

College of the Mainland

**History 1302.022IN
United States History II
Summer 2022
Online**

Instructor Information: Dr. Cody Smith, csmith55@com.edu

Student hours and location: Anytime through email. You can reasonably expect a response in 24-48 hours during the school week. Weekend email will be answered on Monday or when checked. I do not check email on Saturday or after 10PM. Professors do have lives of their own too!

Required Textbook: Greenwood, Janette. *The Gilded Age: A History in Documents, 1st Edition*. This is a required reader for one section of the course. **There is no required textbook.**

Course Description: A survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction eras to the early 1990s. Topics may include: Civil War, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, The Age of Reform, World War I, World War II, the Cold War, the Space Age, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, and the Reagan Era. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American settlement and diversity, American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, and creation of the federal government.

Course requirements:

Online Conduct: Voltaire once said, "To the living we owe respect, but to the dead we only owe the truth." We will do both in this class. We will tell the truth about the dead and respect the living. This section provides some guidelines on how to conduct yourself in an online class. Some guidelines include, but are not limited to:

1. Students must be familiar with various forms of technology when taking an online course.
2. Students must have access to the internet. Not having access to the internet is NOT an excuse for missing lectures, quizzes, or any other assignments. This includes any system outage on any end of your connection, whether it is COM, your ISP, or your dog chewed up your router. This is an online class. Prepare accordingly and have a backup plan. HINT: The best backup plan is to keep up with your work and not wait until the last minute. Which leads us to...

3. Students need to understand that, because this is an online class that is not self-paced, self-discipline is required and this class will take up time. Online classes cover the same material as a face-to-face class and it is up to the student to make time to get it done.
4. Students are expected to keep in contact with Dr. Smith.
5. When emailing Dr. Smith, students need to include what school, class, and section they are enrolled in to get a timely response.
6. Students are expected to check the class and the email the school has on file for them often so that they do not miss important posts.
7. Online courses are more formal than other online forums, like social media, and students are expected to behave as if they are in a formal setting. That means being professional, correct grammar and spelling, and being mindful of language. Students are allowed to use emojis to convey tone because tone is typically lost online, but do not overuse them.
8. DO NOT TYPE IN ALL CAPS LIKE THIS!!!! IT IS ANNOYING!!!!
9. Be positive. Be respectful. Have fun!
10. College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>. Any violations of the Code will result in a referral to the Office for student Conduct and may result in dismissal from this class.

Important safety tips: The professor also reserves the right to do the following to violators of the classroom behavior outlines: 1. Call out said violator's inappropriate behavior. 2. Eject said violator from the class. 3. Alter said violator's grade on the basis and severity of the violation, including dropping the student from the class entirely. This syllabus is a contract between the professor and all students enrolled in the class. Coming to the class on a particular day implies the student has read the contract and willfully abides by it. It is very simple, respect the professor and the other students and you will be shown the same respect.

Course Work Requirements: This is a course that requires the student to log in weekly, listen to lectures in their entirety, complete the quizzes, and any other assignments if they want to be successful. Each lecture contains material that is not available in the textbook, material that the student is responsible for and will be tested upon; therefore it is essential that students make a concerted effort to watch the lecture videos. Rigorous note taking and studying of lecture notes is expected if the student is to succeed on quizzes. In addition to listening to lectures, students that feel lost or confused on a subject should contact the professor first or the textbook pertaining to the lecture on that subject if they choose to utilize the optional textbook. **Any work that has been determined to come from an unapproved internet source, whether it is cited or not, will not be accepted. Once a week is over, the material for that week is gone forever. Do not ask Dr. Smith to re-open closed material.**

Blackboard Tabs Walkthrough: This will help students understand the purpose of each course tab in Blackboard.

Start Here!: This is where students need to begin the course and this will help get students through the first week of class.

Read Me First: This is the outline for the first week of class and gives students an idea of how each week will go in the semester.

Syllabus: You are currently reading the syllabus, so it is safe to assume you know what it is doing for you 😊

Introductions: Introduce yourself to the class! Remember to comment on other students' posts to create a positive atmosphere!

Course Communication: This will be the place for Dr. Smith to communicate with students and for students to communicate with Dr. Smith and other students.

Announcements: There will be numerous announcements throughout the semester that will pertain to the class, materials, exams, extra credit, grades, etc. All announcements will be sent by email as well, so be sure you have your email set up to accept Blackboard notification.

Email: Allows students to contact various people, including Dr. Smith and other students in the class.

Course Messages: Private and secure text-based communication within the course that you can use to contact Dr. Smith if you do not have access to your email. You must be logged in to the course to use this tool.

Coursework: This is the bulk of the course and where students will find assignments.

Content: Students will find the weekly Unit folders with the video lectures, outlines, quizzes, and discussion board links.

Assignments: This is where the paper, QEP, and optional assignments can be found for the class. All of the information for the assignments will be in this tab.

Discussion Boards: Quick link to the discussion boards for each Unit. The discussion board links also will be in the Unit folders in the Content tab.

Assessments: The mid-term and final exams will appear in this tab when the exams open.

Info & Resources: This is where grades, course resources, and help with Blackboard are found.

My Grades: This is where your grades for each assignment, discussion, and exam are posted.

Course Resources: This tab contains folders for the course's supplemental material, rubrics, and frequently asked questions as well as the My Journal tool, if students would like to utilize it.

Help with Blackboard: Link to Blackboard's help page.

NetTutor Online Tutoring: Free online tutoring tool. Honestly, just ask Dr. Smith for help before you use this. It will be much easier and efficient for you.

Library Help: Link to COM library resources and help.

Determination of Course Grade:

Syllabus Quiz (15 points): A short five (5) question quiz over various elements of the syllabus. Each question is worth three (3) points. It can be found in the Syllabus link on Blackboard.

Introduction (10 points): A short introduction about yourself. See the instructions on how to do this in the Introductions link on Blackboard.

Unit Quizzes (10 points per Unit – 120 points total): Each Unit has an attached quiz. Each quiz will be five (5) questions, worth two (2) points each. Each quiz must be taken before the end of its assigned week. Quizzes can be found in their respective Unit folder. You will only have twelve (12) minutes to take the quiz. You only have ONE chance to take a quiz. There are NO retakes. It is advised that you take the quiz immediately after finishing the Unit lecture.

Discussion Board Posts (25 points per board – 100 points total): Each week, students will answer one (1) question about that week's material in a discussion board post. Each student's individual post is worth fifteen (15) points. After posting their response to the question, each student will provide at least two (2) responses to other students' posts, each post is worth five (5) points. A rubric for how student posts will be graded is provided under the "Rubrics" tab on Blackboard.

Gilded Age Paper Assignment (50 points): The paper will assess how historical figures exercised and exhibited responsibility on personal and/or social levels. The full assignment requirements can be found on Blackboard under the Paper Assignment link. The assignment will open July 11, 2022 at 8AM. It will be due July 26, 2022 at 11:59PM. The assignment sheet holds the same student/professor obligations as the syllabus and will be considered an addendum to the syllabus. A rubric for the paper assignment is provided under the "Rubrics" tab in Blackboard.

QEP Presentation (5 points): A short speech over a person from this half of United States history delivered via video recording. The assignment sheet for this assignment is under the “QEP Presentation” tab in Blackboard and a rubric for the presentation can be found under the “Rubrics” tab in Blackboard.

Extra Credit (Optional): There are two ways to earn optional extra credit in this class. One is worth up to fifteen (15) points and the other is worth twenty-five (25) points for up to a total of forty (40) points of extra credit, depending on the quality of the work. If you would like to do the assignment, they will be found in the “Optional Assignment” tab on Blackboard the last 5 days of class. Dr. Smith retains the right to reject extra credit for any reason. It is extra credit and therefore does not pertain to the class’s standard credit. A rejection of extra credit will not affect the grading of standard credit.

Late Work Policy: All assignments with a deadline must be turned in on or before that deadline. Late work is not accepted. If you believe you might miss a deadline, talk with Dr. Smith before the deadline date. Not knowing due dates or having other plans/responsibilities are not an excuse because all due dates are listed on this syllabus. No, I cannot “just open assignments back up.” This is about fairness to all students in the class.

Feedback on Your Assignments: Feedback for this course will take a variety of forms. First, there is self-feedback. The quizzes will inform students of wrong answers, but will not provide students with the correct answer. This is to encourage students to go back to their notes, find the correct answer, and why they missed the question. If that cannot be found to a student’s satisfaction, then students are free to email Dr. Smith to discuss the material. Second, the discussion boards will provide self- and peer-feedback on the material through the various discussion of the material. Dr. Smith will provide feedback, comments, and redirecting of the conversation when needed. Third, Dr. Smith will provide individual feedback to each student in the paper, presentation, extra credit, and My Journal through Blackboard comments. Grades for quizzes, students will receive immediately. Written assignments usually have a two-week turnaround. Sometimes it will be quicker than two weeks. Other times it will be longer than two weeks, depending on the volume of assignments that need grading.

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.

Course grades will be calculated as follows: There is no other rounding of grades, except those listed below. Do not point beg. It will go poorly for you.

Syllabus Quiz	- 15 points
Introduction	- 10 points
Gilded Age Paper	- 50 points
QEP Presentation	- 5 points
Discussion Board Posts	- 100 points
Unit Quizzes	- 120 points
Total Points	300 points

Grade Scale out of 300 points (percentage):

- A: 268 – 300 (89.5 – 100%)
- B: 238 – 267 (79.5 – 89.4%)
- C: 208 – 237 (69.5 – 79.4%)
- D: 178 – 207 (59.5 – 69.4%)
- F: < 178 (59.5%)

Course Due Dates:

There is no day-to-day calendar for this course. All assignments are assumed to be due at the end of each assigned section, unless otherwise stated in an assignment sheet, syllabus, or announcement.

(Date Assignments Open – Date Assignments Due)

Week 1 (July 11 – July 18): Introduction; Syllabus Quiz; Units 1, 2, 3; Gilded Age Paper Assignment Opens

Week 2 (July 19 – July 26): Units 4, 5, 6; Gilded Age Paper Assignment Due

Week 3 (July 27 – August 3): Units 7, 8, 9

Week 4 (August 4 – August 12): Units 10, 11, 12

(Note Summer II ends on Friday, August 12, 2022. You MUST have everything completed by that time!)

The professor retains the right to change anything on this syllabus.

Attendance Policy: The nature of this course is such that one must log in to the class weekly. **This is not a self-paced class and you must keep up with the weekly work.** Students have the responsibility to complete all work when it is due by the end of each week. The Summer schedule is a bit odd. We have just a few days over 4 weeks in this course. Therefore, each week is eight days long (with the last week being 9 days because that is how this weirdo schedule works). **Each week will start at 8AM and close at 11:59PM eight days later** (e.g.: Week 1 – Monday July 11 at 8AM to Monday July 18 at 11:59PM; Week 2 – Tuesday July 19 at 8AM to Tuesday July 26 at 11:59PM; etc. etc.). The professor retains the right to alter grades based on attendance and/or participation, whether positive or negative. In the event of illness or extenuating circumstances, it is the student's responsibility to inform the professor in a timely fashion. The professor may give attendance information regarding any student to counselors, administrators, and advisors. **One the week is over, the material for that week is gone forever. Do not ask Dr. Smith to re-open closed material.**

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. **Check the academic calendar for the withdrawal date for your particular course.**

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.

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 assignments is 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 action.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else's words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else's words without quotation marks. When in doubt – cite!! Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a grade of zero and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

<http://en.writecheck.com/ways-to-avoid-plagiarism/>

Basically, any form of academic dishonesty on any assignment will result in a zero for that assignment and a referral to the Dean of Students. Further punishments could result in a failure for the course, removal from the course, and possible removal from the college.

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 Dr. Shinya Wakao at swakao@com.edu or 409-933-8134

Student Learner Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history. This course-level outcome maps to the Critical Thinking Skills, Social Responsibility, and Personal Responsibility Core Objectives.

Texas Core Objectives

The College defines essential knowledge and skills that students need to develop during their college experience. These general education competencies parallel the Texas Core Objectives for Student Learning. In this course, the activities you engage in will give you the opportunity to practice two or more of the following core competencies:

1. **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
4. **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

5. **Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

6. **Social Responsibility** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

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://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf.

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. https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college career. 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 Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student that is needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to setup their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer

enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.