

# Part 1 – Course Outline

**FOR FALL 2024 STUDENTS. I cannot say this more plainly. The lectures and messages are required because that's where the answers and extra credit are located. If you don't earn a C, state law requires you to keep taking the course (and paying) until you do. I hate that policy. Let me help you pass!**

## **HIST 1302 US SINCE THE CIVIL WAR**

Fall 2024

Dr. Mary Linehan

Office Hours: I will do my best to reply to all messages within 12 hours. However, sometimes that is not enough. The best time to reach me is 7-9am daily. But, we need to be flexible in an online format. If you need to set up another time, just let me know. My number is 419-205-7422. But, two things. I have some really bad voice issues and talking is very difficult. Texting or canvassing will get you a much faster reply. Also, if you text, please leave your name!

### **A. ADA Accommodations and Communicatiom**

1. Just like many students have accommodations through the SARS office, UTT has granted accommodations due to my disability. They allow me to live in a healthier climate and work remotely.
2. There are two things you must be aware of for this class.
3. There are written lectures for each chapter. These are required and it easy to tell who has read them.
4. The messages I will send each week are also required. At first, they will seem like a lot. But, they slow way down after week 3 when everyone is launched.
5. The required messages and lectures will include most of the Extra Credit.
6. If you know someone with a chronic illness, you are probably aware of the "spoon theory." For now, my best hours are overnight. That's why messages are sent at very early hours.
7. I am really sorry I can't speak. It breaks my heart not to do classroom teaching any more. I hope you will give me a chance.

8. But, if you think it will be difficult or boring to have written lectures, it's probably best that you find a different section of this class. Your success – and not having to pay to retake history 50 times – is the main thing.

9. For accreditation, I need you to keep all correspondence related to this course on canvas. But, I am really good at replying – 728 responses in the first 11 weeks of Spring semester. If you have to wait more than a day for reply, SCREAM! No one should be treated like that.

## **B. Basics**

1. This is a 3 part syllabus. This is the course outline. The 2nd part contains the essay instructions for this course. The 3rd part is the required university policies.
2. There will be a 50-point quiz/essay due every Sunday. The portal will be open between 12am Friday and 11:30pm Sunday.
3. These are essay quizzes and the instructions are in the 2nd part of the syllabus.
4. There are 14 quizzes and you must complete 10 of them. Chapters 16, 18, 21, 24, and 26 are required. The other 5 are your choice from the remaining chapters.
5. Most people seem to skip at the beginning. Maybe they are afraid the skipping option will disappear? But, quite a few save their skips until the end so they can finish earlier. Or mix them up. Totally your choice.
6. You may not take more than 10 quizzes.
7. ***Do NOT trust canvas for your average or total grade until the end. It cannot handle skips.*** Instead, add up all the points you have earned – including extra credit – and divide by 500. That will tell you your percentage. 70%+=C, 80%+=B, 90%+=A.
8. If you earn less than 350 points (70%), Texas will make you retake the course until you do!
9. I really hate this policy. If Illinois had it when I was in college, I would still be sitting in First Year Math.

## **C. Required Texts**

1. About half the chapters have a supplement included in the module – like “Convict Leasing” for chapter 16. If a supplement is provided and you do not use it, it is an automatic 20 point deduction.

2. The textbook for this course is Boyer, Enduring Vision, vol. 2, 8th edition. It is available in paper and electronic versions through the bookstore. But, a Google search for the pdf will lead you to a free online version.

3. Because of the different types of 8th editions — paper, electronic, online — floating around, you may be asked to provide photographic proof of the pages you used. Don't be that person who invents page numbers, I do check.

#### D. Objectives

- Students will analyze the strengths and weaknesses of Laissez-Faire and Progressivism, as well as the rise of “the New Right” as an alternative.
- Students will evaluate historical truth from a variety of lenses, including their own.
- Students will employ the historical method — citations and specific examples — to persuasively argue a thesis.

#### E. Here's where I summarize the entire course.

1. Since 1980ish, the government and economy in the US have operated in a certain way. Historians have not really settled on a name for this period. There are dozens of descriptors out there. For our purposes, we will call it the “New Right.”

2. From 1890, but not during the 1920s, until the 1980s, our government/economic system was called Progressivism.

3. From the 1820s to the 1890s (and in the 1920s) the US government/economic system was called Laissez-Faire.

4. This course will primarily define and assess the strengths and weaknesses of Laissez-Faire (chapters 16-20 and 23) and Progressivism (chapters 21-29, not 23). That's it! Nothing to be afraid of!

#### F. Grading Policies

- Grades are based on a point system. There will be 14 quizzes. **You may only do 10** of them and you must do chapters 16, 18, 21, 24, and 26. Each quiz is worth 50 points. Of the 500 points available, you must earn 450 for an A, 400 for a B, and 350 for a C.
- Aside from the required chapters, you may “skip” any 4 quizzes you want. Use this power wisely.  
If you open a quiz portal, it will be graded - even if there is nothing there!
- Do not trust canvas for your average or final grade. It cannot handle skips until everyone has completed all ten essays.
- Again, don't open a portal and write “skip.” If a portal is open, it will be graded.

- You may not do more than 10 essays. Everyone gets the same number of chances.

### G. Essays

1. Specific instructions are in part 2 of the syllabus.
2. If you have any questions, ask.
3. The essays are all open book. They require you to type 8-12 sentences from Boyer and use the supplement if one is provided – like “convict leasing” in chapter 16.
4. Except as noted in chapter 27, no outside research is permitted. Use of any external source will be reported as an Honor Code violation and result in a failing grade.
5. The AI Policy for this course is: *AI is not allowed and will be reported as a violation of the Honor Code*

### H. Course Outline

1. The essay questions and help in answering them are in the required lectures and messages to the class.
2. The essay instructions are in the 2nd part of the syllabus.
3. Beginning with chapter 18, if you are not following the essay instructions in the syllabus, you will receive 0 points.
4. **By submitting an essay, you confirm that you have read and understood all the instructions in the lectures, messages, and syllabus, that you have asked any questions, that they have been answered to your satisfaction, and that you are aware of all the requirements.**

#### **Due Dates:**

Sept. 1: Chapter 16 – Reconstruction. CANNOT SKIP

Sept 2: university closed

Sept. 8: Chapter 17 — The Trans-Mississippi West. this chapter is not required, but strongly encouraged. This is the last essay before you get zeroes for not following the essay instructions. It is good practice.

Sept. 9: Census Day. Those who have not taken a quiz will be dropped from the class.

Sept. 15: Chapter 18 – Rise of Industrial America – CANNOT SKIP. Starting today, essays not following the instructions in part 2 of the syllabus will earn a 0.

Sept. 22: Chapter 19–Immigration, Urbanization, and Everyday Life

Sept. 29: Chapter 20 – Politics and Expansion

Oct. 6: Chapter 21 – The Progressive Era – CANNOT SKIP

Oct. 13: Chapter 22 – Global Involvements and World War I

Oct. 20: Chapter 23 – Coping With Change

Oct. 21: Midterm grades due. You must have done AT LEAST four essays.

Oct. 27: Chapter 24 – The Great Depression and New Deal – CANNOT SKIP

Nov. 3: Chapter 25 – America and A World Crisis.

Nov. 4: Last Day to Drop

Nov. 10: Chapter 26 – The Cold War Abroad and at Home – CANNOT SKIP

Nov. 17: Chapter 27 – America at Mid-Century

Nov. 24: Chapter 28 — Liberalism, Civil Rights, Vietnam

Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 2: Chapter 29 -- A Time of Upheaval

Dec. 9: Reserved. It has only happened once since I've been teaching online—though it almost happened in April—but this day is reserved in case canvas shuts down for a day or two and we need to schedule a make-up.

### **I. Rough Drafts**

1. I encourage, and am happy to read, rough drafts.
2. I view this as an essential (though not required) aspect of improving your skills in History.
3. I also strongly believe individualized instruction and, in a large class, this is as close as we can come.
4. Rough drafts are due by 10am on Friday.
5. I can't predict your grade, but I can tell you if you have interpreted the question correctly, if your answer is complete, or if you overlooked something key.
6. Submit drafts by cutting and pasting them into a canvas message. As of 6/19/23 we are not allowed to open attachments from students.

### **J. Grading**

1. Grading will begin on the day after each quiz.
2. The intention is, always, to return an essay before the next one is due.
3. Every single essay will be returned with comments. Please read them!

**4. Every completed essay will show up as 0/50. When your essay is graded, it will show a fraction between 1/50 and 50/50. If, you click that fraction, it will take you to your essay. Below, there will be comments explaining the grade. Please read them!**

#### **K. Extra Credit**

1. Because it is so stupid (my opinion) to keep forcing you to pay to retake a course, I offer lots of EC.
2. But, it is offered as a reward to those who do the required work, not as a last minute save.
3. Accordingly, most – if not all – of the EC is scheduled for the first half of the term.
4. It will be hidden in plain sight.
5. If you are doing the required work, you will find it. Just follow the instructions and earn 5 extra points. For example, if you are reading this before 5pm on 8/27 send a canvas message and introduce yourself.
6. Because this is US History and there is an election coming up, many of the EC questions will be political. Nobody is asking if you are voting for Don or Kamala. Nobody cares. But, the questions may be election adjacent and most EC does not have a “correct” answer.
7. For example, over the summer, I asked my class what they thought about the debate – specifying that they could not say stuff like “Don won” or “Joe was best.” What I liked about the answers was how varied they were – from the networks pre-gaming it like the Super Bowl, to lack of empathy for Biden’s laryngitis, to too predictable and/or too mean, to not watching them because they don’t make the least bit of difference.
8. No “both/and” answers. That is no “Joe did great, but Don was excellent.” You are not Miss America:)
9. EC points will be posted a couple of times a semester. It will not immediately show up. So, you may want to keep track of what you answered to make sure you get credit for all your replies.

#### **L. About Me**

1. Last fall, the faculty took a training course about how to teach better. They said what students want is more information about their professors? Here I go:
2. A Capricorn, I grew up in Chicago where I was always early for everything.
3. I have always loved the Cubs, but I hate the Ricketts.

4. I earned my PhD at the University of Notre Dame (the most conservative PhD program in the USA) and I have been a college professor, teaching online since 2011. I won six all-campus awards for Outstanding Teaching. YMMV.
5. My research is about women who are strongly stereotyped as either all good or all bad – aborting women and sex workers on one hand; Catholic sisters, Miss America, and First Ladies on the other. I try to discover the truth behind the stereotypes.
6. I have two Havanese. Mamie is seven and is named after Mamie Till, a strong Chicago woman. Trixie is six. Her name comes from the Trixie Belden books I read as a child. They are very good girls.
7. Stuffed pizza is what we feed the tourists. Real Chicago pizza has a very thin – almost cracker-like – crust. Cut in squares. Now you know! “Tavern pizza” is an abomination created by marketers. The word is considered blasphemy in Chicago:)
8. I have no idea why canvas spacing is being so weird!

#### **M. FOR THE WOMEN: But Men Need to Read This Too!**

I wrote this on 12/4/23. Last spring, three bright, motivated, intelligent women – two of them History majors – wrote to me to apologize for the quality of their work. This happens every semester and it has to stop. I used to apologize for my work too. But, that was a long time ago! I am telling you now, there is no way that apologizing for your work if you have not made a legitimate error – either to a professor or a boss – will ever end well for you. Higher education is very conservative. With the prevalence of such beliefs, all of us are hurt by you demeaning yourself. If you can't control this, please go to the counseling center and get some help. I understand, I really do, but it makes me feel like a failure to watch you hurt yourselves like this. Like we did so long ago. Accordingly, if you apologize for your work, you will get a zero and the comment will say, “thanks for telling me your work was bad. Here's the zero you feel you deserve.” Of course, this applies to men too. But, I do not remember but a handful of men who ever apologized for the quality of their work. Women apologize all the time. It is painful and it has to stop.

*Updated 12/15. Yesterday, a former student, a bright, intelligent woman who has accomplished so much in life posted on FB that she was getting a Biochemistry degree. She feels she is “too stupid” for History, even though that is her passion. It's my job to judge stupid. There is zero evidence that this woman can't handle a history major! She doesn't have to settle for something else. But, women's academic insecurities run deep. PLEASE DON'T LET THEM HURT YOU TOO!*