Instructor Information
Professor: Andrew Lannen
Office: 360 Liberal Arts North
Phone: 468-2072
Email: lannenac@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: T & R, 11:00-12:15 & 3:15-4:00
           W, 8:00-9:30 and cheerily by appointment
Class time and Location: TR 2:00-3:15, F474

Course Description
A comprehensive survey of American history from the end of Reconstruction to the present.
Meets Texas state requirements for all graduates.

Required Reading
Horatio Alger, Ragged Dick ISBN 9780451529831 (older edition) or 9780451469595 (newer edition)
Jeanne Houston, Farewell to Manzanar ISBN 9780307976079

If you buy both of the books at full retail cost, the total cost for the semester would be $15.95.
Of course, buying used or renting would lower that cost. If you have a Kindle or compatible
digital device, Amazon has a free kindle version of Alger's book.

Supplemental Instruction (SI) Information
SI Leader: Krestyl Anguiano (contact info posted on D2L)
Meetings: To be announced in class and posted on D2L.
Other Required Materials
4 Scantron Form 882-E sheets

Grading
Your course grade will be determined by four exams, two book quizzes, two essays, and attendance/participation. I drop the lowest score out of your first three exams. However, you may not drop the score of Exam #4 (the final). That score will count no matter what you receive on it. Also, you must have taken an exam in order for it to be dropped—if you skip an exam entirely, that zero will be counted as one of your test scores unless you qualify for a makeup exam. The dates of exams and quizzes are noted on the class schedule in bold type. Your final grade is based on the total points you earn on these, not percentages.

Exams 3 @ 100 pts each 300 points
Book Quizzes 2 @ 50 pts each 100 points
Essays 2 @ 50 pts each 100 points
Att/Participation 30 points

A 477-530
B 424-476
C 371-423
D 318-370
F 000-317

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes
This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

Assessment of these objectives at SFA will be based on student work from all core curriculum courses. This student work will be collected in D2L and through LiveText, the assessment management system selected by SFA to collect student work for core assessment. LiveText accounts will be provided to all students enrolled in core courses through the university technology fee. You will be required to register your LiveText account, and you will be notified how
to register your account through your SFA e-mail account. If you forward your SFA e-mail to another account and do not receive an e-mail concerning LiveText registration, please be sure to check your junk mail folder and your spam filter for these e-mails. If you have questions about LiveText call Ext. 1267 or e-mail SFALiveText@sfasu.edu.

The chart below indicates the core objectives addressed by this course, the assignment(s) that will be used to assess the objectives in this course and uploaded to LiveText this semester, and the date the assignment(s) should be uploaded to LiveText. Not every assignment will be collected for assessment every semester. Your instructor will notify you which assignment(s) must be submitted for assessment in LiveText this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Course Assignment Title</th>
<th>Date Due in LiveText</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</td>
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HIS 134 is part of the university’s Core Curriculum and as such strives towards both the general goals of the core and the specific objectives for classes designated for inclusion in the American History Foundational Component Area as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Courses in this Foundational Component Area focus on the consideration of past events and ideas relative to the United States.

Courses in this area, such as HIS 134, include instruction in the interaction among individuals, communities, states, the nation, and the world, considering how these interactions have contributed to the development of the United States and its global role.

In addition to learning the above, students in HIS 134 will demonstrate the more general ability to:

- Think critically, which includes the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information about this period of history.
- Communicate effectively by developing and expressing ideas through written and visual communication.
- Gain intercultural competence, a knowledge of civic responsibility, and an awareness of
how humans in the past have engaged effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

- Understand the role that personal responsibility has played throughout history and gain the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to making ethical decisions.

Program Learning Outcomes
This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for history majors are addressed in this course.

Attendance
There is a strong connection between coming to class and doing well on exams. Discussions and class exercises are a graded element of the course, and can be as fun and as interesting as you are willing to make them. Think about the materials to be discussed and come up with interesting issues that you and your classmates can address. Feel free to make connections to current issues around the world as many of the questions faced by people in the past still show up on a regular basis in today’s society. I encourage questions from students even during lectures and believe class ends up being much more interesting when there is a give and take. Obviously, if you are not here then you cannot participate. Emergency situations might very well arise that makes your presence impossible (i.e., an extinction level meteor striking the earth, an invasion of brain-eating zombies, etc.) Therefore, each student is allowed two absences during the semester, whether excused or unexcused, without significant penalty. Important exceptions to this are exams, quizzes, and days on which the class has an organized discussion. If you miss one of those days, you will have to make arrangements with me to make up for the missed work. You will also be responsible for finding and watching any films shown in class.

Exams
There are four exams in the course. Each will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The multiple choice section of each exam is not cumulative, but the short answer portions might be. While there will not be specific questions about the readings (Alger, Houston) on the exams, information in them might be applicable to the short answer questions. Exams are designed to be completed in one hour, therefore your exams will be timed to 60 minutes rather than the full length of the class period.

Exam #1: Class Material, Henry Ford film
Exam #2: Class Material
Exam #3: Class Material, *Riding the Rails* film
Exam #4: Class Material, *Kent State* film

**Book Quizzes**
There are two quizzes in the course: one on the Alger book and one on the Houston book. Quizzes will be part multiple choice, part short answer. They will be the first order of business in the class meeting for which they are scheduled. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late for a class that has a quiz scheduled, you are considered to have missed that quiz and discussion. You will not be able to stay and take part in the discussion (since that will also include material on the quiz), and you will have to provide an excuse and schedule a makeup quiz.

**Makeups**
If an illness or emergency causes you to miss an exam or quiz, please let me know in advance or as soon as possible after the fact. If your documented reason for missing the exam is acceptable, you will need to take a makeup as quickly as possible. Barring extraordinary circumstances, all makeups should be completed within one week of the missed exam or quiz.

**Essays**
Each student will write and submit two essays during the semester. Papers should be approximately 1½-2 pages, single-spaced, and submitted via the dropbox on D2L. The potential essay questions are posted on D2L. You can choose which two of those topics to write on. The due dates will vary depending on the topic, and papers are due by 8:00am on the date indicated on the syllabus. *No late papers will be accepted.* Exceptions to this policy are granted only under the most extreme emergency circumstances. You will receive a confirmation email in D2L when your dropbox submission has been completed. *Formats other than the above will not be accepted for credit: this includes formats like *.pages*, *.odt*, *.jpg.* Nor will D2L accept links to an online Google Doc — it must be a file uploaded to the system. *Almost every word processing program has the ability to save files in different formats, so this should not be a hardship.*

**IMPORTANT:** All essays must be submitted through the dropbox in D2L (see the section below). *No physical paper essays will be accepted.*

**Paper “Makeup” Opportunity**
There is one other opportunity in the course. I will show an episode of the original 1960s *Star Trek* to the class. Attendance is optional that day (though recommended). Whether you watch the episode in class or at home, you will have the opportunity to write a 1½-2 page, single-spaced paper on the film based on a question I upload to D2L. The way this makeup will work is that I will count the grade on it as a replacement for one of your essay grades, but only if the substitution will help your grade. For example, let’s say a student who received a 35 out of 50 on their first essay chose to write the makeup assignment and earned a 45 out of 50 on it. I then would consider their grade for essay #1 to be 45 points. If the student had gotten a
30 out of 50 on the makeup assignment, I would count the original 35 out of 50 grade. Note: this makeup cannot be used to replace a “zero” grade earned due to not submitting a paper or due to plagiarism.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. The punishment for cheating is an old-fashioned boiling in oil, or discipline in accordance with official SFA rules and regulations. Under official regulations, the grade for the plagiarized assignment will be a zero and the violation may be reported to the Dean’s office. A second episode of plagiarism will result in automatic failure of the course and referral to the Dean for further disciplinary action. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-integrity.pdf

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy, A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade
automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Cell Phones and other class disruptions**

Only with reluctance have I been forced into a cell phone policy. All cell phones should please either be turned off before class begins or left at home entirely. In emergency situations only you can put a phone on vibrate, but you must notify me at the beginning of class.

The same common sense applies to conversations about topics not related to this class. I encourage questions from students during lectures and believe class ends up being much more interesting when there is a give and take. However, personal topics of conversation with your neighbor can wait until after class. Also, please do not be late to class. The door is in the front of the room, and late arrivals have to walk in front of the entire class, creating a large disturbance.

Repeat violators will be required to read all 32 volumes of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* from cover to cover and make a report on them entirely in classical Latin. Don’t let this be you.

**Schedule**

January

- 19 Introduction
- 21 The Old West

26 The New South

28 North: Big Business and Industry

February

- 3 *Film and Discussion: Henry Ford*
- 5 The City and its Growing Pains

10 **Exam #1; Essay topic #1 due (by 8:00am)**

12 *Alger Quiz; Alger Discussion; Reform Movements*

17 *Class Discussion: The “Gilded Age”*

19 An Empire of Liberty?

23 WWI & Its Aftermath

25 The Modern Age
March
1   Critics of Modernity
3   **Exam #2; Essay topic #2 due (by 8:00am)**

8   Great Depression and New Deal
10  *Film and Discussion: Riding the Rails*

15  NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
17  NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

22  World War II
24  NO CLASS – EASTER HOLIDAY

29  **Houston Quiz; Houston Discussion; World War II Home Front**
31  World War II Home Front

April
5   **Exam #3; Essay topic #3 due (by 8:00am)**
7   The Cold War and the Space Race

12  Post WWII American Life
14  Civil Rights Movement

19  1960s: Age of Protest

26  America and Vietnam;Begin Film: Kent State, the Day the War Came Home
28  Conclude Film and Discussion: Kent State, the Day the War Came Home

May
3   The 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s
5   Past, Present, Future

9   **Essay topic #4 due, Paper Makeup due by 8:00am on Monday, May 9.**

10  **Exam #4 (Final)**
    **Tuesday, May 10, 1:00-2:00 PM**