COURSE OVERVIEW

The North American continent underwent fundamental changes between the moment of contact in 1492 and the end of the Civil War in 1865, a stretch of time that saw the American continents “discovered,” the English colonies founded, and the United States created and then divided in a bloody Civil War. Slaves were introduced into this country and moved extensively through a foreign and domestic trade; immigrants sought mineral wealth, religious freedom, and a myriad of other dreams that drew them across the Atlantic; and, a series of revolutions radically shaped the lives and experiences of people living in a young United States.

REQUIRED MATERIALS


TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

The objective of a social and behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase student knowledge of how social scientists discover, describe, and explain the interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will allow you:

- To examine historical processes across a range of time periods and cultures
- To analyze the effects of social, political, economic, and global forces on this nation
- To understand the evolution and current role of the U.S. in the world
- To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completing this course, you should be able to:

- Identify & critique explanations for claims about social issues & human behavior
- Identify & appreciate differences & commonalities among cultures
- Demonstrate knowledge of the origins & evolution of U.S. & Texas political systems
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I will assess these learning outcomes using:

- Exams: you will take four (4) exams (the final exam essentially acts as your final exam)
- Classroom Assignments: you will complete one (1) Primary Source Assignment each week
- Discussion Board: you will participate in/contribute to two (2) threads in the Discussion Board each week

LATE WORK

As a general rule, there will be no late work accepted in this class. However, exceptions can sometimes be made so please keep in contact about any issues or conflicts that you encounter.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

It is ASU policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

COPYRIGHT POLICY

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. Please see below for information on the department’s policies.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is utilizing someone else’s writings, ideas, or works without providing due credit or
proper citation. Plagiarism is literary theft. Quotation marks and, if instructed by me or in the assignment criteria, footnote/endnote citations should be utilized in order to note the source of a work or idea. If you are unsure about a citation, contact me with your question or visit this helpful website to avoid common plagiarism pitfalls. There is no excuse for plagiarism. It is your responsibility to plan your semester and time effectively to avoid putting yourself in a situation where you might turn to plagiarism. A digital plagiarism detection program (e.g. SafeAssign or Turn-it-in) will be used to check your work. Be intentional about submitting original work, complete with proper citations.

Academic misconduct is not limited to plagiarism. Academic dishonesty might also include copying somebody else's work, submitting somebody else's work as your own, failing to cite sources, or signing another student into class. Although discussing your work with classmates may be helpful, you must also be aware of “unauthorized collaboration” as a form of academic misconduct.

The History Department’s policy is that violations of the academic honor code will result in a 0 on an assignment for the first offense and a 0 in the entire class for subsequent offenses. In-class forms of plagiarism, such as signing in for another student, will be considered on a case by case basis, and I reserve the right to fail violators from this course on their first violation in egregious cases of misconduct. All academic integrity violations will be referred to the Executive Director of Student Affairs, who may impose additional sanctions if warranted as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. Once a student has been notified of an academic integrity allegation, the student may not drop the course until the academic integrity processes are complete. If a student drops or withdraws, the student will be reinstated to the course.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs and is the designated department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at: www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with reviewing/authorizing accommodation requests is Dallas Swafford (dallas.swafford@angelo.edu, 325-942-2047).
TITLE IX

Angelo State University is committed to providing/strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations to the Office of Title IX Compliance. This is done to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, you are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022, michelle.boone@angelo.edu
You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you wish to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the Health Clinic, Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy. If you are pregnant and need assistance, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance.

GRADING

Exams (4) ................. 60%  A = 89.5 – 100
Primary Source Exercises .... 20%  B = 79.5 – 89.4
Discussion Board ......... 20%  C = 69.5 – 79.4
                     D = 59.5 – 69.4
                     F = 59.4 – 0

Useful Links:
https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix
Final Advice

Because this is an online course, we will not meet in a face-to-face setting. Instead, you will be responsible for following and keeping up with the assignments with relatively little oversight and prompting from the professor. That self-pacing and accountability can be problematic for some students so I recommend that you keep up with the material diligently and contact me promptly when you have questions or concerns.

If you do not have consistent access to a computer, to an internet connection, or to technology that will allow you to watch videos, please let me know that as well.

The class is set up to follow what we would be doing on-campus, which is the equivalent of one chapter each week. However, you are welcome to do the assignments whenever you want as long as you complete the work by the assigned due dates.

Notice that a substantial portion of your grade is based on participation in the Discussion Board. The Discussion Board is not optional.

The key to online courses is to keep up with the work and to keep in contact with me if you have any problems or questions. Best of luck!