

# United States History II

Spring 2024

HIST 1302 Dual Credit -Online  
3 Credit Hours [No Prerequisites Required]

**Instructor:** Mrs. Jill “Nikki” Carter

**Email:** Jcarter@uttyler.edu [preferred contact]

- In your email, please note which class you are in
- Expect a response within 24 hours M-F or 48 hours on the weekends
- I will only reply to email from an official UT-Tyler email account

**Office Location:** CAS 122

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 1pm-2:30 pm and Wednesday 10-11:30am. Zoom links will be posted in the course for these times. Since this is an online class and everyone has a different schedule, I want to accommodate for that and appointments for meetings are available in person or zoom by request with advanced notice at least 24 hours. Email is the quickest way to communicate, and I will make every effort to get back to you quickly. I encourage you to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or need any help as office hours are better thought of as student hours to help you to be more successful or get one on one time with your professors.

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” ~ Nelson Mandela**

**“Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is absurd.” ~ Voltaire**

## **Course Description:**

We will explore American history from the end of the Civil War (1865) to end of the 1960s. In doing so, we will examine social, political, environmental, cultural, diplomatic, and military history and how each together shaped the course of American history.

## **Content Objectives:**

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.

## **More Specifically, after completing this course, you should be able to:**

1. Identify and evaluate significant individuals, events, and eras in the history of the United States.
2. Recognize and analyze political, social, and economic changes in the history of the United States.

3. Identify and evaluate causes and effects of domestic and international issues and events in the history of the United States.
4. Apply relative chronology through the sequencing of significant individuals, events, and eras in the history of the United States.

### **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. Also, some semesters, life gets in the way. Should you have one of these semesters, I am more than happy to talk to you about what to do. But if the trauma is too great, I strongly suggest you drop one or all of your courses. Your education is vitally important, but there are things that outrank even education sometimes—and *you have to make that call when it is necessary*. I cannot grade you on how well or poorly you deal with your life at given moments. Your grades reflect your performance in class—not how well you are dealing with other things. I wish all of us a semester in which these things aren't issues.

### **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 early 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 early American past—an understanding and appreciation that I hope will remain long after the details fade.

### **Required Reading:**

1. Textbook: This semester the book is a free PDF textbook from OpenStax. The PDF file is provided for you in Canvas and you can download it from there. The website is also provided below and it is in Canvas.

Website: <https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history>

2. Power Points, outlines, notes, timelines, etc. uploaded onto Canvas

### **Quizzes:**

There will be 11 quizzes, each consisting of twenty multiple-choice and true/false questions over the video lectures, textbook, and unit notes for each unit. Each quiz is worth 20 points. Quizzes are designed to help familiarize you with at least some of the important material that will be on the exams. These are open-

book/note and you have two chances to take each one. Quizzes are worth 200 points and these are worth 29% of your final grade One of these quiz grades is dropped at the end of the semester. Check Canvas for due dates. **Quizzes submitted late are reduced 50% of the grade per day.**

### **Module Assignments:**

Additionally, there will be 16 online assignments over the course of the semester and they will vary in nature. They will be worth 5 points each. These assignments count for a total of 80 points. There is a student reflection that counts for 5 points and a written assignment that counts for 20 points. Neither of these grades will be dropped. Total points 105. Please check Canvas for due dates. Check Canvas for due dates. **Module assignments submitted late are reduced 50% of the grade per day. No late work is accepted on the two written assignments.**

### **Exams:**

There will be 4 exams. Each exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. Each test is worth 100 points. You will receive a study guide prior to each exam (it is in the module with the exam). Tests are worth 400 points and are 58% of your final semester grade. If you miss an exam, no make-up tests are given, however, there is a cumulative final exam given during finals week to replace a 0 for students who missed an exam. Students who did not miss a test do not have to take the final exam, but can do so to replace another test grade. **No lockdown browser or proctoring software is required for exams or quizzes this semester. However, Exams are NOT open book or open note and outside resources, like google, are not allowed.**

### **Extra Credit:**

Extra credit is not offered on an individual basis, any extra credit is given to the entire class. Please refer to course policies handout for additional information.

### **Points Breakdown:**

Quizzes (11 x 20pts): 200 pts

Module Assignments: 105 pts

Exams:400 pts

Total: 705pts

### **Final Grade Scale:**

More than 89.5% of total points available = A

79.5% - 89.4% of pts = B

69.5% - 79.4% of pts = C

59.5% - 69.4% of pts = D

Below 59.5% of total points available = F

### **Course Schedule:**

**Check Canvas for the Course Schedule for this semester. You should be working on a module each week;** the due date in Canvas is the absolute late day to turn in assignments from each module. Assignments are due on Friday, except on exam weeks. The exams will be on Friday and the assignments are due on Thursday.

Week 1 – Getting Started Module

Week 2 – Module 1 – Reconstruction  
Week 3 – Module 2 – The Gilded Age  
Week 4 – Module 2 – The Gilded Age and Exam #1  
Week 5 – Module 3 – The Progressive Era  
Week 6 – Module 4 – American Imperialism  
Week 7 – WWI and Exam #2  
Week 8 – The Roaring 20s  
Week 9 – The Great Depression and New Deal – Spring Break  
Week 11- The Great Depression and New Deal  
Week 12 – The Great depression and New Deal and Exam #3  
Week 13 – WWII and the Holocaust  
Week 14 – the 1950s and Essay  
Week 15 – the 1960s and Exam #4  
Week 16 – Final exam

### **Online Classroom Conduct/Decorum:**

Practice decorum and decency in all discussion posts and communication with fellow students and the instructor. More than one offense will result in possible dismissal from the class. For further reading on Internet decorum, I recommend that you take a look at UT-Tyler's "[Netiquette](#)" [Guide](#).

### **Attendance and Make-up Policy:**

You have ample time to complete each assignment, usually several weeks, and waiting until the last minute to do an assignment is not advised. **You are required to log on several times a and complete assignments** as part of the attendance policy. If you have a computer issue, internet issue, or any other issue on the date an assignment is due is not an excuse for not completing an assignment and no additional time will be granted. If you do the work early and an issue presents itself, then there is time for us to work together and resolve it so that you can submit the work by the due date. **Module assignments submitted late are reduced 50% of the grade per day.**

**[\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*]** There are no make-up exams or alternative assignments given once a test has been missed. **If you are going to miss an exam because of a school activity, you must make arrangements to take the exam prior to the day the exam will be given, please contact me the week before the test to set up a date and time.** In cases of **emergency** (i.e., a death in the family), however, students will be allowed to take the exam early at the discretion of the Instructor, and the student must provide documentation. Missing an exam does not ensure the student will be able to take the test early, such a decision is ultimately the professor's prerogative. Please contact me as soon as possible if you miss something for an emergency and we will work out the details.

### **Syllabus Notice:**

The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus; however, students will be given ample warning to any possible changes.

### **Email Policy:**

Per university request, I will only communicate with students via your Patriot email accounts. The university has had several problems reaching students with vital questions or information because they do not check their Patriot email, and they have asked faculty to require that students use their Patriot email accounts. All responses to student email will be sent only to your Patriot email account (even if you send the email from some other account). Email sent from any non-Patriot email account will not be answered.

### **Student Resources:**

For a general overview of resources provided by The University of Texas at Tyler, please refer to this link: <http://lms-media.uttyler.edu/fileman/OID/Resource/>

**Academic Honesty:**

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*** Cheating of *any* kind, including plagiarism or using outside resources on an exam, will result in a 0 on the assignment or exam, and possibly further sanctions from the University of Texas at Tyler up to failing the course. **Please carefully read the course policy found in Canvas and the university policy for cheating and academic dishonesty at the following website::**

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