



<b>Semester and Year</b> – Fall 2013
<b>CRN (Course Reference Number), Course Prefix, Number and Title</b> – CRN 11598 - HIST 1302-161 - United States History II
<b>Course Meeting Days, Times and Location (Campus, Building, and Room number)</b> – Distance Learning Course in Blackboard
<b>Instructor’s Name</b> - C.J. Bibus, Ed.D.
<b>Instructor’s Telephone number(s)</b> – 281.239.1577 (This phone is located in my office at Fort Bend Tech Center, <b>not</b> Sugarland) – <i>Checked once a day as early as possible.</i> <b>Instructor’s email address</b> – If Blackboard is not available, <a href="mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu">bibusc@wcjc.edu</a> - <i>Checked once a day as early as possible.</i>
<b>Instructor’s Office Hours and Office Location</b> – Online Office Hours: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm (Monday), 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm (Tuesday), 9:00 am – 9:30 am (Wednesday), 12:05 pm – 1:00 pm (Thursday), 10:00 am – 10:30 am (Friday). Or by appointment.
<b>Course Catalog Description</b> – A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.
<b>Instructor’s Grading System</b> – The course is divided into three Units, or major time periods, that reveal shifts in our history. For each Unit, the student’s grade will be determined by daily work consisting of Check Your Knowledge quizzes to help students determine what they need to read, nine quizzes, and a Practice Essay. At the end of each Unit, students take an objective exam and also write two essays. They also take the Departmental Final Exam. See the syllabus for course policies, exam dates, grading policies, points for each type of assignment, points for extra credit to encourage good habits in how they work, and points required for the final letter grade.
<b>Instructor’s Attendance Policy</b> – Blackboard stores an immense amount of data on time spent and where you spend it: This data shows who is attending—who is actively working in the course. In this class, an easy action to measure is your being current with quizzes (measured on the dates listed in the Course Schedule) and your asking or answering questions about the Unit work in the Discussion Board.
<b>Last day to “Drop” course with grade of “W”</b> – 11/27/2013

\* Any student with a disability or other special circumstance requiring academic accommodations or other consideration in order to successfully complete the requirements of this course should identify himself or herself individually to the instructor to discuss the matter in a private and confidential manner.

\*\* Misconduct for which discipline may be administered at WCJC includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college (plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test, copying tests, assignments, reports, or term papers).

## American History 1302

Syllabus – Fall 2013

Instructor: C.J. Bibus, Ed.D.	U.S. History from 1877
Wharton County Junior College	Email: <a href="mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu">bibusc@wcjc.edu</a> —Checked once a day as early as possible.
Office: Fort Bend Tech Center 240-G	Office Phone: 281.239.1577—Checked once a day as early as possible.
Location at Sugar Land: SUGUH 234, faculty area	Email: <a href="mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu">bibusc@wcjc.edu</a> —Checked once a day as early as possible.
Online Office Hours: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm (Monday), 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm (Tuesday), 9:00 am – 9:30 am (Wednesday), 12:05 pm – 1:00 pm (Thursday), 10:00 am – 10:30 am (Friday). Or by appointment.	

### Course Overview and Goals

**Prerequisite:** THEA reading and writing requirements met. HIST 1301 recommended, but not required.

**Course Description:** A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.

#### Course Objectives:

- 1) Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
- 2) Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- 3) Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

**Academic and Personal Integrity:** Consequences of plagiarism and cheating during examinations include referral to administrators without any opportunity for making redress, a failing grade for the course, disciplinary probation, or suspension (dismissal). Plagiarism and cheating include use of unauthorized books or notes, securing help in a test, or copying tests or assignments; they will result in a failing grade for the assignment. If any portion of a writing assignment is copied from the Internet or another source, the result will be an **F (0)** on the assignment.

**Attendance Policy:** Blackboard automatically records data about your work. If your grade is borderline between letter grades (needing 2 to 5 points to become the higher grade), I will consider if you did these things throughout the course:

- 1) Did you take quizzes until you made 90% or higher, especially by the date for the extra credit (and the recommended date for completion) in the Course Schedule?
- 2) Did you help each other and yourself by participating in the Unit topics in the Discussion Board?
- 3) Did you try to do the Practice Essay and the Unit Exam Essays?

**Classroom Civility:** As with an on-campus classroom, each student is expected not to disrupt the class. The term “classroom disruption” means behavior a reasonable person would view as substantially or repeatedly interfering with the conduct, instruction, and education of a class. Blackboard stores what you do (such as tests and messages that you create with any tool), when you do it, and where you go. Some Blackboard tools—such as the Discussion Board—not only store messages permanently, but also make what you write visible to everyone in the class. When communicating publicly with the whole class and with individuals, you need to be both kind and collaborative. (See Course Orientation for details.)

**Due Dates and Your Responsibilities:** It is your responsibility to email or talk to me if you do not know what to do or need help. The earlier we communicate, the better are our chances for success.

With due dates for Unit Exams (essay or objective parts) and the History Changes Essay, there are no extensions unless it is appropriate to make an extension available to all of you. You have these responsibilities:

- 1) If your planning at the beginning of the term shows you cannot do your required exam or essay on time, such as having previously scheduled a trip, tell me immediately and suggest an earlier date for you do the assignment.
- 2) If something happens that you cannot plan for, such as suddenly becoming very ill (doctor's note required) or having a death in the family, call and email me immediately and provide a valid, written excuse.

With a **valid, written excuse**, these rules apply.

- If you miss any objective exam, your make-up exam is taken on the date of the Final Exam.
- If you miss the Practice Essay (History Changes Essay) or a Unit Essay Exam, you receive an extension, set by me, with no penalty.

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## Contact Information

Because I teach in both Sugar Land and Richmond, it is clearer to show where I am during the week than write about it. This link shows you information about how to reach me in a [weekly calendar format](#).

<b>Instructor's Name:</b>	Dr. C.J. Bibus
<b>Office Voicemail</b>	281-239-1577, with Monday being the day to call
<b>Best Email:</b>	Through Blackboard Messages, the Blackboard email available in our course
<b>Location:</b>	FBTC (MWF) or Sugar Land campus (TTR) by appointment or Blackboard Learn - Access at: <a href="https://wcjc.blackboard.com/">https://wcjc.blackboard.com/</a>
<b>Online Office Hours:</b>	1:30 pm - 2:30 pm (Monday), 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm (Tuesday), 9:00 am – 9:30 am (Wednesday), 12:05 pm – 1:00 pm (Thursday), 10:00 am – 10:30 am (Friday). Or by appointment.

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## Communication with Your Instructor

I make every effort to return messages (course email, phone, discussion postings) within 24 hours (weekends and holidays excepted). I generally post:

- Extra credit grades for quizzes (covered below) the next morning after the date in the Course Schedule.
- Grades for submitted assignments, postings, and essays once a week (Mondays).  
FYI: Frequently, I can only *begin* to read submitted assignments, postings, and essays on Fridays.

I admit I am slow at grading essays. I try to give students the kind of feedback that my history teachers gave me. That feedback made a great difference in my success, not just in academics but also in business and industry.

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## Organization of the Course into Three Major Time Periods

History II covers from the 1860s to the current time. It is split into these three Units, or major time periods, that reveal shifts in our history:

- Unit 1: Creating a New America - How America Changed from the 1860s to 1900
- Unit 2: Moving to the World Stage - America from 1900 to 1940
- Unit 3: Transformations – America from 1940 to the 21st Century

To make the work manageable, each Unit is divided into 3 smaller time periods, or Parts. For example, Unit 1 is divided into Part A, Part B, and Part C. Each Part has its own:

- Major theme
  - Quiz to help you measure yourself
  - Resources
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## Method of Instruction

This course focuses on what our past shows us about how things *work*. History is not only interesting, but useful.

This course focuses on evidence and factual accuracy and requires reading the textbook that the History Department selected. It is an honorable, thorough textbook, one worth keeping after you complete the course. The requirements are:

- You do not rely on your memory or searching the Internet.
- You use the textbook as your only source of facts when you write.  
FYI: I use it when I grade your evidence.
- If you need additional resources, you have the Dallas TeleLearning Videos in the course and you have resources built in the course.

The course also provides tools to help save *you* time in reading. You know at the beginning of each Unit:

- All possible facts you must know for the Unit objective exam on this major time period
  - All possible essay questions for the Unit essays exam
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## Required Textbook – Required When You Write about History and Used When I Grade

Edward Ayers, Lewis Gould, David Oshinsky, and Jean Soderlund. *American Passages: A History of the United States*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. The ISBN for the current 4th edition in paperback is ISBN: 9780547166469. (If you need tips on buying or borrowing a cheap book, click on the FAQs in this learning module.)

**Caution:** You **cannot** use the **BRIEF**, 4<sup>th</sup> edition which has **2 fewer chapters** than the 32 chapters in the other 4<sup>th</sup> editions and all prior editions of this book.

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## Course Evaluation and the Grading Scale for the Final Letter Grade

This is a 1000-point course. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale at the end of the semester:

895 – 1000	A
795 – 894	B
695 – 794	C
595 – 694	D
Below 594	F

To help you see if you are on track for the grade you want, I provide in the course a way for you to know how many points you need for the grade you want as you complete each Unit of work.

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## Course Evaluation and the Points for Assignments

The 1000 points in the course consist of:

- Introductory tasks listed for Getting Started - 20 points
- 9 Quizzes over facts in the Units @ 10 points each
- Practice Essay (an essay that also helps you see how history changes) @10 points
- 3 Video Assignments @ 10 points each
- 3 Unit Objective Exams @ 200 points each
- 3 Unit essays exams @ 50 points each
- Departmental Final Exam @ 100 points – Departmental policy is an F for the **course** if you do not take the Final.

If you want to know specifics about the above assignments (including tips), use the resources for the introductory tasks for Getting Started. Also notice the links to FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) available in Getting Started and throughout the course if you have a question.

### 9 Quizzes Over Facts in the Units

There is one quiz for each of the three Parts within a Unit. Each quiz exists in three versions so you can use quizzes to match your needs:

1. You use the Check Your Knowledge quiz to find out what facts *you* know and do not know. Take the quiz and you know what *you* need to read.
2. If you want to check your progress in reading and retaining the content, you use practice quizzes.
3. If you believe you have learned the content, you use the quiz that is worth 10 points.

### Practice Essay (History Changes Essay)

The Practice Essay introduces you to essential content for your understanding of History II. It also provides a no-risk introduction to reading *for* evidence and to writing *with* evidence and to how the course can help you with essay topics. The Practice Essay has three purposes:

- To be sure you understand how grading will work with essays, including the rubric used to grade essays
- To provide a way for you to see how bosses and professors will look at evidence and factual accuracy and to offer tips for other ways to work
- To provide a no-risk introduction to evidence by making sure there is no consequence on your grade for a misunderstanding about evidence

Why is this essay a no-risk introduction? Even if you misunderstood some basics of evidence and made a low grade on the 10-point essay, you have two benefits:

1. You now know the rules
2. Your grade is protected because you can earn 10-points of extra credits for doing the second part of this activity

You are not required to do the extra credit part of this activity. The instructions tell you what to do in this case.

### 3 Video Assignments to Help You See How History Changes Over the Time Period Covered by the Unit

The Dallas TeleLearning Videos are excellent and they are available in our course. The assignment is brief and uses a form that you download, complete, and upload using Blackboard Assignment Tool. You can:

- Either view three of the videos that I recommend for the Unit to help you see how history changed over time
- Or you can choose three videos, one from each Part of the Unit, to see how history changes on an issue that matters to you. Examples: what happened to African Americans, big business, factory workers, farmers, immigrants, ranchers, technology, women, and so on.

### 3 Unit Objective Exams

The Unit Objective Exams are pulled from all of the questions in the three quizzes for the Unit. You can be prepared efficiently. You have 40 minutes to answer 40 questions pulled from the three quizzes for the Unit and worth 5 points each.

### 3 Unit Essay Exams and an Incentive to Encourage You to Focus on Evidence Early in the Course

The Unit Essay Exams are pulled from all of the essay topics that you know about from the beginning of the Unit. You can be prepared efficiently and you have time to ask questions in the Ask and Answer discussion topics if you need help. You have 25 minutes to answer 2 essays at 25 points each. They are brief (a maximum of 175 words), and the goal of all reading and writing in the course is to learn history. Resources in the course show the rubric used in grading and provide tips.

To encourage you to focus on evidence and on improvement, if you follow the evidence rules when writing the Unit 1 and Unit 2 essays, I will average those two grades as the grade for your Unit 3 Essay Exam. It is in your interest for your grade and your time to use the Practice Essay to be sure you understand commonly used requirements for evidence in a practical way.

### Departmental Final Exam

Departmental policy is an F for the **course** if you do not take the Final. In other words, if you have an A average for all of the prior work in the course and if you do not take the Final Exam, I am required to enter an F for your final LETTER grade for the course. Also WCJC determines the single day of the Final Exam, not the instructor. See the Course Schedule for the date.

The Final Exam was written by the History Department before I came to WCJC. We cover the facts from the Final Exam in the nine quizzes, but the language in the Final is very different from the language in our nine quizzes. To help you focus on meaning and not exact words, I created a review quiz by converting multiple-choice questions from the quizzes to create sets of matching questions, including with maps.

At this time the review quiz is online, but not as interactive quizzes that let you click. Currently it is a link where you can see all of the questions, write down your answers, and then grade yourself by using another link with the answers. If you miss a question, you know you need to reread that section before the Final.

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### Course Evaluation and Extra Credits for *How You Work*

In this course, extra credit is for *how* you work, not for additional assignments. In general, students who work in ways required for the extra credit make higher scores on the required work.

You can earn over 48 points with these 4 extra credits and you get additional benefits from *how* you are working:

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By taking the Check Your Knowledge quiz in Blackboard, you earn a **few** extra points. (At .01 per question and with a maximum of 40 questions, the points are few--less than .4 for each quiz.)

The additional benefits from *how* you are working are that you also see:

- What *you* missed and *your* answer so you know what you must read
- All of the possible facts in the quiz questions covered in that Part of the Unit and the correct answers for those quiz questions

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By taking the Check Your Knowledge quiz by the date in the Course Schedule **and** by making 9 points or higher on the quiz, you earn 2 extra credit points.

The additional benefits are that you also:

- Are staying current with your work and are more likely to pass
- Will understand the facts and be better prepared for the essays—if you read what you did not know (not just memorize without trying to understand)

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By participating in the Ask and Answer topics in the Discussion Board, for each Unit, you earn up to 6 points for each Unit.

The additional benefits are that you also:

- Are staying current with your work and are more likely to pass
- Can give and get help (The “Orientation to the Course” and the FAQs explain how this works.)

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By completing the instructions for the 10-point Practice Essay, you can earn 10 points extra credit.

The additional benefits are that:

- If you did well, you have extra points.
  - If you did not do well, the extra credit protects your grade and you know what you need to change about how you prepare for the Unit essays.
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## Course Schedule

### Getting Started - Course Documents and Orientation (OCT 21 - OCT-22 28 to earn points and later as a resource)

MON 10/21 Course overview module opens.

~~TUE 10/22~~ Introductory Tasks Due.

MON 10/28 Grades Entered – will enter points for those acting by 10/28 by 11:59 PM. If you have a temporary grade of 1, you can still fix that issue. Check your email.

### Unit 1: Creating a New America - How America Changed from the 1860s to 1900 (OCT 22 - NOV 05)

TUE 10/22 All Unit 1 material opens.

WED 10/23 Practice Essay opens – Step 1 required to see all other essays.

FRI 10/25 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz A DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 10/27

~~SUN 10/27~~ Practice Essay DUE. (The 1<sup>st</sup> essays submitted are the 1<sup>st</sup> ones graded.)

WED 10/30 Downloaded/printed all submissions through 10/28 at 11:59 PM started first stage of pass at grading 10/29. Completed 10/31. Start emailing feedback on 11/02 but expect not to finish until early 11/03. (Have locked-in schedule all of 11/01 and for ½ of 11/02.) Finished emailing Rubrics. Grades Entered 11/03

WED 10/30 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz B DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 10/31

SAT 11/02 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz C DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/03

SUN 11/03 Exam objective and essays open.

9 to 5 Sunday will be in the course approximately every two hours to check for replies.

~~FRI 11/04~~ Complete response to emailed instructions on your Practice Essay DUE – Step 2 required to see all other essays. (The instructions are emailed throughout the week about five at a time.)

~~THU 11/05~~ All Unit 1 work DUE – Quizzes, Video Assignment, Discussion, and Exam objective and essays.

~~TUE 11/05~~ Essay Comments at My Grades entered using a TEMPORARY grade of 1; instructions in the comments tell how to get the remaining points.

~~WED 11/06~~ Entered the Video Grades late on 11/13.

Entered extra credit grades for Unit 1 Ask and Answer on 11/15

### Unit 2: Moving to the World Stage - America from 1900 to 1940 (NOV 05 - NOV 19)

TUE 11/05 All Unit 2 material opens.

FRI 11/08 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz D DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/09

WED 11/13 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz E DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/14

SAT 11/16 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz F DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/18

SUN 11/17 Exam objective and essays open.

~~TUE 11/19~~ All Unit 2 work DUE – Quizzes, Video Assignment, Discussion, and Exam objective and essays.

~~WED 11/20~~ Reason: To allow time for students who want to talk to me before they write Unit 2's essays, to do so. Example: I available Monday 281-239-1577 1 to 4pm

Because of other WCJC work on 11/23-24, will—with apologies to you all—get caught up over the Thanksgiving holidays. Finished grading; entry started.

Entered Video Assignments. If you see a grade of lower than 4, check the comments—they say what to email to turn that into a 10.

Essay Comments at My Grades entered using a TEMPORARY grade of 1; instructions in the comments tell how to get the remaining points

Entered ALL who replied through 4:00 PM 12/08.

Remaining to do: Discussions.

### Unit 3: Transformations – America from 1940 to the 21st Century (NOV 19 - DEC 06)

TUE 11/19 All Unit 3 material opens.

FRI 11/22 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz G DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/24

WED 11/27 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz H DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 11/28

WED 12/04 Score of 9 or 10 on Quiz I DUE to receive 2 points extra credit.

Grades Entered 12/06

THU 12/05 Exam objective and essays open.

Entered average grades for Unit 3 for all emails received through 4:00 PM 12/08

For most students the averaging is the best offer.

~~FRI 12/06~~ All Unit 3 work DUE – Quizzes, Video Assignment, Discussion, and Exam objective and essays.

~~Reopens~~

~~SUN 12/08~~ a) To allow time for students who want to talk to me before they write Unit 3's essays, to do so. Example: I available Friday 9 to 10:40 am and Monday 281-239-1577 1 to 4 pm

~~10 am to~~ b) To let students have a CHOICE of focusing on the Final that occurs on Saturday (the date set by WCJC for Internet classes) and then deal with Unit 3.

~~TUE 12/10~~ You are welcome to do the work during the initial opening or at the reopening—whatever is best for you. I have used the 10:00 AM time to try to give you as much time as I can and still complete all grades by the due date faculty must meet. I will also accept the Video Assignments and Ask and Answer

~~10:00 am~~ Discussions through 10:00 am 12/10.

Will download the work 12/10. Will begin grading 12/11.

Final Letter grades should also be visible 12/12. If you see an error in any entry of grades, do email with details before 12/12 at noon.

### Review for the Final Exam: 1860s to the 21st Century (Early open on DEC 05 - DEC 07)

THU 12/05 All Review material opens (an early opening for flexibility for those who take Unit 3 exams on 12/05).

SAT 12/07 Final Exam opens at 12:00 am and closes at 11:59 pm – Departmental policy: F for the **Course** if not taken. ...

Grades Automatically Entered by Blackboard 12/07

This is NOT a self-paced course. Materials open and close on a schedule and may not become visible until a specified point in the course. Please use the Course Schedule above as your guide as to when material opens and closes. Some of the dates for the units overlap in order to give students maximum flexibility.

- All work is DUE by 11:59 pm on the date listed.
- Unit modules open at 12:00 am on the date listed, including their Quizzes, Video Assignment, and Discussion.
- The Unit Exam objective and essays open at 12:00 am 2 to 3 days before the Unit ends because the Department tries to make exams available on one day of the weekend to give students more flexibility.

*An offer:* This term it is not possible to provide weekend availability for the Unit 3 exam; however, if any of you have work conflicts that require availability of the Unit 3 exam longer, email me. Just remember that 12/07 is also the date—the only date—of the Final Exam.

- Any quiz, essay, or exam that you can take only one time has this password:  
onetimeonly

**WCJC Department:** History – Dr. Bibus  
**Contact Information:** 281.239.1577 or [bibusc@wcjc.edu](mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu)  
**Last Updated:** 2013  
**WCJC Home:** <http://www.wcjc.edu/>