

HIST 4323.001  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Presidential Leadership  
Fall 2010, U.T. Tyler

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Presidential Leadership Syllabus and Calendar

**Course Description:** This course is a study of the historical facts regarding the development and governance of the United States from the end of Reconstruction to the present. We will also examine the social, economic, and ever-changing political arena of the United States. Through the course of the semester, we will focus on a number of trends, events, and personalities as we investigate the following topics: the industrial revolution; the development of a truly national economy; imperialism; the US as a world power; World Wars I and II; the Cold War; Korea; Vietnam; and the modern era.

**Textbook:**

Roosevelt, Theodore. *The Autobiography of Theodore Roosevelt*.  
McCullough, John. *Truman*.  
D'Sousa, Dinesh. *Ronald Reagan*.

**Office Hours:** 11:00-1:00 MWF; Other times by appointment.

**Major Learning Outcomes:**

- I. The student will describe the impact of technology on the Presidency.
- II. The student will describe how the role of the President has changed in the conduct of the government, in domestic and in world affairs in the twentieth century.
- III. The student will explain the problems related to the growth of presidential power.
- IV. The student will trace the impact of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Cold War on the presidency.
- V. The student will describe the growth of the president's role in diplomatic and world affairs and how that impacted the growth of the Imperial President.
- VI. The student will explain presidential domestic agendas—Progressivism, the New Deal, and the Great Society—and its impact on the Office of the President.

**Methods of Evaluation:** The student's mastery of the subject material will be determined through exams. An exam will be given on each scheduled test day. Do not be late—it will reduce the amount of time you have to complete the exam. The first two exams will each be worth 20% of your final grade. The final exam is worth 25% of your grade. It will be given on Friday, Dec. 17. A research paper will be worth 20% of your grade. Details will be given in class. The remaining 15% of your grade is based upon class participation. I determine this grade based upon class attendance and my evaluation of your participation in class discussions and behavior. Every absence after the third grace absence (the equivalent of one week of class time) is worth 10 points deducted from your class participation grade. Each exam will be based upon the content of lectures, discussions, and your readings. Test format will be discussed prior to the first exam. No electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, pagers, computers, cameras, etc.) will be used in the classroom once the exam has been passed out. In addition, once the first exam has been turned in to the instructor or his representative, no further exams will be handed out. Any student who enters following this event will be considered absent and will take the make-up exam on the make-up exam day.

**Methods of Instruction:** Lecture is the primary teaching method; however, class discussions, outside projects, and outside reading will be used.

**Attendance:** All students are expected to attend every class meeting. Failure to sign the class attendance roster is an absence. Students who come in late may be counted absent if the instructor believes the student missed too much of the class. Make-up exams will be given only to students with, in the opinion of the instructor, a valid reason for missing the exam, **AND** all make-up exams will be administered in class on Mon. Dec. 13. Each student is only allowed one make-up exam; all other missed exams will receive a zero. Make-up exams will not receive the in-class benefits of bonus questions and/or a grade curve (if given). Failure to take the make-up on the assigned day will result in a zero for that exam.

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance:** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities:** If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Behavior:** All students will maintain respect and courtesy for their classmates and for the instructor. Do not use pagers, cell phones, communicators, signal fires, or other disruptive communicative devices during class. Turn off such annoying hindrances to the learning process before class begins. Frequent violations of this rule will result in a lowered class participation grade and egregious violations may result in the instructor lowering the student's semester grade. No profanity, sleeping, talking that interrupts the instructor, lewd, rude, or socially unacceptable behavior (and even some socially acceptable behavior may not be allowed in class). "Free love" should not be practiced in this class—hands off others and yourself. Remember, although the United States practices democracy in the form of a representative constitutional republic, this class is a benevolent dictatorship. If student conduct becomes unacceptable, the instructor will ask the student to leave and not return.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities:** To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:  
<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.html>

**Grade Replacement:** If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to file an intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. A student will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three (undergraduate student) or two (graduate student) course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler. (2008-10 Catalog, p. 26)

**Disability Support:** If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request disability support services/accommodation(s), please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services office so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting disability support services/accommodation(s) must provide appropriate documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the University Center, Room 282. The telephone number is 566-7079 (TDD 565-5579). Additional information may also be obtained at the following UT Tyler Web address: <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>.

**State-Mandated Course Drop Policy:** Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the 12th day of class (See Schedule of Classes for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Registrar's Office and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Registrar's Office if you have any questions.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:** It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation:** Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do Not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**Tentative Calendar of Instruction:**

Aug. 25	Introduction, Syllabus Discussion	
Aug. 27	The Modern Presidency	
Aug. 30	William McKinley	
Sept. 01	Theodore Roosevelt	
Sept. 03	Theodore Roosevelt.	
Sept. 06	<b>Labor Day—NO CLASS</b>	
Sept. 08	William Howard Taft	<b>CENSUS DAY</b>
Sept. 10	Woodrow Wilson	
Sept. 13	Woodrow Wilson	
Sept. 15	Woodrow Wilson	
Sept. 17	Warren G. Harding	
Sept. 20	Calvin Coolidge	
Sept. 22	Herbert Hoover	
Sept. 24	Franklin D. Roosevelt	
Sept. 27	Franklin D. Roosevelt	
Sept. 29	Franklin D. Roosevelt	
Oct. 01	<b>Exam #1</b>	<b>(Read the Autobiography of Theodore Roosevelt)</b>
Oct. 04	Harry S Truman	
Oct. 06	Harry S. Truman	
Oct. 08	Harry S. Truman	
Oct. 11	Dwight D. Eisenhower	
Oct. 13	Dwight D. Eisenhower	
Oct. 15	John F. Kennedy	
Oct. 18	John F. Kennedy	
Oct. 20	Lyndon B. Johnson	
Oct. 22	Lyndon B. Johnson	
Oct. 25	Lyndon B. Johnson	
Oct. 27	Lyndon B. Johnson	
Oct. 29	Lyndon B. Johnson	
Nov. 01	<b>Exam #2</b>	<b>(Read Truman)</b>
Nov. 03	Richard M. Nixon	
Nov. 5	Richard M. Nixon	
Nov. 8	Richard M. Nixon	
Nov. 10	Gerald R. Ford	
Nov. 12	James Earl Carter	
Nov. 15	James Earl Carter	
Nov. 17	Ronald Reagan	
Nov. 19	Ronald Reagan	
Nov. 22	Ronald Reagan	
Nov. 24	<b>Thanksgiving Break—NO CLASS</b>	
Nov. 26	<b>Thanksgiving Break—NO CLASS</b>	
Nov. 29	Ronald Reagan	<b>Research Papers Due</b>
Dec. 01	George H. W. Bush	
Dec. 03	George H. W. Bush	
Dec. 06	William Jefferson Clinton	
Dec. 08	William Jefferson Clinton	
Dec. 10	William Jefferson Clinton	
Dec. 13	<b>MAKE-UP EXAM DAY</b>	
Dec. 17	<b>Final Exam (8:00-10:00 AM)</b>	<b>(Read Ronald Reagan)</b>