US History II
HIST 2112 Spring 2018
TTH 5:30-6:45pm TLC 1200
Teresa Lotti, M.A., Instructor

Office: Office 105 Pafford
Office Hours: Tuesday: After class
            Thursday: After class
            By appointment
Phone: 678-839-6508
Email: tlotti@westga.edu

Course Description and Learning Outcome:
In accordance with the learning outcomes adopted for the University of West Georgia’s Core
Area E, students in this course will demonstrate the ability to understand the political, social,
economic, or cultural dimensions of American history. This course will include lectures, reading
assignments, in-class discussions, and occasionally the use of other media.

Required Reading:
Edward Ayers, David Oshinsky, Jean Soderlund, and Lewis Gould. American
edition

The course lectures and the textbook reading reinforce each other. Use the textbook to review,
flesh out, and reinforce what you will learn in lecture. My lectures do not duplicate the textbook.
Lectures often introduce new topics and stories and go into greater depth than the textbook.
Complete the textbook reading each week and use it to prepare for quizzes and exams and to
review and flesh out your lecture notes.

The readings for each class meeting will also usually include short primary source selections or
articles. These readings will introduce you to the types of evidence that historians use to
construct their arguments and interpret the past. It is very important that you read the assigned
documents; each class is centered on these texts. You are required to print out and bring the
short reading assignments to class. All assigned readings should be completed before class
meets.

Exams and Grading:
Exam 1: 20%
Exam 2: 20%
Exam 3: 20%
Exam 4: 0%

Four exams will be given, however, only three exams will count toward your final grade.
The lowest exam score will be dropped.
Class Participation: 20%
Class participation is very crucial for a good grade in this class. This grade includes not only coming to class but being a part of the discussions. Doing the read will prepare you for class discussions, so be prepared.

Short Essay Assignment: 20%
Choose one (1) question during the semester to answer. You must do one (1) short essay assignment to earn full credit (20%). Write 3 to 5 pages, double-spaced, on your chosen question using lectures and readings to write your answer. No partial credit will be given and no late papers will be accepted. See Reflections Essay handout for details regarding the essay.

The University of West Georgia grading scale is as follows:

A= 89.50 or above
B= 79.50- 89.49
C= 69.50- 79.49
D= 59.50- 69.49
F= 59.49 or below

Classroom Etiquette:
- Come to class on time.
- Come to class prepared. Read all the homework assignments so that you can engage in each week’s topics.
- Please refrain from using your cell, Facebook, watching cat videos, etc. in class.

For information regarding accommodations for disabilities, UWG e-mail policy, credit hour policy, and the honor code, please see this link:

http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf

Schedule of topics, reading assignments, and exam dates

T 1/9 Class Intro; Where’s the Party? What is a Democrat? What is a Republican?
  - Homework: Please purchase/rent American Passages. Read “Newspaper Account of a Meeting between Black Religious Leaders and Union Military Authorities” found on CourseDen.
  - [New York, N.Y. February 13, 1865]

TH 1/11 The Failure of Reconstruction and the American Political Landscape
T 1/16 Farmers, Natives, and Cowboys: The Postwar American West

TH 1/18 Industry, Labor, and Urban Immigration in Gilded Age America
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages, pp. 368-378. Read “Sister Carrie” and “A Call to Arms” found on CourseDen.

T 1/23 The Age of Innocence? Science, Culture, and Politics in the Gilded Age

TH 1/25 Imperial Designs: American Foreign Expansion

T 1/30 Jim Crow and the New South

TH 2/2 The “P’s” of Political Reform: Populism and Progressivism

T 2/6 Exam 1
- Covers material through 2/2.

TH 2/8 The Great War Abroad and at Home
- Homework for Mon: Read American Passages, Chapter 20 (all), pp. 470-495

DUE DATE #1 FOR REFLECTION ESSAYS TURN IN AT END OF CLASS

T 2/13 The Roaring 20s – Did they Roar?
- Homework for Mon: Read American Passages, pp. 498-506. Read “Roaring 20s” found on CourseDen.

TH 2/15 Confronting Modernity: The Scopes Trial
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages pp. 511-513. Read “Scopes Trial” found on CourseDen.

T 2/20 Jazz, Booze, and the Klan
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages pp. 508-510; 514-517. Read “Jazz Age” packet found on CourseDen.
TH 2/22 The Great Depression
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages, pp. 520-529. Other readings TBD/announced in class.

T 2/26 Exam 2
- Covers material through 2/22.

TH 3/1 The New Deal
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages, pp. 532-536 & 542-549.

T 3/6 World War II and the Advent of the Cold War
- Homework for Wed: Read American Passages, pp. 566-576 and 597-598.

TH 3/8 The Communists, McCarthyism, and Freedom of Speech

T 3/13: The Baby Boom: Consumption and the 1950s American Family

TH 3/15 Civil Rights from Birmingham to Black Lives Matter

DUE DATE #2 FOR REFLECTION ESSAYS TURN IN AT END OF CLASS

T 3/20 Spring Break!

TH 3/22 Spring Break!

T 3/27 The Magic and Mistakes of Camelot: The Kennedy and Johnson Years
- Homework for Mon: Read American Passages, pp. 629-641.

TH 3/29: Exam 3
- Covers material through 3/27.

T 4/3 Hippies, Feminism, and Free Love
TH 4/5  Vietnam and the New Left
   - Homework for Wed: Read American Passages, pp. 650-652. Read “Port Huron Statement,” “Sproul Hall Sit-In Address” and “Letter to the Left” found on CourseDen.

T 4/10  Patty Hearst Heard the Burst of Roland’s Thompson Gun (and Bought It): America in the 1970s
   - Homework for Mon: Read “Statement in Support of the Equal Rights Amendment” found on CourseDen.

TH 4/12  Morning Again in America: The Reagan Revolution and the New Conservatism
   - T 4/17  Sex, Drugs, Rock and Roll, and Russia: 1980-1989

TH 4/19  Contract with America: Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich

DUE DATE REPLACEMENT REFLECTION ESSAYS TURN IN AT END OF CLASS

T 4/24: The World of Kurt Cobain: Who’s Revolution is this anyway?
   - Homework for Mon: Read Franke-Ruta, Garance “How America Got Past the Anti-Gay Politics of the ’90s” found on CourseDen.

TH 4/26  Sept 11 and Beyond: America in a Global Society

T 5/8: Final Exam Date
   - 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Covers material from 4/3- 4/26.