

History 1301. W3C

History of the United States to 1877

Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** John McLemore

**Classroom Hours:** WEB

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**Classroom:** WEB

**Communications:** The best method of communication is via e-mail. As I have no office on the OC campus I have no office hours.

**Text:** *The Unfinished Nation 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*, Alan Brinkley, Columbia University, 2010.

**Course Objectives:** As a collegiate level survey course of United States History, this class seeks to examine the evolution of the United States as a country, world power and super power. The class will seek to gain knowledge of the establishment and development of the major political, social, economic, military, and intellectual streams of this nation's history. We will seek to discover the evolving characteristics that have given this country its distinctive history. Since the founding of our country the United States has struggled to provide equality for all its citizens, this course will examine the where, when, who, and how of that struggle. We will examine the changes (good and bad) brought about by the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Civil War. We will also effort to achieve the General Education Curriculum Goals for American History Survey Courses as listed below:

- Understanding the evolution and current role of the United States in the world
- Differentiating and analyzing historical evidence and differing points of view
- Recognizing and applying reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research
- Identifying and understanding differences and commonalities within diverse cultures

***History, as a discipline, is reading and writing intensive and as such this course will be no different.*** However, as technology has made the society and educational system we live in more visual we will attempt to make this course somewhat more visual itself.

# Introduction of John McLemore...

As an instructor of American History, I believe it is important to look at history in as many different views as possible so we can form our own opinions. I believe there are some names and dates that are vital and must be learned because they help form a foundation of cause and effect and cause and effect is how I look at history. As we move through the semester I hope students will be able to discern the causes of different events and trends that have had long range effects. Our look at history will examine the social, political, institutional, and governmental changes that have come from the various causes and effects during the last one hundred and twenty five years of United States History. It is my goals, as an instructor, to have students advance their reading, writing, and thinking skills in an effort to form their own opinions about United States History. The ability to form intellectual opinions on the various events of history allows students to become better citizens.

## **Requirements:**

There will be **four key term assignments, four map assignments, and four major exams** in this course. These are already scheduled and they are posted on the assignment sheet. The exam on **October 15** will be **the Final and it will not be comprehensive**. It is imperative students maintain their reading. Each of the key term and map assignments is worth 50 points each and the exams are worth 150 points. This makes this course point total come to 1000.

**Assignments and Maps:** will be due Tuesday and Thursday of every other week (again refer to the assignment part of syllabus) and all exams will cover 3 to 4 chapters and they will occur on Wednesday of every other week opposite your other work. In other words you have work every week of the eight course. One week two assignments and one week one exam. You will required to read 2 chapters a week to keep up.

This course consist to three basic things—reading—preparation—completing the work. Students that do these three basic things do well in this course. There is also video to supplement the readings but those are optional and not required but highly suggested.

**GRADES: There is no curve in this course or extra credit.**

**4 multiple choice exams will be worth 150 points each = 600**

**4 key term and 4 map assignments are worth 50 each for 400 points**

A = 900 to 1000 points

D = 600 to 699

B = 800 to 889 points

Below 600 is an F

C = 700 to 799 points

**Assignments:**

**Unit One** (August 25 to September 3)—Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 5

Read Chapters 2-5	
Key Term assignment #1 due.....	August 26
Map assignment #1 due .....	August 28
EXAM # 1 covers Chapters 2-5.....	September 3

**Unit Two** (September 3 to September 17)—Chapters 6, 7, 8, & 9

Read Chapters 6-9	
Key Term assignment # 2 .....	September 9
Map Assignment # 2 .....	September 11
EXAM # 2 covers .....	September 17

**Unit Three** (September 17 to October 1 )—Chapters 10, 11, & 12

Read Chapters 10-12	
Key Terms assignment # 3.....	September 23
Map assignment .....	September 25
EXAM # 3 covers 10-12 .....	October 1

**Unit Four** (October 1 to October 15)—Chapters 13, 14, & 15

Read Chapters 13-15	
Key Terms assignment # 4 .....	October 7
Map assignment # 4 .....	October 9
EXAM # 4 (THE FINAL) covers 13-15 .....	October 15

ALL the key term and map assignments will open on August 25 and remain open for the term of the course. You can work ahead and turn in your work early ***BUT ALL WORK THAT IS SUBMITTED AFTER THE DUE DATE WILL BE COUNTED LATE.*** Exams will open every Tuesday before the due date at 6 am and remain open for the remainder of the course ***(They are DUE on WEDNESDAYS by 11:59 pm) BUT AGAIN ANY EXAM SUBMITTED AFTER THE DUE DATE WILL BE ACCESSED A LATE PENALTY—PERIOD!!***

**Later Penalties are:**

- Assignments—2% per day
- Exams—5% per day

Do the work—do on time and this won't be a problem.

All work is timed—**Assignments are given 90 minutes**, which is more than ample, and **Exams are given 150 minutes**, which is more than ample. Schedule your time—the assignments and exams cannot be exited, saved, and returned too. If you leave any work without submitting it first it will be lost and considered one attempt. Students have the option of 2 attempts on ALL work but it is their responsibility to have enough time to submit before the due date. On the higher of 2 scores will be recorded. Give yourself time and a secure connection.

There will be video posted to supplement your readings and they are optional but I believe they will help you greatly if you give them a try. The Biography of America videos are only 25 minutes long but the Civil War by Ken Burns is rarely lengthy but still worth the time. I hope you will give the documentary videos a look and if you do I believe they will help you.

**Academic Integrity:** All students are responsible for adhering to a certain standard of behavior when it comes to honesty and plagiarism. Any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, which includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will receive an “F” for the course. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with Odessa College’s regulations and procedures. Any student violating this policy will be removed from this class.