

HIST 1301.002: United States History II

University of Texas at Tyler
T/R: 9:30-10:50am; Stewart Hall 127
Spring 2019

Instructor: Prof. [Matt Stith](#)
Email: mstith@uttyler.edu
Office: CAS 127
Office Hours: Tues: 12:30-2:30; Thurs: 12:30-1:30; Or by appointment.

“DOUBT IS NOT A PLEASANT CONDITION, BUT CERTAINTY IS ABSURD.” ~ VOLTAIRE

Course Description:

This course will explore United States history from the end of the Civil War to the 1980s. We will examine social, political, environmental, cultural, and military history and how each together shaped the course of American history.

Content Objectives/Instructional Goals:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a strong understanding of the development of the United States in both a domestic and global context.
2. Develop analytical skills through thinking deeply, reading actively, and writing carefully about American history.
3. Gain a strong sense of scholarly skepticism by balancing everything with hefty amounts of context and perspective; Or, in the spirit of Voltaire, embrace the certainty that nothing is certain and that everything is and ought to be open to (careful and thoughtful) interpretation.
4. Appreciate and understand that accurate interpretations (see above) can *only* rest on ample and sturdy evidence.

Important Note:

I encourage you to meet with me regularly to discuss or clarify lecture, discussion, or reading—or to talk about American history in general. My job (and satisfaction) is as much to work with students on an individual basis as it is to lecture and facilitate discussion. Please keep this in mind throughout the semester. The best way to meet is after class, during office hours, or by appointment, but always feel free to also send me an e-mail. I will try to get back to you within 24 hours.

Another Important Note:

When you finish this course, my goal is for you to have a strong understanding of the major themes, characters, and connections in the story of America, and I hope you will recognize how enormously impactful this period has been (and remains) in our world today—politically, militarily, environmentally, diplomatically, socially, culturally, and so on. To fully understand and appreciate any story, it is imperative that you know-well the characters and events *in* that story. So, you must commit to memory a lot of material (characters and events) for this class. What class/subject does not require that you remember things? This said, I recognize and appreciate that specific names, events, etc., fade in time. (They fade for me, too.) That's okay. This stuff is the scaffolding. Like scaffolding for any structure, real or perceived, it is critically important early on, but it is not meant to stay forever—just long enough such that the finished product emerges in all its glory and remains for the ages. Simply put, the finished product for this course is your general understanding and appreciation for the American past—an understanding and appreciation that I hope will remain long after the details fade.

Required Reading:

- E. B. Sledge, *With the Old Breed* (New York: Penguin, 1981)
- o ISBN: 978-0891419068
- Philip Caputo, *A Rumor of War* (1977; New York: Henry Holt, 1996)
- o ISBN: 978-0805046953

Recommended Reading:

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty*, Seagull Ed., Vol. 2 (W. W. Norton, 2017) [Any Edition will work]

Exams:

There will be three exams. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Each question is worth two points for a total of 100. You will receive a study guide at least one week prior to each exam. Exams are *not* cumulative/comprehensive. See schedule below for dates.

Essay:

Using ONLY the books by Sledge and Caputo, carefully craft a 4-6 page, double-spaced essay in which you develop a strong and clear thesis supported by material from both books. You can write about any theme or idea that most intrigues you—from soldier experience in combat to the natural environment, etc. Detailed instructions will be distributed early in the semester. The assignment is worth 100 points. See schedule below for the due date.

Point Breakdown:

Exam I:	100 pts
Exam II:	100 pts
Exam III:	100 pts
<u>Essay (Final)</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
Total:	400 pts

Grade Scale:

400-360pts = A
359-320pts = B
319-280pts = C
279-240pts = D
239-000pts = F

Classroom Conduct:

Be nice. This is college.

Attendance and Participation:

Regular attendance is expected. It is exceedingly difficult to do well in this class without showing up to class.

Make-up Policy:

I will work with you on an individual basis with regard to any missed exams, assignments, or other compromised deadlines.

Academic Honesty [*IMPORTANT***]**

Cheating of *any* kind, including plagiarism, will result in immediate failure of the class and possibly further sanctions from the University of Texas at Tyler. Plagiarism, put simply, is using another's work as your own without proper citation or usage. This includes everything from copying and pasting from the Internet to failing to cite an idea from another source that you put in your own words. Please carefully read the university policy for cheating and academic dishonesty at the following website:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/scholasticdishonesty.php>

Schedule/Topic Outline:

PART 1: From Reconstruction to the First World War, 1865-1918

- Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty*, Chaps. 15-19
- **Exam I:** Thursday, February 21

PART 2: From The 1920s to the Korean War, 1919-1953

- Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty*, Chaps. 20-23
- **Exam II:** Tuesday, March 26

PART 3: From the 1950s to the Reagan Era

- Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty*, Chaps. 24-28
- **Exam III:** Thursday, April 25

FINAL: **Civil War Essay** (Upload on Canvas by 11:59pm on Friday, May 3)

Important Dates:

- Thursday, January 17: No Class
- Thursday, February 21: Exam I
- **Tuesday, March 26:** Exam II
- Thursday, April 25: Exam III
- Friday, May 3: Essay (by 11:59pm on Canvas)

University of Texas at Tyler Policies

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

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/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Spring, the Census Date is January 29) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (January 29) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

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 census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Student Accessibility and Resources

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the [Student Accessibility and Resources](#) (SAR) office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

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.

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.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 - copying from another student's test paper;
 - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
 - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;

- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
 - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
 - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
 - iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
 - iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by Turn-It-In, available through Canvas.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#) (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- [UT Tyler Tutoring Center](#) (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.

[UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (903.566.7254)