

# **US History Since 1865**

## **NTCC Spring Semester 2026**

### **HIST 1302.322, .331 & .332**

### **Assignments & Schedule**

James McGregor

Office Hours: **MTWR 7:00-8:00; 11:00-12:30/1:30-2:30**

[jmcgregor@ntcc.edu](mailto:jmcgregor@ntcc.edu)

(903) 434-8236

Class Time: **MTWR 8:00 & 9:30/H 105**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Three credit hours. This is a survey course and continuation of HIST 1301. Topics include the closing of the frontier; industrialization; the challenge to traditional values and institutions in an urban industrial environment; the United States as a world power; World War I; economic depression and the rise of the welfare state; World War II; and post-war America from Korea through Vietnam, from civil rights to the end of the Cold War. Three hours of class each week.

#### **TEXTBOOKS**

Students need the current edition of Experience History (ISBN 0073385670). Eyewitness to America is a supplemental book that can be purchased, but is also on reserve in the LRC. An ebook version is available on Blackboard. Students will need access to SmartBook assignments which are part of the e-book.

#### **EVALUATION & ASSIGNMENTS**

**90-100%-A**

**80-89%-B**

**70-79%-C**

**60-69%-D**

**Below 60%-F**

#### **2 Exams @ 50%**

There will be two exams, a mid-term and a final exam. Exams will mainly be multiple choice, but I reserve the right to ask any type of question on any test. Students will need #2 pencils and Scranton answer sheets, which are available in the NTCC Bookstore. Exams may also be moved online depending on circumstances. If an exam is missed, it is the student's responsibility to contact me within one class day to set-up a make-up test. Make-up exams are always essay tests.

#### **Discussion, Quiz & Participation @ 15%**

Students will be given Discussion Questions (on BlackBoard) prior to assigned readings. Students are expected to answer and discuss these questions in depth during class. Written answers for these discussion questions may be required for a grade. SmartBook and other assignments are posted in eight modules. Chapter Quizzes will be posted on Blackboard. All discussion,

Participation and SmartBook grades will all be averaged in one category which counts as 15% of the total course grade.

### **Attendance @ 10%**

Each student is allowed two (2) free absences. Each additional absence will result in a loss of points from their final attendance grade. If possible one class day will be set aside for attendance make-up. Students with more than two absences will have an absence removed from their semester total for attending make-up day. Unexcused absences are limited to one (1) in night and summer classes. Attendance make-up classes are not available in night or summer classes. Two (2) tardies will count as one (1) absence. It is the responsibility of students who enter class after roll has been taken to inform the instructor that they were present after class.

### **1 Research Essay @ 25%**

Reading and writing are imperative to the study of history. Students are required to write one persuasive research essay based on readings from [Eyewitness to America](#) or additional research.

**The essay must be submitted to Turnitin.com (via Blackboard) on the proper due date.** The research topics and due dates are posted on Blackboard under the history essay tab. See Blackboard for instructions on viewing feedback and grades.

## Essay Rubric

<b>Sources:</b>  This Research Essay should have at least three (3) credible historical sources. At least one of these sources must be either <u>Eyewitness to America</u> or another historical book (not an Encyclopedia). Your textbook can be used as a source but will not count as your book source. Individual web pages or commercial websites (e.g., A&E Biography) should be avoided along with children's or young adult books. <b>Wikipedia is not an acceptable source.</b>	<b>15 Possible Points</b>
<b>Thesis and Content:</b>  The essay should be persuasive and/or argumentative. Therefore, biographical information might be used in some cases, but is not necessary. The thesis or argument should be clearly stated in the introduction paragraph and supported by evidence throughout the body of the essay. The essay should display a thorough understanding of the content and/or evidence used to support the argument.	<b>15 Possible Points</b>
<b>Format:</b>  The essay should be typed in 12 point TNR font (or equivalent), double-spaced with 1-inch margins (or default). Essays should be 3 to 4 pages long. A cover page is not required but all essays must include a name, class, and date.	<b>10 Possible Points</b>
<b>Grammar, Style, and Usage:</b>  Proper grammar and usage are extremely important. In addition to correcting grammar and usage mistakes, essays should be free of spelling, punctuation and typographical errors as well. In addition, essays should be written in third person, so avoid personal pronouns such as I, me, we, us, and you. Biographical subjects should be addressed by their full name or title, but not their given name only (e.g., Ulysses S. Grant or General Grant is fine but Ulysses is not). <b>Avoid contractions</b> (can't, don't, etc.) as well in a formal essay. <b>Use semi-colons at your own risk.</b>	<b>20 Possible Points</b>
<b>Citations:</b>  A Works Cited page, completed in Chicago or MLA style should be attached at the end of your essay. In addition, either footnotes or parenthetical references should be included within the body of the essay using either Chicago or MLA style.	<b>20 Possible Points</b>
<b>Plagiarism:</b>  Essays must be uploaded to turnitin.com or SafeAssign to be considered. Essays with a plagiarism percentage under 25% will not be penalized but points will be deducted as the percentage rises. Once the plagiarism percentage reaches 75%, the total percentage will be deducted from 100 to determine the final essay grade.	<b>20 Possible Points</b>

## 8-WEEKS TENATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Class Meetings	Topics of Discussion	Assignment Due Dates & Test Dates
Week 1	<b>Course Introduction</b> <b>Chapter 17: Reconstructing the Union 1865-1877</b> <b>Chapter 18: The New South &amp; the Trans-Mississippi West 1870-1914</b>	1. 2. 3.
Week 2	<b>Chapter 19: The New Industrial Order 1870-1914</b> <b>Chapter 20: The Rise of an Urban Order 1870-1914</b> <b>Chapter 21: The Political System under Strain at Home and Abroad 1877-1900</b>	1. 2. 3.
Week 3	<b>Chapter 21: The Political System under Strain at Home and Abroad 1877-1900</b> <b>Chapter 22: The Progressive Era 1890-1920</b> <b>Chapter 23: The United States &amp; the Collapse of the Old World Order 1901-1920</b> <b>Chapter 24: The New Era 1920-1929</b>	1. 2. 3.
Week 4	<b>Mid-Term Exam Review</b> <b>Mid-Term Exam:</b> Chapters 17-24 and information covered in lectures	1. 2. 3.
Week 5	<b>Chapter 25: The Great Depression &amp; the New Deal 1929-1939</b> <b>Chapter 26: America's Rise to Globalism 1927-1945</b> <b>Chapter 27: Cold War America 1945-1954</b>	1. 2. 3.
Week 6	<b>Chapter 28: The Suburban Era 1945-1963</b>	1. 2. 3.
Week 7	<b>Chapter 29: Civil Rights &amp; Uncivil Liberties 1947-1969</b> <b>Chapter 30: Vietnam &amp; the End of the Liberal Era 1963-1976</b> <b>Food Extra Credit Due</b>	
Week 8	<b>Chapter 31: The Conservative Challenge 1976-1992</b> <b>Final Exam Review</b> <b>Finals Week:</b> Exam dates posted on course schedule	1. 2.