

History 1302—United States History, 1865-Present

Angelo State University, Spring 2009

Section 030, 9 – 9:50 a.m., MWF, A 221

Section 100, 11 – 11:50 a.m., MWF, A 225

Section 130, 2 – 2:50 p.m., MWF, A 225

Dr. David P. Dewar

Office: A 110G; Office Hours: 10 - 11 a.m., MWF; 3 – 4:30 p.m., MW; 2 – 5 p.m., T&R

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Overview and Objectives

HI 1302 is devoted to surveying American history from the end of the Civil War to the present.

The course has three objectives:

- a) to develop your general education skills;
- b) to provoke you to think historically; and
- c) to acquaint you with basic information about the historical period.

The particular general education skills emphasized in this course are:

Reading intelligently,

Writing effectively, and

Processing information through synthesis and analysis

Historical thinking calls upon each of these three skills by its emphasizing interpretation of the records of human experience. Through course readings and videotaped presentations about historical people and events, you will become familiar with the ways in which others interpret those experiences. However, you, too, will have the same opportunity. Learning to think historically, becoming acquainted with the basic information about the period, and finding a way to interpret that information is the art of “doing history.”

Course Materials

You are required to buy and read the following books available at the ASU bookstore.

- Paul S. Boyer, et. al., *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People, 5th edition, Volume Two: From 1865* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004). The text features accompanying materials—a documents collection entitled *Enduring Voices*, and a student guide with map exercises.
- Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*, ; Entire book
- Richard W. Etulain, ed., *Cesar Chavez: A Brief Biography with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s Press, 2002); pp. 1-73.

From time to time I will hand out additional reading that will allow you to put the course’s larger themes into a specific context.

Course Construction

Class time will be spent in three ways.

- On Mondays each week I will “lecture” on the topic to be covered during the week. It will relate to your readings in *The Enduring Vision*, but will not follow the text’s framework exactly. The lectures give you an opportunity to expand your understanding of the broader themes covered in the text by providing additional perspectives on them. The word lecture is in quotes above because questions and comments are always welcome.
- On Wednesdays, we will view a videotaped presentation focusing on a specific person or topic important to the particular era under consideration that week.
- On Fridays we will hold a discussion. It will focus on the material in *Enduring Voices*, the document set that accompanies your text. Discussion provides you with the opportunity to question the text authors’ interpretations, my presentations, your colleagues’ assumptions, or simply to enlighten the class with your intellectual prowess.

Course Construction (cont.)

- Also on Fridays you will bring four “talking points” to class. These must be typewritten. They can be questions about the week’s material or comments about what you’ve found valuable or confusing. This way, you will come prepared for Friday’s discussion.
- Discussion is not limited to assigned moments. I encourage and expect each of you to interrupt my lecturing with questions or comments. Discussion provides you with the opportunity to question the text authors’ interpretations, my presentations, your colleagues’ assumptions, or simply to enlighten the class with your intellectual prowess. **You must participate in class through questions and discussion. If you don’t, it is possible to receive zero points for participation. See important calculation under “Evaluation” below.**
- You will take three exams during the semester.
 - **The first mid-term is scheduled for Friday, February 27.** The in-class portion that day will consist of multiple-choice and identification questions. It will feature, also, a take-home essay component that will ask you to consider *The Jungle* in light of themes we discuss concerning post-bellum immigration, industrialization, and western expansion.
 - **The second mid-term is scheduled for Friday, April 3.** It will feature an objective section and an in-class essay.
 - **The final for section 060 is scheduled for 8 – 10 a.m., Wednesday, May 13. For section 100, it is scheduled for 10:30 – 12:30, Wednesday, May 13. For section 130 is is 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Monday, May 11.** The in-class portion that day will consist of multiple-choice and identification questions in two parts each. One multiple-choice section will concern material covered since the second mid-term. The other will be comprehensive. Likewise, one section of identifications will concern material covered since the second mid-term, the other will be comprehensive. Like the first mid-term, the final will feature a take-home essay component as well. This one will ask you to consider the documents in *Cesar Chavez* in light of 20th-century social and political themes we’ll discuss.

Evaluation

Following are the scores attached to each component of the class. It is a system that allows you to keep track of your progress so you know where you stand as the semester progresses.

First Mid-Term Exam	100 points—50 objective portion; 50 essay portion
Second Mid-Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	200 points—100 objective portion; 100 essay portion
Talking Points	40 points (3 pts. per week and 1 extra point for submitting all 13 sets)
Class participation	60 points (4 pts. per week and 8 extra points for participating in class all 13 discussion weeks. Remember, a zero is possible here. You must contribute to discussions. And, do the math—losing 60 points can move you down two whole grades. For instance, 451 [A] minus 60 = 391 [C].) up to 10 points extra credit added to your total
Pop quizzes and the like	

Thus, at the end of the semester:

A = 451-500 points

B = 401-450 points

C = 351-400 points

D = 301-350 points

F = 300 points or fewer

Important Details

- Class participation includes both attendance and speaking up in discussion. If you do not speak, and you attend every class, you still will receive no points for participation.
- Four absences during the semester will be overlooked. More than four absences lowers your grade. Subsequent absences costs your total score 10 points each. Use days off carefully in case of illness or family emergency. If you know ahead of time you'll be gone for an extended period, come talk to me so we can make arrangements for you to make up the work.
- Complete and submit assignments on schedule. Makeup work, except in the most extreme circumstances, is not acceptable. If such a circumstance can be anticipated, see me ahead of time. If it is not anticipated, documentation will be required to make up the work.
- The university offers a Writing Center to help you with construction of your essays. In addition, I will be happy to read drafts of your essays if they are submitted to me at least three days before they are due. The Writing Center is in the library (305C) and at 942-2093.
- **Plagiarism is the worst of academic crimes and will not be tolerated.** Plagiarism is representing someone else's work as your own. If you plagiarize, I will fail you for the course on the first offense. If you do not know what plagiarism is, please see me. ASU has implemented an honor code that binds students and faculty to academic integrity. Please read it in the Student Handbook, pp 30-34.
- Turn off your cell phones before class starts unless you're waiting for an organ transplant or word about a close relative's death. Inform me before class in either case.
- Do not check the cell phone you didn't turn off for text messages during class. I will deduct 10 points from your grade each time I catch you doing so.
- You may not take notes on electronic devices—computers, iPhones, cell phones, or otherwise.
- You will write your in-class exams in blue books that I will provide at exam time.

Calendar and Reading Assignments

Week 1—Introduction

Reading: Handout on Civil War's consequences

Monday, January 19	NO CLASS—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., HOLIDAY
Wednesday, January 21	Introduction to the course and video about the Civil War
Friday, January 23	Discussion—What the Civil War did

Week 2—Reconstruction

Reading: Vision: 467-499; Voices: Chap. 16—1 (4&6), 2 (1), 3 (4).

Monday, January 26	Lecture: Reconstruction and the New South
Wednesday, January 28	Video: Reconstruction
Friday, January 30	Discussion: Emancipation and Redemption

Talking Points #1 due

Week 3—The West

Reading: Vision: 501-531; Voices: Chap. 17—1 (1&2), 2 (2&4), 3 (2 & 5,6,7).

Monday, February 2	Lecture: Indians, Railroads, and Expansion
Wednesday, February 4	Excerpt from Ken Burns' <i>The West</i>
Friday, February 6	Discussion: Natives and Farmers Headed West

Talking Points #2 due

Week 4—Industrialization and Urbanization

Reading: Vision: 533-563; Voices: Chap. 18—1 (1&6), 2 (2&7), 3 (5 & 6).

Monday, February 9 Lecture: Industry and American Values in the North, South and West
Wednesday, February 11 Video: Excerpt from *The World's Richest Man: Andrew Carnegie*
Friday, February 13 Discussion: Changing Work, Changing Identity
Talking Points #3 due

Week 5—A Changing Way of American Life

Reading: Vision: 565-595; Voices: Chap. 20—1 (1&6), 2 (All), 3 (all);

Finish The Jungle

Monday, February 16 Lecture: Race, Ethnicity and Social Classes
Wednesday, February 18 Video: Excerpt from KTWU's *Kansas City Jazz*
Friday, February 20 Discussion: "The Other" and Their "Place" in Society
Talking Points #4 due
Distribution of First Mid-term Study Guide & Essay assignment

Week 6—Politics and Society at the Turn of the Century

Reading: Vision: 597-625; Voices: Chap. 21—1 (1&5), 3 (1&3)

Monday, February 23 Lecture: Politics, Laissez-Faire Capitalism, and Reform
Wednesday, February 25 Discussion and Review: Populists, Progressives and Party Politics
Talking Points #5 due
Friday, February 27 **First Mid-Term Exam; Exam essay on *The Jungle* due**

Week 7—Imperialism, World War I, and Progressivism

Reading: Vision: 627-695 : Voices: Chap. 21—2 (1&2); Chap. 22—1 (4), 3 (1)

Monday, March 2 Lecture: Creating Empire, Defending Ideology
Wednesday, March 4 Video: Excerpt from PBS' bio of Teddy Roosevelt
Friday, March 6 Discussion: Why did U.S. Enter WWI, What Did It Get From Peace?
Talking Points #6 due

Week 8—The Roaring '20s and the Great Depression

Reading: Vision: 697-727; Voices: Chap. 24—1 (1&3), 2 (6, 8 & 9), 3 (4&5)

Monday, March 9 Lecture: Boom and Bust in the American Economy
Wednesday, March 11 Video: "How We Lived: 1920s"
Friday, March 13 Discussion: Causes and Consequences of War and Prosperity
Talking Points #7 due

Week 9—NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK

Week 10—The New Deal

Reading: Vision: 729-763; Voices: Chap. 25—1 (1&2), 3 (2&5)

Monday, March 23 Lecture: Regulating Industry; Ordering Life
Wednesday, March 25 Video: Excerpt from *Our Century: FDR*
Friday, March 27 Discussion: Pros and Cons of Government Economic Regulation
Talking Points #8 due
Distribution of Second Mid-Term Study Guide

Week 11—Economic Recovery and World War II

Reading: Vision: 765-797; Voices: Chap. 26—1 (9), 2 (5); Chap. 27—1 (2, 4 & 7)

Monday, March 30 Lecture: Liberalism and Its Challenges

Wednesday, April 1 Video: Excerpt from Biography's "Harry Truman"

Friday, April 3 **Second Mid-Term Exam**

Week 12—Cold War America and a New Prosperity

Reading: Vision: 798-825; Voices: Chap. 28—1 (1, 2 & 5), 2 (1&5), 3 (1&6)

Monday, April 6 Lecture: Cold War or Hot Peace?

Wednesday, April 8 Video: Excerpt from ABC's *Focus on the Fifties*

Friday, April 10 Discussion: A New World for the World

Talking Points #9 due

Week 13—America at Mid-Century

Reading: Vision: 799-857; Voices: Chap. 29—1 (1, 3 & 4)

Monday, April 13 Lecture: Whose America?

Wednesday, April 15 Video: Excerpts from *The Atomic Café*

Friday, April 17 Discussion: Nixon, Kennedy, and the Soviet Union

Talking Points #10 due

Week 14—The 1960s

Reading: Vision: 859-887; Voices: Chap. 30—1 (1, 5 & 6), 2 (1&2),

Monday, April 20 Lecture: A Decade of Violence

Wednesday, April 22 Video: Excerpt from *Eyes on the Prize*

Friday, April 24 Discussion: The Violent Death of Jim Crow

Talking Points #11 due

Week 15—The "Long" 1970s: 1968-1979

Reading: Vision: 889-933; Voices: Chap. 30—2 (5); Chap. 31—1 (4&5), 2 (1&3);

Chap 32—1 2&4)

Monday, April 27 Lecture: War Abroad; Corruption at Home

Wednesday, April 29 Video: *Vietnam: Peace*

Friday, May 1 Vietnam, Watergate, and Jimmy Carter

Talking Points #12 due

Week 16—From Reagan to "W": The Almost-Present as History

Reading: Vision: 933-973; Voices: Chap. 32—1 (1&4), Chap. 33—1 (4), 2 (1);

Finish Cesar Chavez book

Monday, May 4 Lecture: New Prosperity, New Kinds of War

Distribution of Final Exam Essay assignment

Wednesday, May 6 Video: TBA

Friday, May 8 Discussion: Social Issues and Conservative Economic Policy

Talking Points #13 due

Final Exam:

9 – 9:50 MWF

8 – 10 a.m., Wednesday, May 13; Exam essay due

11 – 11:50 MWF

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 13; Exam essay due

2 – 2:50 MWF

3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Monday, May 11; Exam essay due