



**HIST 1302-121H2  
HIST 1302-621H2  
United States History II  
Fall 2025  
COM LRC Room 255  
Monday/Wednesday 9:30 – 10:50 AM**

**Instructor Information:** Debra Ramsey  
[Dramsey1@com.edu](mailto:Dramsey1@com.edu)  
409-933-8307

**Student hours and location:** M/W 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, COM LRC, Suite A, 225  
M/W 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM COM LRC, Suite A, 225  
M/W 2:40 PM – 2:50 PM, LMHS  
T/Th 7:00 – 7:30 AM Hitchcock High School Room 209  
T/Th 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM COM LRC, Suite A, 225

**Required Textbook/Materials:** We will utilize American Yawp free online textbook. The link has been provided. You can view this textbook on the web or download a PDF format. You have the option to purchase a hard copy. American Yawp <https://www.americanyawp.com/>

**Course Description:** History 1302 is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.

This course will emphasize political, social, and economic developments, as well as other significant topics. This course (a) meets the requirements of a college transfer course for four-year degree programs (b) prepares students for upper-division coursework in history (c) prepare students for the academic rigors of upper-division coursework in the social sciences (d) prepares students for developing their critical thinking skills

## **Course requirements:**

**Census day:** Census day is 10/20. You must attend class by or you will be dropped for non-attendance.

**Attendance:** Class begins at 9:30 AM. You are expected to be on time. If you are 10 minutes late you will be counted tardy for the day. I know sometimes things happen. Just please let me know.

**Announcements:** It is very important you read the announcements that are posted. This is where you will see communication on due dates, especially if there are changes.

**Active Participation:** Active participation in class is not group work. You will be given material to be prepared to discuss in class prior to the class. Active participation is answering questions posed by the instructor and being prepared by reading the material prior to class. Active participation is not doing work for other classes or texting on your phone.

**Discussions:** Prior to class you will be given documents to read and prepare to discuss in class. This is in addition to reading textbook chapters. You should be prepared to discuss in class as part of the grade is participation. You will also upload your findings to D2L. See D2L for Instructions.

**Exams:** There will be **four exams** during the semester with a value of 100 points each. You will have 50 minutes to take 50 questions. Exam material will be drawn from quizzes, assigned readings, D2L assignments and all class activities. Students should pay particular attention to terms in the study guides, which will be available on D2L at the beginning of the module. Each exam may consist of multiple-choice questions, short answer, and map questions. **Core Objective: Critical Thinking**

**Assessment Quizzes:** In addition to the four exams there will be quizzes. Quizzes will count for a total of 100 points. **Like exams, quizzes cannot be made up.** Missed quizzes receive a grade of zero. Quizzes will take the form of open ended questions, there may be some map or multiple choice quizzes.

## Research Paper:

**Step 1:** Post topic in the appropriate discussion board and get approval for your topic. Please review topics that are already posted so you do not request the same topic as someone else. You must post your topic to move to step 2.

**Step 2: Research Paper Draft:** Students will turn in a Research Paper draft. Instructions are in D2L. Students must turn in a draft and view the feedback before you can turn in your final Research Paper. You must turn in a draft and then read the feedback your instructor gives before you can submit your final paper.

**Step: 3 Research Paper:** Each student will write a 5-page minimum research paper over a topic in US History from 1877 - 2010, this paper should be in a research paper format and **NO LESS** than 5 pages, a works cited page should be included. Follow MLA formatting guidelines, including citations and a works cited page. Paper must be double spaced Times New Roman font, 12 point. Please review rubric for grading criteria. You must use at least 5 sources. **NO TEXTBOOKS** as sources for this assignment. If you do not have a minimum of 5 pages you will lose points. If you do not complete this step you cannot move to step 4 – Oral Presentation

Students are required to use Tutoring for this paper, you may either use COM Tutoring or Tutor.com

The Research Paper Assignment will be graded using the following formula:

|                                                           |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Analyze sources                                           | 25%  |
| Create an argument through the use of historical evidence | 25%  |
| Effective use of Critical Thinking Skills                 | 25%  |
| Effective use of Communication Skills (written)           | 25%  |
|                                                           | 100% |

**Step 4 -Oral Presentations:** Each student will create an oral presentation over the topic you wrote your research paper on. You will not read the paper but give a presentation telling us what you learned about the subject. Students will create their video on the appropriate assignment. The presentations should be 3-5 minutes long. The Oral Presentation link can be found in Content in the Research Paper/Oral Presentation Section.

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Verbal Communication          | 33.3% |
| Content/Organization          | 33.3% |
| Enthusiasm/Audience Awareness | 33.3% |
| Total                         | 100%  |

## Responsibility Paper:

**Step 1 - Responsibility Paper Draft:** Students must turn in a draft of the Responsibility paper. Students must turn in a draft and view all feedback to turn in the final paper. If you do not turn in the paper draft and read the feedback, you cannot turn in the final Responsibility Paper. (Step 2) Please review the Responsibility Paper instructions in D2L. You can only choose one of the people listed in the instructions in D2L.

**Step 2 – Final Responsibility Paper:** Responsibility Paper: Students will use one of the people listed in D2L and will write a two-page typed paper on the Social and Personal Responsibility of the person. The student must include a paragraph in their paper discussing the social and personal responsibility of the individuals involved. Please be specific when discussing personal and social responsibility. Students will use **primary and secondary sources** for their paper. You must have at least 3 sources one of the sources has to be a primary source. You must include a works cited page. You will also be required to use the COM Tutoring center or Tutor.com to receive feedback for your paper. If your paper is not a minimum of 2 pages you will lose points in the area of Critical Thinking Skills. Please review the definitions of social and personal responsibility as listed in D2L. **NO TEXTBOOKS**

Example Topic: Harriet Tubman’s decision to help runaway slaves, what are the consequences of her actions? What personal responsibility does she have and how does it influence those around her? What social responsibility does she have and how does it influence those around her?

Students are required to use Tutoring for this paper, you may either use COM Tutoring or Tutor.com

**You must complete Step 1 to move to Step 2**

|                                                                       |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Effective use of Critical Thinking Skills                             | - 25% |
| Effective use of Communication Skills (grammar & work usage, sources) | - 25% |
| Analysis of the Social Responsibility component of the topic          | - 25% |
| Analysis of the Personal Responsibility component the topic           | - 25% |
|                                                                       | 100%  |

### **Requirements for all papers:**

- Spelling and capitalization need to be correct
- All papers must be typed, double spaced with a 12 pt font
- All pages must have appropriately sized margins.
- All papers must contain information detailed in the procedure section of these guidelines
- Do not turn in papers you have turned in for a previous class.
- All papers should be in MLA format with a Works Cited page
- Do not use headings in your paper.

**Sources: Please use the COM Library for sources for all papers.**

**Sources NOT to use:** Any encyclopedia, Wikipedia, History.COM, PBS, anything that ends in .org, NPS, NPR, Kahn Academy, no news stations, Whitehouse.gov, google books. Also do not

use any article that does not show its sources. Most websites are not college level academic sites. Use the Library, you can do this online.

**Extra Credit:** All Extra Credit is already available in D2L. Please do not ask me for more extra credit, or alternate assignments if you fail to turn in assignments. I will not provide any assignments to replace missed assignments. This is the only extra credit that I will give you. Please do not email me and ask for more extra credit.

**DUE DATES:** All due dates are listed in D2L. Please utilize the Calendar, Announcements, and the assignments themselves for the due dates. Please do not email your instructor asking for due dates, they are listed in D2L.

**Do not email your instructor assignments all assignments must be submitted in D2L unless they are done in class.**

**Turnitin:** All papers will be submitted to Turnitin. Please check your similarity report, this flags plagiarism. Also, Turnitin now checks to see if your paper was written by Artificial Intelligence, you will not see this percentage, but your instructor will. **Any percentage of Artificial Intelligence usage will result in a zero for your paper. Do not use Grammarly or any other online helpers to help you write your paper, it will show up as Artificial Intelligence.** There will be no rewriting of papers once the due date has passed. If you need help with papers, use the COM Tutoring Center.

**I have run my discussion questions through ChatGPT so if your discussion resembles ChatGPT or any AI for discussion boards, you will receive a zero for the discussion.**

**No “Recycled Assignments for Course Credit:** You may not re-submit an essay or discussion post (or portions thereof) that you did in another course for credit in this course, including material from one of my classes in an earlier semester. Therefore, even if you have done an assignment before in another class, you must do it from scratch this semester.

**Feedback:** To improve your writing, you should be reviewing feedback. When you upload your paper, you should review your similarity percentage and fix your papers.

**Lockdown Browser /Respondus:** Prior to taking exams, you will need to download the Lockdown Browser app to your computer, which must have a webcam and microphone. This app is required to ensure academic honesty, enabling you to take your exams from the comfort of your home rather than coming to campus or a testing center. On the D2L login page you will see a section titled Respondus Lockdown Browser. Please review the information and download the Lockdown Browser. You will take the syllabus quiz using Respondus to make sure you have it set up for exams. Your exam will prompt you to install or update the LockDown Browser before you begin.

## **Guidelines**

When taking an online test, follow these guidelines:

- Ensure you're in a location where you won't be interrupted
- Turn off all other devices (e.g. tablets, phones, second computers) and place them outside of your reach
- Before starting the test, know how much time is available for it, and also that you've allotted sufficient time to complete it
- Clear your desk or workspace of all external materials not permitted - books, papers, other devices
- Make sure you are using the most current version of your web browser
- Remain at your computer for the duration of the test
- If the computer, Wi-Fi, or location is different than what was used previously with the "Webcam Check" and "System & Network Check" in LockDown Browser, run the checks again prior to the exam
- When using Wi-Fi, it's best to avoid networks that might have heavy traffic, such as libraries, bookstores and cafe

[Intro To LockDown Browser](#)  
[LockDown Browser device compatibility.](#)

**Technology statement:** The instructor is not required to consider lost/missing/unacceptable work stemming from technical non-compliance and/or end-user technical issues. Failure to maintain Internet or computer access shall not constitute a valid excuse for missed work. Any student who cannot keep up with the coursework owing to a lack of computer or Internet access or functionality should refer to the Library Computer Lab hours of operation (<https://www.com.edu/computer-labs/library-computer-lab>) and plan to complete all coursework during posted hours.

If you fail to complete an assignment or exam because your computer crashes or loses internet access, forget to attach a file, attach a wrong/blank/empty file to an assignment, did not verify submission of the correct file/information/link/etc., or did not use the appropriate browser or operating system to access and complete course work, then you are not entitled to make up or resubmit the course work. If the assignment, discussion, project, or exam was not completed or submitted in a timely manner due to your error or due to end-user technological issues of any kind, it cannot be made up.

**Grades:** Please make sure you are checking your grades weekly, if you see any issues you need to let me know asap. Do not wait until the end of the semester. Please do not email me at the end of the semester asking me for a grade bump. I give plenty of extra credit, I do not bump grades. I will not round up grades. Please remember this class does not go by percentages but by points.

**Course grades** will be calculated as follows:

| Assignments              | Points |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Attendance/Participation | 100    |
| Responsibility Draft     | 30     |
| Responsibility Paper     | 70     |

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Responsibility Tutoring    | 15   |
| Research Topic             | 30   |
| Research Draft             | 30   |
| Research Paper             | 70   |
| Research Tutoring          | 15   |
| Oral Presentation Video    | 70   |
| Weekly Writing Assignments | 300  |
| Quizzes                    | 100  |
| Multiple Choice Exams      | 200  |
|                            |      |
|                            |      |
| Total                      | 1000 |

**Grade Scale:**

|                     |           |    |       |          |    |      |
|---------------------|-----------|----|-------|----------|----|------|
| A (90-100% average) | 900       | to | 1000  | 90       | to | 100  |
| B (80-89% average)  | 800       | to | 899.9 | 80       | to | 89.9 |
| C (70-79% average)  | 700       | to | 799.9 | 70       | to | 79.9 |
| D (60-69% average)  | 600       | to | 699.9 | 60       | to | 69.9 |
| F (59% or below)    | Below 600 |    |       | Below 60 |    |      |

**Make-Up Policy:** There will be **NO** makeup tests or quizzes given. You are given dates for exams in advance. If you miss an exam you need to provide **DOCUMENTED PROOF** of why you missed the exam. The only situations in which a make-up exam will be allowed are **GENUINE AND DOCUMENTED EMERGENCIES**. If the exams are taken on D2L, I expect this to be an **EXTREMELY** rare occurrence. There is no make-up for assignments. Simply not being prepared for an exam is not a valid excuse for not taking an exam on the scheduled date and time. There is no Make-up work, you have a window of several days and in some cases several weeks to complete assignments. I do not go back and open assignments up. A trip or vacation is not a valid excuse to make-up work/tests or receive work/test early. Extra time for assignments will not be given because you take a trip/vacation during the semester.

**Late work will not be accepted.** Please do not ask for alternate assignments. If you have issues with an assignment, you need to see me **BEFORE** the assignment is due. I cannot help you if you contact me after the assignment is due. **Please do not email me missed assignments, all assignments must be uploaded to D2L.** I will substitute your lowest exam grade for one missed exam (this **DOES NOT** mean I drop a grade). I do not give extensions on papers as they are available for several weeks. If you have issues with an assignment, you need to see me **BEFORE** the assignment is due. I cannot help you if you contact me after the assignment is due. Come see me during office hours so we can pull up your assignment and look at it.

If you have issues with the grade on an assignment **DO NOT** wait until the end of the semester to say something. I will not go all the way back to look at those assignments.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. Instructor will reply to email within 24 hours, weekend emails will be answered on Monday. Please include your course name and number in the subject line. (HIST 1302-121/621)

| Student Learner Outcome                                                                                                                                                        | Maps to Core Objective   | Assessed via this Assignment  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence                                                                                                                   | Critical Thinking Skills | Paper                         |
| 2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources                                                                                                                         | Critical Thinking Skills | Paper                         |
| 3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.                                        | Critical Thinking Skills | Quizzes and Exams             |
| 4. Develop, interpret, and express idea on a History 1301-related topic through written communication.                                                                         | Communication Skills     | Paper                         |
| 5. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through oral communication                                                                            | Communication Skills     | Oral Presentation Assignment  |
| 6. Develop, interpret, and express ideas on a History 1301-related topic through visual communication.                                                                         | Communication Skills     | Oral Presentation Assignment  |
| 7. Students will demonstrate intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. | Social Responsibility    | Paper                         |
| 8. Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to decision-making                                                                             | Personal Responsibility  | Progress assessment and paper |

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams ins an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline actions. Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. It is a serious offense of academic dishonesty and legally, could be construed as infringement of intellectual property. Plagiarism of an assignment will result in a **grade of zero** on the assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. Please do not turn in papers you have previously turned in for another class. You will receive a zero.

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Shinya Wakao at swakao@com.edu 409-933-8107

**Computers, phones, earbuds:** Computers, phones and earbuds should be put away during class. You are in a college level class; you will be treated as such. If you choose to use a computer, phone or listen to music you are not present and actively participating in class. Your grade can be affected because you are engaged elsewhere. If you are using a phone or have earbuds/headphones during class, or working on coursework you will lose points in the Attendance/Participation section.

Course Outline: **Subject to change**  
History 1302  
United States History II

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Topic</b>                                                                         | <b>Assignments Due</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 1      | Syllabus<br>Expectations<br>Assignments<br>Writing<br>Reconstruction Review/Westward | <b>Syllabus Quiz in class</b><br><b>Read Chapter 17 before Wednesday's class</b><br><b>Read Dawes Act assignment turn in questions</b><br><b>Haymarket Affair Assignment</b>                                                                     |
| Week 2      | Gilded Age<br>Progressive Era                                                        | <b>Exam 1 opens 10/17 closes 10/19. Exam covers chapters 16, 17, 18, 20</b><br><b>Read WWI assignment, turn in questions</b>                                                                                                                     |
| Week 3      | American Empire<br>World War I                                                       | <b>Read Chapter 19</b><br><b>Read Chapter 21</b><br><b>Research Topic due 10/26</b><br><b>View Video How a Wrong turn</b><br><b>View the Video Trench Warfare prior to Wednesday's class</b><br><b>Prohibition assignment, turn in questions</b> |
| Week 4      | Roaring 20's<br>Great Depression<br>WWII                                             | <b>Responsibility Draft due 11/3</b><br><b>Read Chapter 22 &amp; 23 before class</b><br><b>Bonus Army Assignment</b><br><b>Japanese Internment</b>                                                                                               |

|        |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|        |                      | <b>assignment</b><br><b>Exam 2 in D2L opens</b><br><b>10/31 - 11/2</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Week 5 | Cold War<br>1950's   | <b>Read Chapter 24 &amp; 25</b><br><b>before class</b><br><b>Cold War Assignment</b><br><b>open</b><br><b>Responsibility Paper &amp;</b><br><b>Tutoring due 11.24</b>                                                                                                                  |
| Week 6 | 1960s<br>1970s       | <b>Read Chapter 26, 27, 28</b><br><b>Research Draft 11/16</b><br><b>Kennedy Assignment</b><br><b>Exam 3 in D2L opens</b><br><b>11/14 closes 11/16</b><br><b>Watch Watergate Video</b><br><b>Watergate Assignment</b>                                                                   |
| Week 7 | 1980s                | <b>During Thanksgiving</b><br><b>Week we will have class on</b><br><b>Monday only.</b><br><b>Read Chapters 29 before</b><br><b>class.</b><br><b>Iran Contra Assignment</b><br><b>Research Paper &amp;</b><br><b>Tutoring due 11/24</b><br><b>Oral Presentation due</b><br><b>11/30</b> |
| Week 8 | 2000's<br>Final Exam | <b>Read Chapter 30 before</b><br><b>class.</b><br><b>Election of 2000</b><br><b>Assignment</b><br><b>Final Exam in Class 12/3</b>                                                                                                                                                      |

## **Institutional Policies and Guidelines**

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook <https://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>

*An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: [AccessibilityServices@com.edu](mailto:AccessibilityServices@com.edu)

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 25.

**FN Grading:** The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**Resources to Help with Stress:**

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at [deanofstudents@com.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).

**Nondiscrimination Statement:**

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.