

US Since 1877
HIST 1302 – XXX
Semester/Time/Place

Professor: XXXX
Office: XXXX
Phone: 326-XXX
Email: XXX@tamiu.edu
Office Hours: XX:30 am – XX:30 pm

Required Textbooks:

Kennedy, Cohen, Piehl, *The Brief American Pageant: Volume II: Since 1865* (8th Edition)/ ISBN-13: 978-1-111-34294-4

Michael P. Johnson, *Reading the American Past: Volume II: From 1865* (4th Edition)/ ISBN-13: 978-0-312-45968-0

Course Description:

This course surveys the development of the United States since 1877. It will examine the political, social, cultural and diplomatic events and trends affecting American society in the modern era. A further description of the course appears in the current TAMIU catalog.

Course Learning Objectives:

- **Critical Thinking:** Students will be able to analyze and evaluate economic, social, and political trends in US history before 1877 through writing essay exams.
- **Communication Skills:** Students will be able to interpret relevant primary and secondary documents and express their interpretations and comprehension of events and issues in US history before through argumentative essays or class-room debates.
- **Personal Responsibility:** Students will be able to demonstrate their ability to connect choices to consequences through role-related argumentative essays or class-room debates.
- **Social Responsibility:** Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the importance of civic engagement and its historical context through topic-related argumentative essays or class-room debates.

Purpose of the Course:

The United States has become a global hyper-power that has more cultural, economic, and military strength than any nation in history. This course will present views on how this nation formed a society and a national outlook that facilitated this rise to dominance. It also aims to inform students about the struggles Americans have undertaken to achieve

liberty, equality, and wealth. Those who possess an understanding of these matters will, hopefully, become more thoughtful and responsible citizens.

Course Requirements:

Grading:

Attendance:

Students who attend all class sessions and pay attention will have more exposure to the material. As a result, they will do better in the course; it's that simple. The Professor will take roll to identify any habitual absentees. More than three absences of any kind will adversely affect the student's participation grade (20 point reduction in the participation/ attendance grade for each additional absence).

Students should make the effort to turn up on time. Those who arrive late should take the nearest available seat as quickly as possible and it is their fault if they have already missed the roll sheet being handed out & collected. They will be counted as absent. Likewise if they leave before class is dismissed without having previously notified the professor of their intent to leave early.

The student holds the responsibility for dropping a course. The Professor will not drop students simply because they stop attending class. Friday, April 13 is the last day to drop a class.

Classroom etiquette:

Please adhere to the following rules:

- Maintain a respectful demeanor during class discussion both with other students and the Professor. We all have strongly held religious, political, and cultural views and part of this course's function is to question where they came from and why we maintain or discard them. It is not the intent of this course to attack or demean anyone's beliefs or to promote anyone's prejudice.
- Please inform the Professor before class if you have to leave early.
- Please turn off all cell phone and pager ringers/ beepers. Let the Professor know if you anticipate receiving an important call during class and, if it comes, quietly leave the room to take the call.
- **Do not text message, surf the web, or play games on your phone during class.**
- Do not do homework during class time.
- **The Professor regards the improper use of the internet during class as rude and counterproductive. If a student is surfing inappropriate pages (such as**

MySpace and Face Book) then s/he is not paying attention to lecture. **The Professor has therefore banned laptops from use during lecture unless there is a need due to documentable or obvious disability.**

- Do not sleep, nap, or rest your head on the desk during class. If you are tired, go home and sleep.
- If you are sick (cold or flu, for instance), stay at home and get well. Coming to class will only extend your illness, spread the disease, and cause disruption due to continuous coughing, sneezing, fainting (or worse?).
- Do not chat or act in a disruptive manner in class. Save your socializing for the halls or the Student Center. **Walking around during lecture is disruptive behavior!**
- Please do not wear ear buds/ phones during the exams.
- **Students should see to their personal needs before an exam. Students will not be allowed “bathroom breaks” during an exam.** If a student has a medical condition needing access to bathroom facilities during an exam, then the student should make arrangements to take the exam with testing services due to such a disability. Students who leave the room during an exam period must turn in their answer sheet as they leave.
- **Students cannot start an exam once the first student to complete the exam has left the room.**
- This is not a high school. There are no hall monitors and you won't get sent to the Principal's office if you break these rules. However, the Professor will give you one verbal warning in front of the class. If the problem continues, he will tell you to leave the room. This is an unpleasant and embarrassing experience for all concerned. Just act like a responsible person and there will be no unpleasantness at all.
- Contrary to popular opinion the University IS part of the “real world.” The grades on your transcript and the money you spend on tuition are “real.” Take your academic work seriously.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

- Plagiarism means presenting someone else's work as your own (including cutting and pasting off the web!). Do not do this at any point in your University career, there are severe repercussions.
- Any student caught cheating during an exam will receive an “F” for the course.

Incompletes and “Extra Work”:

Incomplete: Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a “W.” To qualify for an “incomplete” and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a “W”, and the student must be passing the course;
2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an “Incomplete Grade Contract” and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the “I” to automatically be converted to a “F”; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college.

No student taking an “I” can achieve an “A” for the eventual course grade unless extreme circumstances apply.

Students cannot improve their grade through “extra work.” The Professor assigns grades strictly based on classroom performance.

Class Topics & Schedule:

- Reconstruction (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 22/ *Reading the American Past*, 16-2 & 16-5)
- Expansion and Development of the Western Frontier (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 26/ *Reading the American Past*, 17-3)
- The Growth of Industrialism (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 24/ *Reading the American Past*, 18-3)
- Urban Life and Machine Politics/ Gilded Age (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 25/ *Reading the American Past*, 19-5 & 20-1)
- The Progressive Era (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 27, 28 & 29/ *Reading the American Past*, 21-2)
- The First World War (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 30/ *Reading the American Past*, 22-1)
- The Roaring ‘20s (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 31 & 32/ *Reading the American Past*, 23-1)
- The New Deal Era (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 33/ *Reading the American Past*, 24-1 & 24-3)
- The Second World War (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 34 & 35/ *Reading the American Past*, 25-4)

- Cold War and the Beginning of the Civil Rights Movement/ US in the 1950s and 1960s (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 36, 37 & 38/ *Reading the American Past*, 26-2 & 27-2)
- A Changing Society Under Pressure/ Vietnam & Watergate (Kennedy, *Brief American Pageant*, Ch. 39/ *Reading the American Past*, 28-1 & 29-2)
 - **Comprehensive final – Wednesday, May 9 @ 8 am**

Policies of the College of Arts and Sciences

Classroom Behavior

The College of Arts and Sciences encourages classroom discussion and academic debate as an essential intellectual activity. It is essential that students learn to express and defend their beliefs, but it is also essential that they learn to listen and respond respectfully to others whose beliefs they may not share. The College will always tolerate diverse, unorthodox, and unpopular points of view, but it will not tolerate condescending or insulting remarks. When students verbally abuse or ridicule and intimidate others whose views they do not agree with, they subvert the free exchange of ideas that should characterize a university classroom. If their actions are deemed by the professor to be disruptive, they will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include being involuntarily withdrawn from the class.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as your own. **1)** When you borrow someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words, you must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism. **2)** When you also borrow someone else's words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism. **3)** When you present someone else's paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own, you have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2010, sixth edition of the *Manual of The American Psychological Association* (APA):

Plagiarism: Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. *Each time* you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text.

The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the Discussion section of someone else's article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications. (pp. 15-16)

Consult the Writing Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the *Manual of the APA* or the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* for guidance on proper documentation. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.

Use of Work in Two or More Courses: You may not submit work completed in one course for a grade in a second course unless you receive explicit permission to do so by the instructor of the second course.

Penalties for Plagiarism: Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student should receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, may elect to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade. This option should not be available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse.

Caution: Be very careful what you upload to Turnitin or send to your professor for evaluation. Whatever you upload for evaluation will be considered your final, approved draft. If it is plagiarized, you will be held responsible. The excuse that "it was only a draft" will not be accepted.

Caution: Also, do not share your electronic files with others. If you do, you are responsible for the possible consequences. If another student takes your file of a paper and changes the name to his or her name and submits it and you also submit the paper, we will hold both of you responsible for plagiarism. It is impossible for us to know with certainty who wrote the paper and who stole it. And, of course, we cannot know if there was collusion between you and the other student in the matter.

Penalties for Cheating: Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student should receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident should be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an "F" in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an "F" in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a "W."

Student Right of Appeal: Faculty will notify students immediately via the student's TAMIU e-mail account that they have submitted plagiarized work. Students have the right to appeal a faculty member's charge of academic dishonesty by notifying the TAMIU Honor Council of their intent to appeal as long as the notification of appeal comes within 5 business days of the faculty member's e-mail message to the student. The *Student Handbook* provides details

UConnect, TAMIU E-Mail, and Dusty Alert

Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU's UConnect Portal and TAMIU E-mail are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty – not the U.S. Mail and not other e-mail addresses. Students and faculty must check UConnect and their TAMIU e-mail accounts regularly, if not daily. Not having seen an important TAMIU e-mail or UConnect message from a faculty member, chair, or dean is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to sign-up for *Dusty Alert* (see www.tamtu.edu). *Dusty Alert* is an instant cell phone text-messaging system allowing the university to communicate immediately with you if there is an on-campus emergency, something of immediate danger to you, or a campus closing.

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to \$100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to \$250,000 and imprisonment.

Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Director of Student Counseling and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations.

Incompletes

Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a "W." To qualify for an "incomplete" and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a "W", and the student must be passing the course;
2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an "Incomplete Grade Contract" and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the "I" to automatically be converted to a "F"; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college.

This is the general policy regarding the circumstances under which an "incomplete" may be granted, but under exceptional circumstances, a student may receive an incomplete who does not meet all of the criteria above if the faculty member, department chair, and dean recommend it.

Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course

It is the responsibility of the STUDENT to drop the course before the final date for withdrawal from a course. Faculty members, in fact, may not drop a student from a course without getting the approval of their department chair and dean.

Independent Study Course

Independent Study (IS) courses are offered only under exceptional circumstances. Required courses intended to build academic skills may not be taken as IS (e.g., clinical supervision and internships). No student will take more than one IS course per semester. Moreover, IS courses are limited to seniors and graduate students. Summer IS course must continue through both summer sessions.

Grade Changes & Appeals

Faculty are authorized to change final grades only when they have committed a computational error or an error in recording a grade, and they must receive the approval of their department chairs and the dean to change the grade. As part of that approval, they must attach a detailed explanation of the reason for the mistake. Only in rare cases would another reason be entertained as legitimate for a grade change. A student who is unhappy with his or her grade on an assignment must discuss the situation with the faculty member teaching the course. If students believe that they have been graded unfairly, they have the right to appeal the grade using a grade appeal process in the *Student Handbook* and the *Faculty Handbook*.

Final Examination

Final Examination must be comprehensive and must contain a written component. The written component should comprise at least 20% of the final exam grade. Exceptions to this policy must receive the approval of the department chair and the dean at the beginning of the semester.