The Past is prologue. Shakespeare

Dyersburg State Community College
History 2020: US History post-1877

Instructor Information:
Angela Martin
Phone: 901-412-8560 [Please feel free to call or text me]
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:
During this semester, we will study the major trends and events in US history after 1877. We will examine areas of US history through a thematic approach, rather than a strictly chronological or regional approach. The organizing themes that will dictate the discussions of the class will include: political revolution, slavery, gender roles in early American history, technological developments, and the spread of new ideologies.
The course is designed so that students will recognize and appreciate the diversity of human experiences throughout the various regions of the United States after 1877.
Class meetings will consist of lectures, discussions, listening to music and viewing films.

Required Text:
Loewen, James. Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your History Book Got Wrong. [Available in the bookstore]

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Required pre-requisites include the ability to write coherent, college level essays, and the ability to understand and comprehend college-level textbooks. The student should complete all developmental reading and writing courses before taking this course.

1. Analyze historical facts and interpretations and demonstrate a factual understanding of the development of the United States from the Colonial Era to Reconstruction.
2. Analyze and compare political, social, and economic developments across a range of historical periods to explain the complex heritage of the United States.
3. Recognize the diversity of human experience throughout history and synthesize historical facts and interpretations into a meaningful understanding of the past.
4. Draw on an informed historical perspective to evaluate contemporary issues and problems.
5. Understand the methods of historical research and interpretation and analyze the contributions of past cultures and societies to the contemporary world.

Course Assignments: Grading:
Your grade will be determined as follows:
Attendance -- 20% 90-100 = A
Writing Assignments 80-89 = B
-Short Essays (4 @ 10%) 70-78 = C 40% 60-69 = D
- Family History Essay 10% 59 & below = F
-Exams (3 @ 10% each) 30%

Cheating and Plagiarism: All forms of cheating are not tolerated in the college setting. Any instance of cheating will result in an automatic zero for the assignment. More than one instance of cheating can result in failure for the course. This is a serious offense. Plagiarism is the use of another’s work as one’s own. This includes copied and pasted work and reworded work not properly cited. This means that anything you did not think or write must be cited properly. If there are questions please feel free to contact the instructor. There is additional information in the DSCC handbook and online.
**Attendance:** Attendance is critical. It is required as a policy of DSCC. Because of this, your attendance will count for 20% of your grade. Be on time and ready for class.

**Civility:** We are in the classroom to complete the coursework in a timely manner that includes respect for everyone. I hope we can enjoy our time together without rude distractions. **Do not make medical or legal appointments during class time. It is rude and inconsiderate to your instructor and the class if you talk out of turn, make/take phone calls, text, work on other classwork!**

**Family History Essay:** Each person in our class has in the past an immigrant from another part of the world. For this assignment, we will look at our families and our past. You will be required to work on your family’s genealogy. This will assist you in writing a short essay about your family. This assignment can be found in the content section on d2l.

**Writing Assignments:** Students will successfully demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the daily assignments by completing writing assignments. These assignments will consist of reading the assigned chapter in the Loewen text and then write a reaction essay of 300-400 words. Each chapter has an assignment found in the content section in D2L.

**Reading** assignments are not optional. Any college student should commit 6 hours per week outside class for a 3-hour-a-week course. A short summer session (5 weeks) covers up to 3 weeks of work each week. This can require up to 18 hours of work outside the classroom. This course is fast paced and each student should work diligently to keep up.

**Chapter Terms:** In order to assist each learner there will be a chapter terms document for each chapter. They include sequencing, important terms and review question(s). They can be found online under the content section. These are not graded. They are provided simply to assist each with the material found in the textbook.

**Lecture Notes:** All course work is in our online classroom in elearn. Under the **content** section, you will find all the lecture notes, other assignments and study guides. Because of the pace of the class, I strongly advise that you print a copy for each chapter and bring it to class.

**Exams:** Students will take **three exams** that will consist of a sequencing section, defining terms and essay. The third exam will be your final exam; but it will not be comprehensive. A study guide will be provided online 2 days prior to each exam. Students are allowed to use one 3 X 5 inch index card for each exam. **All exams will be proctored. Do not schedule an exam during class.** This means you will have a four day window to take your exams each time. Each exam will be scheduled between Monday and Thursday 8am to 8pm (you must be finished by 8pm). Go to your D2L homepage. On the right side of the page is a list of links. Click on “Schedule a proctored exam.” In the next couple of pages you will need to identify yourself, choose a time and place to take the exam, as well as our course name and number, my name and phone number. You may only take your index card into the testing room. You will need an id to take the exam. If something happens and you cannot take the exam when scheduled remember to go online and cancel your appointment.

All **Exams** must be taken on the specified dates. **No make-up exams will be granted without documented proof of an emergency.** All work is due on assigned dates. **No late papers or assignments will be accepted. I do not give extra credit. Please do not ask.**

**REMIND.COM** All students must go to Remind.com and register for our class. I will use this service to send out class wide emails or other special email to individuals. Registering for Remind is worth bonus points. If any student is unable to register please let the instructor know as soon as possible.

**ADA Statement:** It is the policy of Dyersburg State Community College to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. This college will adhere to all applicable Federal and State laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable
accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their instructors and the Coordinator of Disabled Services, located in the Counseling/ADA Office, in the CAB building. Instructors should be notified the first week of class. All discussions will remain confidential. To initiate the process a student must:
1. Supply appropriate documentation to the Disabled Student Services Coordinator.
2. Obtain a “Special Accommodation Form” from the Coordinator.
3. Obtain required signatures and return it to the Coordinator.

**Please see your instructor about any questions or concerns you may have**

**Tentative Schedule: Subject to Change** (We may have to shift this schedule as the course unfolds)

**Week One:** Aug. 25th -- Introduction & Chapter 17 – *The Contested West, 1870-1900*

**Two: Week Chapter 18 – Business and Politics in the Gilded Age, 1870-1895**

   **Loewen essay 1 ”Land of Opportunity” Due Sept. 14th in the dropbox by 11:30pm**

**Week Three:** Chapter 19 – *The City and Its Workers, 1870-1900*

**Week Four:** Chapter 20 – *Dissent, Depression and War, 1890-1900*

**Week Five:** Chapter 21 – *Progressivism from the Grass Roots to the White House, 1890-1916*

**Week Six:** Chapter 22 – *World War I: The Progressive Crusade at Home and Abroad, 1914-1920*

   **EXAM 1 – Sept 29th – Oct 2nd Schedule your proctored exam asap**

**Week Seven:** Chapter 23 – *From New Era to Great Depression, 1920-1932*

**Week Eight:** Fall Break, October 12-15th

**Week Nine:** Chapter 24 – *The New Deal Experiment*

**Week Ten:** Chapter 25 – *The United States and the Second World War, 1939-1945*

   **Exam 2: October 20th – 23rd**

**Week Eleven:** Chapter 26 – *Cold War Politics in the Truman Years, 1945-1953*

   **Loewen essay 2 “Watching Big Brother” Nov. 1st**

**Week Twelve:** Chapter 27 – *The Politics and Culture of Abundance, 1952-1960*

   **Family History Essay Due: November 8th**

**Week Thirteen:** Chapter 28 – *Reform, Rebellion, and Reaction, 1960-1974*

**Week Fourteen:** Chapter 29 – *Vietnam and the Limits of Power, 1961-1975*

   **Loewen essay 3 “See No Evil” Due November 22nd**
Week Fifteen: Chapter 30 – *America Moves to the Right, 1969-1989*

Loewen essay 4: “Down the Memory Hole” Due December 1st.

Last Day of Class: Dec. 8th