

Blinn College - Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet
U.S. History 1302

Sections/Times: Snook and Caldwell HS on MW at 0730-0845 and 0925-1040

Instructor: Mr. Nathan Giesenschlag

Office: A222

Office Hours: After class or by appointment

Office Phone: 209-7326

Email: nathan.giesenschlag@blinn.edu

Website: www.blinn.edu/brazos/socialscience/hist/ngiesenschlag

Remarks: *The best method to contact me is to come by the office during hours. The next best method is to email me. Finally, a phone call would be sufficient.*

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 19th century as well as the emergence of the United States as a world power in the 20th century. This survey discusses the Progressive period, World War I, the Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, and contemporary America.

Prerequisites:

Must pass the reading requirements of the THEA or be exempted from taking the THEA

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 web site is:

www.blinn.edu/corecurriculum.htm

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- 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;
- and
- 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.

Textbooks, Supplies, Materials:

Textbook: America: A Narrative History, 7th Ed. By Tindall and Shi. Vol. 2

Reader: Readings in American History, 5th Ed., by Wright and Watson. Vol. 2.

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

Supplies: Paper and pen for exams.

Suggested Books for Purchase:

Garner's Modern American Usage, by Garner, Bryan. ISBN 0195161912

Or

The Careful Writer, by Bernstein, Theodore. ISBN 0689705557

The American Heritage Dictionary.

Rogets International Thesaurus

All of these books are available or can be ordered at the Blinn College Book Store, ABEBooks.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble or their website, and other stores as well.

ADA Statement:

Reasonable accommodations will be made for documented disabilities. Students must present documentation as soon as possible for the instructor to arrange accommodation. Information, regarding procedures for documenting disabilities can be obtained from the Counseling Office.

Student Email:

Students will receive official communications from Blinn College through their email account. One can activate the account at: <http://www.blinn.edu/acadtech/studentemail/>

Civility Statement:

Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff and students, are expected 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 a student is asked 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.*

Other Policies:

The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. 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 college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in

consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student's name appears on the roster through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. If the student accumulates two weeks worth of absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class.

There are three forms of excused absences recognized by the institution:

1. Observation of religious holy days – Sec. 51.911(b), Texas Education Code. An institution of higher education shall excuse a student attending classes and/or required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. A student whose absence is excused under this section may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment. The student should notify his or her instructor(s) not 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); and
2. Representing the College District at an official institutional function. If a student is asked by the College District to be an official representative of the College District at any function approved by the institution, the student will be excused from any classes missed and must be allowed to complete all work without penalty for that absence(s) in a timely manner as directed by the faculty member.
3. A high school student representing the independent school district at an official institutional function. If a high school student is asked by the independent school district to be an official representative of the school district at any function approved by the institution, the student shall be excused from any class missed and must be allowed to complete all work without penalty for the absence(s) in a timely manner as directed by the faculty member.

Other absences may be excused at the discretion of the faculty member.

No food or drink in the classroom.

Students must remove all hats, caps, etc.

Blinn College does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism or collusion. Procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the Scholastic Dishonesty Policy.

All the functions of all personal electronic devices designed for communication and/or entertainment (cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, and similar devices) must be turned off and kept out of sight in all Blinn College classrooms and associated laboratories. Any noncompliance with this policy will be addressed in accordance with the Blinn College

civility policy (Administrative Policy). Additionally, any communication understood by the instructor to be in the nature of cheating will have consequences in accordance with this Blinn College policy section regarding academic dishonesty [FLB (Local)]. Students exempted from this policy section include, active members of firefighting organizations, emergency medical services organizations, commissioned police officers, on-call employees of any political subdivision of the state of Texas, or agencies of the federal government. Exempted students are expected to set the emergency-use devices on silent or vibrate mode only.

Any student violating this policy shall be subject to discipline, including suspension, in accordance with FM.

Course Requirements:

There will be three normal exams and one final comprehensive exam. The material for the exams will be culled from lecture, videos, text, the Wright and Watson Reader, and the Truman Biography. Each student will have to deliver a presentation, prepare a memorandum for distribution to their peers, and take questions from both peer and instructor.

Exams:

Three essay exams.

Research Paper: Students will turn in a research paper as outlined in handout.

Grade Enhancement: Student will be able to complete up to two movie reviews from an approved list of movies supplied by the instructor. The review will be at least 250 words, typed, double-spaced, and in 12 point Times-New Roman font. Twenty points possible for each movie review.

Criteria for Grading:

3 Exams at 100 points each or 300 total
Research paper and component parts 300 points
Participation 75
Final Exam 150 points

825 points total for the semester

Calendar:

For the Semester read Chapter 18-35 in textbook.

Exam 1: Feb. 15th. “A Trumpet Note for Heroes” in *Wright*. Introduction – Chapter 3 in *Truman* book.

Exam 2: March 10 Exam includes “Progressivism” in *Wright*. Chapters 4-7 in *Truman* .

Exam 3: April 14 Exam includes “FDR and the Kingfish” in *Wright*. Chapters 8-11 in *Truman*.
Also Grade Enhancement Due on April 14

See Handout for due dates on research paper.

Other Dates: No School on January 21, March 15-19 (Spring Break), Final Exam is last day of lecture.