhancement Questions for Exam 1:

1. Explain the four constitutional provisions of the Mississippi plan to disenfranchise African Americans and many poor whites in the state during the late nineteenth century.
2. Describe the three related developments involved with the Second Industrial Revolution in the United States.

Grade Enhancement Questions for Exam 2:

1. Describe the three major provisions of the Social Security Act of 1935.
2. Describe three profound effects that World War II had on American life and society.

Grade Enhancement Questions for the Final Exam:

1. Explain two decisions with far-reaching consequences that stemmed from U.S. president Harry S. Truman's conviction that Soviet premier Joseph Stalin orchestrated the invasion of South Korea.
2. Explain the three events that shaped the 1960 presidential election.

GRADING CRITERIA:**Requirements (in total points possible)**

Attendance: 150
 Reading Guides: 250
 Exam 1: 175
 Exam 2: 175
 Final Exam: 250

Scale (in overall points)

A = 900-1000
 B = 800-899
 C = 700-799
 D = 600-699
 F = 0-599

COURSE CALENDAR: (subject to change by instructor as needed)**Unit 1: 1877-1912**

	Lecture Topic	Assigned Readings	Online Reading Guide Due
00	Course Introduction	None	None
01	American South and West	T&S, 705-41; RUSH, 31-44	Wed, Feb 03
02	Industrial Capitalism and the Labor Movement	T&S, 743-77; RUSH, 21-30	Wed, Feb 03
03	Rise of the City	T&S, 779-817	Wed, Feb 03
04	Gilded Age Politics	T&S, 819-38	Mon, Feb 08
05	Populist Revolt	T&S, 838-52; RUSH, 45-54	Wed, Feb 10
06	Emerging World Power	T&S, 859-88; RUSH, 55-61	Mon, Feb 15

Exam 1 Thu, Feb 18**Unit 2: 1912-1945**

07	Progressivism	T&S, 890-928; RUSH, 73-77, 91-103	Mon, Feb 22
08	World War I	T&S, 930-66; RUSH, 105-12	Wed, Feb 24
09	1920s	T&S, 968-1010; RUSH, 113-22	Mon, Mar 01
10	Great Depression	T&S, 1010-20; RUSH, 125-35	Wed, Mar 03
11	New Deal: Approach and Policies	T&S, 1022-43; RUSH, 137-48	Mon, Mar 08
12	New Deal: Legacies	T&S, 1046-61	Mon, Mar 10
13	World War II, 1939-43	T&S, 1063-89, 1091-93; RUSH, 149-57	Mon, Mar 22
14	World War II, 1943-45	T&S, 1094-1130	Wed, Mar 24

Exam 2 Tue, Mar 30**Unit 3: 1945-1999**

15	Origins of the Cold War	T&S, 1143-52, 1160-69; RUSH, 169-77; HST, 1-13	Wed, Mar 31
16	Postwar America, 1945-52	T&S, 1137-43, 1152-59, 1166-69; RUSH, 181-89; HST, 15-43	Mon, Apr 05
17	Eisenhower Years	T&S, 1195-1218; HST, 45-63	Wed, Apr 07
18	1950s	T&S, 1171-92; HST, 65-84	Mon, Apr 12
19	Age of Liberalism	T&S, 1226-32, 1238-51; HST, 87-107	Wed, Apr 14
20	Civil Rights Movements	T&S, 1218-23, 1232-37, 1251-54, 1274-82; RUSH, 191-214	Mon, Apr 19
21	Vietnam Era	T&S, 1254-60, 1266-74, 1283-90; RUSH, 215-24; HST, 109-30	Wed, Apr 21
22	Nixon Years	T&S, 1260-63, 1290-99; HST, 133-48	Mon, Apr 26
23	1970s	T&S, 1299-1311; HST, 151-60	Wed, Apr 28
24	Age of Reagan	T&S, 1313-65	Mon, May 03

Final Exam:

I3	Tue, May 11, 12:45-2:45p	A276
J3	Thu, May 06, 3:15-5:15p	A276