



<b>Semester and Year</b> – Spring 2015
<b>CRN (Course Reference Number), Course Prefix, Number and Title</b> – CRN 21607 - HIST 1302-163 - 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 at my office in FBTC 240G (MWF) <b>Instructor’s email address if Blackboard is not available</b> – <a href="mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu">bibusc@wcjc.edu</a> <b>Instructor’s Blackboard Courses</b> – <a href="https://wcjc.blackboard.com/">https://wcjc.blackboard.com/</a>
<b>Instructor’s Office Hours and Office Location</b> – Online Office Hours: 12:00-1:00 pm (Monday, Wednesday), 12:15-1:15 pm (Tuesday, Thursday); 8:10-8:40 am, 12:00-12:30 pm (Friday).
<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. The student’s grade will be determined by daily work consisting of Check Your Knowledge quizzes on the content to help students determine what they need to read, and 9 quizzes. Students can earn extra credit by 3 Video Assignments and 3 Forums. Students take an objective exam at the end of each Unit and the Departmental Final Exam at the end of the semester. Students write an Introductory Comparison, a Comparison at the end of Unit 1, and a Major Comparison on a topic covering Units 1 and 2. They do two anonymous peer reviews of other students’ Unit 1 Comparison. See the syllabus for course policies, exam dates, grading policies, points for each type of assignment, and points required for the final letter grade.
<b>Instructor’s Attendance Policy</b> – Given the speed of an 8-week course covering 16 weeks’ of work, students should log in at least 3 times a week to work online with quizzes, the Forums, and the resources. Students should also work offline, including reading. Attendance is taken by Blackboard itself: it stores data on time spent and where.
<b>Last day to “Drop” course with grade of “W”</b> – 5/01/2015

*\* The college will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students wishing to receive accommodations must contact the Office of Disability Services at (979) 532-6384; located in the Pioneer Student Center, Room 313, at the Wharton campus. Students must request accommodations from the Office of Disability Services prior to each semester. Please note that accommodations provided are not retroactive. Click [here](#) for WCJC’s Disability Services.*

*\*\* 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 – Spring 2015 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week course

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> - Use only when Blackboard is not yet open.
Office: Fort Bend Tech Center (FBTC) 240-G	Office Phone: 281.239.1577 – On TTR, checked once a day after my last class.
Location at Sugar Land: SUGUH 234, faculty area	Email in Blackboard: Messages–Checked during online office hours.
Campus Office Hours: At FBTC 240G: 10:00-10:50 am (Monday, Wednesday, Friday); 1:00 -2:00 pm (Monday, Wednesday); 8:10-8:40 am, 12:00-12:30 pm (Friday). At SUGUH 234: 12:15-1:30 pm (Tuesday); 12:15-1:15 pm (Thursday). Or by appointment. (Online Office hours are covered on the prior page and below.)	

## Course Overview and Goals and State Policies

**Prerequisite:** TSI satisfied in Reading and Writing, 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:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 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:** WCJC's Student Handbook explains student responsibilities and provides examples of misconduct. It states "plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help during a test; copying tests [or] assignments...." The Handbook provides details on college-level consequences. In this course, copying any part of an assignment from the Internet or another source is a zero (**0**) on the assignment.

**Classroom Civility:** WCJC's Student Handbook explains student responsibilities for civility. As with on-campus classrooms, each student is expected not to disrupt the class or abuse any person. Blackboard stores what you do (including messages 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 specifics.)

**Attendance Policy:** WCJC's Student Handbook explains responsibilities for attendance and when a student should withdraw from the course. With distance learning, Blackboard stores extensive data on time spent and where. Given the speed of an 8-week course covering 16 weeks' of work, students should log in at least 3 times a week to work online with quizzes, the Working Groups, and the resources. Students should also work offline, including careful reading of the required sources.

**Attendance Policy and 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 any assignment, including high-point assignments such as Unit Objective Exams or Comparisons, 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 Comparison 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 a Comparison, you receive an extension, set by me, with no penalty.

**Six Course Drop Limit:** Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, "an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education." This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 and applies to students who enroll in a public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later. See WCJC's current catalog for details.

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## Contact Information: Online Office Hours, Hours On-Campus, or Help by Phone

I am glad to help you online, to meet you on campus, or to work with you by phone. If we both have Blackboard open, working together by phone brings the fastest solution. I teach on two campuses: Fort Bend Tech Center (FBTC) in Richmond on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (MWF) and Sugar Land (SUGUH) on Tuesday and Thursday (TTR). My Campus Office Hours are listed at the top of the prior page. At FBTC, I have a private office and a reliable phone; on the other hand, at Sugar Land, I work in a public area (no privacy) with an unreliable phone so emailing for an appointment is best. During Online Office Hours, I respond to Blackboard Messages and Forum postings.

**Instructor's Name:** Dr. C.J. Bibus  
**Office Voicemail:** 281-239-1577 – On MWF, checked throughout the day. On TTR, checked once after my last class.  
**Required Email:** Messages (the Blackboard email available on the left menu in our course)  
**Online Access and Online Office** [Access to Blackboard Learn](https://wcjc.blackboard.com) (Opens in New Window) *Tip:* Bookmark this URL.  
<https://wcjc.blackboard.com>  
**Hours:** Online Office Hours: 12:00-1:00 pm (Monday, Wednesday), 12:15-1:15 pm (Tuesday, Thursday); 8:10-8:40 am, 12:00-12:30 pm (Friday).

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## Communication with Your Instructor

You must login at least 3 times a week. You need to reply to Blackboard Messages and to read Announcements each time you come in. You need to be sure you have read all announcements since your last login.

I make every effort to return messages (course email, phone, discussion postings) within 36 hours (weekends and holidays excepted). I generally:

- Review and, if useful to students, reply to Discussion postings visible to all students.
- Enter Getting Started grades on the weekend at the end of the first week.
- Enter extra credit grades for students making 9 or 10 on quizzes before the date in the Course Schedule on the **day after** the DUE date in the Course Schedule. Frequently, I can't do that until after my **last** class on that day.
- Enter grades for the two optional extra credit assignments after each Unit ends.
- Use announcements to tell you how to find feedback on your Comparison and when and how to respond to that feedback so I can enter your points. (I am a slow grader because I try to do for you what my teachers did for me.)
- Use an announcement showing how to determine your current letter grade so you know if you need to ask for help.

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## Method of Instruction

History is not only a required course, but it also provides **useful** information that can help you in all of the roles you will have in your life—family member, student, worker who may have to retrain many times in a rapidly changing world, and decision maker about your own life and about your own vote. Learning history not only provides useful **information**, but also useful **skills**. It requires the types of skills in reading and analysis and writing that are necessary for all of those roles. (See Course Orientation for ways you make the course match your needs.)

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## Required Textbook – Required When You Write about History and Used When I Grade

This textbook is required. You use it as your source of facts when you write; I use it when I grade your evidence. 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 or on recognizing earlier editions that you can also use, see FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions).

**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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## Organization of the Course on the Learning Units Page

United States History II covers from the 1860s to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The course is split into three Units, or major time periods, that reveal shifts in our history. These three time periods open on the Learning Units Page as the course progresses:

- 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

Each Unit is divided into 3 smaller time periods, or Parts, each organized in the same way and identified with a letter. For example, Unit 1 is divided into Part A, Part B, and Part C, each with its own theme, interactive study guide as a Check Your Knowledge quiz, quiz for points, and additional resources (called Digging Deeper). The Unit Roadmap at the top of the Unit shows you what to do. The Learning Units Page also provides your writing assignments in the Current Comparison folder.

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

This is a 1000-point course, with points **added** as you earn them. The descriptions after each letter were written by the Department Chair of the History Department. The Final Letter Grade is determined by this grading scale:

895 – 1000	A (exceptional)
795 – 894	B (above average)
695 – 794	C (average)
595 – 694	D (below average)
Below 594	F (failing)

To see if you are on track for the grade you want or if you need to ask me for help, you see an Announcement at the end of each Unit so you can determine your current letter grade.

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## Course Evaluation, Points for Types of Assignments, and Rubrics Used

The 1000-point course consists of 73% objective work, primarily multiple choice and Getting Started activities, and 27% written work, primarily Comparisons. **Caution:** Doing written work is essential to pass. Please ask if you do not know why.

The objective work consists of:

- Introductory tasks for Getting Started - 10 points for tasks in the first two days and 20 more by the third class day.
- 9 Quizzes as interactive study guides @ 10 points each
- 3 Unit Objective Exams @ 170 points each
- Departmental Final Exam @ 100 points – Departmental policy is an F for the **course** if you do not take the Final.

All Comparisons help students see how things changed from the beginning of a period to its end. To help students learn history accurately and focus on evidence, the grades for Comparisons are split in two parts:

- One part of the grade for the Comparison itself
- One part for following the 5 Good Habits for Evidence that are introduced in Getting Started – with those points increasing with each Comparison (from 10 with the first Comparison to 20 and finally to 30) and with your earning the points only if you follow **all** 5 Good Habits for Evidence

The Comparisons and their points are:

- Introductory Comparison @ 20 points and 10 points for following all 5 Good Habits for Evidence<sup>a</sup>
- Unit 1 Comparison @ 60 points and 10 points<sup>b</sup> for following all 5 Good Habits for Evidence
- 2 Anonymous<sup>c</sup> Peer Reviews @ 60 points and 20 points for following all 5 Good Habits for Evidence (You must submit Unit 1 Comparison to be able to do these Peer Reviews.)
- Major Comparison covering Unit 1 and Unit 2 @ 60 points and 30 points for following all 5 Good Habits for Evidence

Rubrics are a tool to both determine grades and provide detailed feedback. There are specific rubrics for these assignments:

- Comparisons – required assignments
  - Helping Students with History Forums– optional extra credit assignment with each Unit
  - Video Assignments Students – optional extra credit assignment with each Unit
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## Overview of Comparisons and How Blackboard Provides Everything but the Required Textbook

The Good Habits for Evidence section of Getting Started provides an introduction, the rubric used in grading, student examples for Comparisons earning an C, a B, and an A, and instructions on doing a simple version of citation according to the *Chicago Manual of Style* (the standard for citation required for the discipline of history).

You use the required textbook, and the Blackboard course provides everything else that you must use for each Comparison:

1. Instructions and possible choices for Comparison Topics
2. Exact page numbers of the textbook to read for each possible topic
3. Background on content that frequently cause students to make factual errors
4. Primaries (if documents written during the period are required for the specific Comparison)
5. Preformatted file with required headings – The files vary with each Comparison so download the correct one.
6. Turnitin, a tool to help you. – You submit your file, see your problems in word use and originality in language (such as plagiarism), fix and resubmit several times as needed, and submit your final version before the due date.

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<sup>a</sup> **Opportunity:** If you follow all 5 Good Habits for Evidence with this first assignment, you earn 20 points extra credit.

<sup>b</sup> **Opportunity:** If doing the Anonymous Peer Reviews of other students' Unit 1 Comparisons lets you realize that you will earn no points for Unit 1 Comparison's Good Habits for Evidence grade, you can do the optional Turnitin Assignment to peer review your own work. If you correctly identify your own errors with the 5 Good Habits for Evidence, you earn 10 points extra credit.

<sup>c</sup> The word *anonymous* means that students cannot tell who wrote the Comparison or who did the peer review unless a student tells them.

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## **Comparisons, the 5 Good Habits for Evidence, and Required Reply to Feedback to Get Points**

With distance learning, it can be difficult to communicate to students about Good Habits for Evidence, including factual accuracy or “half-copy” plagiarism or “patchwriting.”<sup>d</sup> These errors can be dangerous to your future, but are preventable by choosing and developing habits that match who you want to become and the requirements of most jobs that pay well.

To be sure that you receive the feedback, you must reply back to the email with the attached feedback on a Comparison **before** I enter the points for it. If you have questions, please ask. We can talk by phone or face-to-face.

If you repeat the same errors on the next Comparison, your grade will be lower. Do make sure you ask for help.

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## **Overview of Objective Work and How Blackboard Provides Everything but the Required Textbook**

**9 Quizzes as Interactive Study Guides on Facts in the Units and the Three Versions of Each Quiz:** There is one quiz for each of the three Parts within a Unit (such as Quiz A, Quiz B, and Quiz C). Each quiz has three versions: a Check Your Knowledge quiz<sup>e</sup> so you can determine a reading plan that lets you identify what you don't know and save time on things you already understand, a practice version, and a version worth 10 points<sup>f</sup>.

You must take the Check Your Knowledge quiz to see other two versions. Getting Started FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) provides details on how to use these 3 versions of each quiz to save time in learning and on how the extra credit works.

**3 Unit Objective Exams:** The 40 questions, at 4.25 points each, in the Unit Objective Exam are pulled from all of the questions in the 3 quizzes for the Unit. The exams are organized so you know all the possible questions but not which ones Blackboard will give you.

**Departmental Final Exam—F for the Course If Not Taken:** The 25 questions, at 4 points each, in the Departmental Final Exam were written by the History Department. 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. WCJC determines the date of the Final Exam, not the instructor. See the Course Schedule for the date.

**Departmental Final Exam—How the Final Exam Is Different from Quizzes and How to Use the Review?** 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 reformatting about 100 multiple-choice questions from the nine quizzes to create sets of matching questions, including with maps. You can see all of the questions as a link, write down your answers, and then grade yourself by using the link with the answers. If you miss a question, you know you need to reread that section before the Final.

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## **Overview of Two Assignments That Also Earn Extra Credit (Small) for Each Unit**

**3 Students Helping Students with History Forums:** Each Unit includes a Forum where students can ask questions about history or answer them. Students who are particularly helpful to others can also earn up to 10 points for doing the good deed they would do any way. The first message in the Forum lists requirements for that extra credit and shows the rubric

**3 Video Assignments on How History Changes during a Unit:** The Dallas TeleLearning Videos are excellent. You may want to use them to clarify facts by seeing brief sections of films from the era or by listening to experts on a specific issue. A searchable list at the top of the Videos for the Unit lets you locate videos to match what you need.

You can also use them to earn a small extra credit (5 points). You download a form that you complete so that you can focus on learning from the videos. A link in the description of the assignment tells you how to do these assignments. The rubric focuses on accuracy and being brief in answering questions.

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<sup>d</sup> The quoted terms are explained on page 746 in the ninth edition of *The Bedford Handbook* by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers.

<sup>e</sup> **Opportunity:** You earn a small extra credit for what you already know; you do not lose any points if you miss a question. These extra credit points are done to encourage you to take the Check Your Knowledge quizzes before you read.

<sup>f</sup> **Opportunity:** By making 9 points or higher on a 10-point quiz by the date in the Course Schedule, you earn 2 extra credit points. For example, if you made 9 or 10 on Quiz A – For 10 Points by the due date, I enter 2 extra points in the grade Quiz A Extra Credit.

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## Course Schedule – Holidays this semester: 3/27 (UIL) and 4/02-4/03 (Easter)

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 or a specific action by you. Please use the Course Schedule 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 11:55 PM on the date listed.
- Units and all assignments within them OPEN at 12:00 AM on the date listed.
- The Unit Objective Exams open at 12:00 AM with at least 1 day on the weekend—thus the 5/09 date for Unit 3.
- You can take quizzes from the opening of the Unit to its closing, but to earn the 2 points extra credit you must take the Quiz – For 10 points by the date in the Course Schedule
- Any quiz, exam, or assignment that you can take only one time has this password: onetimeonly

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### Getting Started - Course Documents and Orientation (MAR 23 - MAR 24; Good Habits for Evidence MAR 25)

MON 3/23 Course overview module opens.

TUE 3/24 1<sup>st</sup> 3 Introductory Tasks Due. (Once you do the 4<sup>th</sup> task and I enter the 20 points, you can see the Current Comparison folder. The Comparison itself will be in that folder on the date in this Course Schedule.)

### Unit 1: Creating a New America - How America Changed from the 1860s to 1900 (MAR 24 - APR 11)

TUE 3/24 Unit 1 Objective Work opens (Quizzes) + extra credit (Students Helping Students Forum, Video Assignment)

THU 3/26 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz A DUE.

In the Current Comparison folder: The Introductory Comparison opens for planning and for beginning to submit your file in Turnitin. (Turnitin opens on 3/28.)

TUES 3/31 In the Current Comparison folder: Introductory Comparison DUE (Save your digital receipt.);

WED 4/01 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz B DUE.

In the Current Comparison folder: The Unit 1 Comparison opens for planning and for beginning to submit your file in Turnitin. (Turnitin opens on 4/06.<sup>§</sup>)

WED 4/08 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz C DUE.

THU 4/09 Unit 1 Objective Exam opens.

SAT 4/11 Unit 1 Objective Work DUE (Exam, Quizzes) + extra credit DUE (students' forum, Video Assignment)

<sup>§</sup> Do not put your name in this file or in the Title when you submit this to Turnitin. Turnitin automatically uses this Comparison for peer review that other students in the class see.

### Unit 2: Moving to the World Stage - America from 1900 to 1940 (APR 11 – APR 25)

SAT 4/11 Unit 2 Objective Work opens (Quizzes) + extra credit (Students Helping Students forum, Video Assignment)

MON 4/13 In the Current Comparison folder: Unit 1 Comparison DUE (Save your digital receipt.)

WED 4/15 In the Current Comparison folder: Beginning to Peer Review 2 Other Students' Unit 1 Comparisons opens (Requires you analyze the students' work compared to requirements and to pages used as a source and then complete 2 online forms.)

THU 4/16 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz D DUE.

MON 4/20 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz E DUE.

WED 4/22 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz F DUE.

In the Current Comparison folder: Peer Reviews DUE<sup>#</sup> (Save your digital receipt.)

THU 4/23 Unit 2 Objective Exam opens

SAT 4/25 Unit 2 Objective Work DUE (Exam, Quizzes) + extra credit DUE (students' forum, Video Assignment)

<sup>#</sup> Your instructor's feedback on Unit 1 Comparison is available after the peer reviews are DUE. She will give feedback on both grades at one time.

### Unit 3: Transformations – America from 1940 to the 21st Century (APR 25 - MAY 09)

SAT 4/25 Unit 3 Objective Work opens (Quizzes) + extra credit (Students Helping Students forum, Video Assignment)

SUN 4/26 In the Current Comparison folder: The Major Comparison opens for planning and for beginning to submit your file in Turnitin. (Turnitin opens on 5/04.)

THU 4/30 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz G DUE.

FRI 5/01 Last day for you to "Drop" the course with grade of "W."

MON 5/04 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz H DUE.

WED 5/06 To receive 2 points extra credit, score of 9 or 10 on Quiz I DUE.

THU 5/07 Unit 3 Objective Exam opens

SAT 5/09 Unit 3 Objective Work DUE (Exam, Quizzes) + extra credit DUE (students' forum, Video Assignment)

MON 5/11 In the Current Comparison folder: Major Comparison DUE. (Save your digital receipt.)

### Review for the Final Exam: 1860s to the 21st Century (Early open on MAY 03 – MAY 14)

SUN 5/03 All Review material opens. Some of the review map quizzes may help you with preparing for Unit 3's objective.

WED 5/13 Review **all** your grades. If you believe there is an error, contact me by email **and** phone **before** noon on 5/13.

THU 5/14 Final Exam – Departmental policy: F for the **Course** if not taken. (The Final Exam date is set by WCJC.)

*I reserve the right to modify the syllabus during the semester.*

**WCJC Department:** History – Dr. Bibus  
**Contact Information:** 281-239-1577 or [bibusc@wcjc.edu](mailto:bibusc@wcjc.edu)  
**Last Updated:** 2015  
**WCJC Home:** <http://www.wcjc.edu/>