

UNITED STATES HISTORY II (HIST 1302-063)

Professor: Mrs. Brittani “BK” Riley

Email: Briley@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Tues, 5-6 PM; Sun, 10AM-12PM; by appointment as needed

Course Dates: Spring 2026 (1/12/26 - 5/2/26)

Course Times: Asynchronous

Classroom: Internet

Please contact me by email or a Canvas message at any time! I should respond within 24 hours during the semester. Office hours are held via Zoom. The meeting link will be shared in Canvas.

Course Overview

This course surveys major political, economic, and social developments in the United States from the end of Reconstruction (1877) to the present. History is more than dates and names; it's a tool for understanding power, identity, and change. This course will emphasize the experiences of diverse Americans and how historical events – big and small – shaped our current society.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Recognize major historical events and figures in United States history from 1877 to present day.
- Discuss economic, social, and political developments in the US during this time on a basic level.
- Connect historical thought, trends, and/or movements to relevant modern topics.
- Think critically and articulate understanding through fact-based communication.

Required Textbooks and Readings

- **Primary Textbook:** *The American Yawp: A Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook*, edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2019). [LINK: <http://www.americanyawp.com>]
- All materials required for this course are freely sourced online. Any media necessary will be embedded within the Canvas module directly or hyperlinked.

Course Structure

This course is entirely online and spans 15 weeks. Each week, students will review a lecture and/or specified readings, and complete assignments. Our textbook will be supplemented by primary source material and media (photos, videos, etc.).

Graded Course Requirements

Quizzes – 11 Total

- Students will complete multiple choice quizzes at the end of each chapter. Each quiz allows one retake for a better grade.
- These will ensure you've understood the weekly material.

Discussions – 2 Total

- Students will participate in two discussion board activities. Activities will include a prompt from the professor, a well-written post from the student with references to our readings, and two thoughtful comments on other student's posts.
- This will help you learn to think critically, articulate your opinions, and engage in civil discussion.

Final Exam – 1 Total

- Students will complete one multiple-choice exam at the end of the semester.
- These will help you retain long-term the foundational historical knowledge you learned.

Grading Structure

Assignment	Percentage %
Quizzes	40%
Discussions	30%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

- A – (90% or higher)
- B – (80 - 89%)
- C – (70 - 79%)
- D – (60 - 69%)
- F – (Below 60%)

Late Work and Make-Up Exams

Students should inform their instructor of any vacations, etc. in advance so they can work together to ensure no coursework is missed. Unintended absences (sickness, emergencies, etc.) should be communicated to the instructor as soon as possible to see if make-ups are possible.

Attendance Policy

UT Tyler does not have a formal attendance policy; however, students utilizing financial aid must begin attendance in all classes in order to establish eligibility. For online classes, attendance is defined as logging into the course website (Canvas) and participating in an academically related activity. Students are encouraged to begin their coursework immediately to avoid unintended consequences.

University Policies & Student Resources

University policies and student resources are available below, on the University website, and in Canvas under “Syllabus”.

- [University Policies](#)
- [Student Resources](#)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) & This Course

Required Text: UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

Instructor Comments: I embrace the *ethical* use of AI in academia, the workplace, and beyond. Why would I ask you to drive a nail with your hands when hammers exist? My expectations for AI use in this course are outlined in Week 1 course materials. Inappropriate use of AI and/or plagiarism won't be tolerated.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

Note: This is a tentative schedule and subject to change as necessary. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments may be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed. Any changes will be announced in Canvas. (see next page)

Spring 2026 Semester Calendar

Week #	Date	Class Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1	1/12-1/16	Introductions & Ethics	Introduction comment 
Week 2	1/19-1/23	Industrial America Part 1	Quiz #1
Week 3	1/26-1/30	Industrial America Part 2	Quiz #2
Week 4	2/2-2/6	Imperialism	Quiz #3
Week 5	2/9-2/13	The Progressive Era	Discussion #1
Week 6	2/16-2/20	World War I	Quiz #4
Week 7	2/23-2/27	The New Era	Quiz #5
Week 8	3/2-3/6	The Great Depression	Quiz #6
	3/9-3/14	Spring Break	None
Week 9	3/16-3/20	World War II	Discussion #2
Week 10	3/23-3/27	The Cold War	Quiz #7
Week 11	3/30-4/3	The Affluent Society	Quiz #8
	3/30	Class Drop Deadline	FYI
Week 12	4/6-4/10	The Sixties	Quiz #9
Week 13	4/13-4/17	The Unraveling	Quiz #10
Week 14	4/20-4/24	The Triumph of the Right & The Recent Past	Quiz #11
Week 15	4/27-5/1	The End 	Final Exam