INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Chuck Dendy
Office: 314 Vera Dugas Liberal Arts North
Phone: 936-639-2388; 1-800-677-7438
Email:dendyc@sfasu.edu or cdendy-attorney@consolidated.net
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-2:00 p.m., 5:00-6:00 p.m.; Thursday 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Class Room: F474

Note: My legal assistant, Rayine White, is available at the telephone numbers above between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. If your question is compelling and cannot wait for an email response you may leave a message with her. She will be nice to you if you are nice to her.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A comprehensive survey of American history from 1877 to the present. Meets Texas state requirements for all graduates.

TEXT BOOK
Roark•Johnson•Cohen•Stage•Hartmann, The American Promise: A Concise History Volume II ISBN 9781457631467

OTHER REQUIRED READING
John Hersey, Hiroshima ISBN 9780679721031
Kristen Green, Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County: a Family, a Virginia Town, a Civil Rights Battle ISBN 9780062268679

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS
A new blue book for each examination.

GRADING
Your course grade will be determined by your scores on weekly quizzes, examinations, and reaction papers. The dates of the examinations and reaction papers are noted on the class schedule. Your final grade will be based on the total points earned on these assignments:

Weekly Quiz Grades 10 @ 10 pts each 100 points
Examination Grades 3 @ 100 pts each 300 points
Reaction Papers 3 @ 50 pts each 150 points
Bonus Points: You can earn up to 25 bonus points which will be added to your point total. See the explanation of the bonus points below.

Class participation can help your grade. If you come to class, are prepared, and regularly participate, there is a chance a borderline grade can become the next highest grade. That is not to say a 72 can become a 92, but effort and participation can make a difference in a close call.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:
This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
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.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance will be taken according to university policy. You are adults and someone paid tuition for this class. It is up to you to attend regularly and get the most out of it. Regular attendance normally leads to better grades, so keep that in mind when you are deciding whether to come to class on a given day. Also, as noted below, there will be weekly quizzes. Obviously, if you are not there you can’t take a quiz.
Note: Students receiving financial aid are required by law to attend class. Failure to do so can result in the loss of future financial aid.

Weekly Quizzes
There will be a 10-question quiz given every Tuesday on that week’s assigned readings. The 10 highest quiz scores will count towards your final grade. Quizzes will be fill in the blank, matching, multiple choice, and/or very short answer. Because some weekly quiz grades will be dropped, there will be no makeup on any quizzes. If this isn’t obvious, the purpose of the quizzes is to encourage you to do the assigned reading and come to class.

Examinations
There will be three examinations in the course. Exam material will be taken from the textbook, the required readings, class notes, and anything else that may go on in class. Each test will consist of 25 multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and/or very short answer questions; eight questions that require a paragraph or two to answer, of which you will answer five; and three essay-type questions, of which you will answer two. Tests will not be cumulative.

Reaction Papers
In addition to the weekly quizzes and examinations, each student will complete three reaction papers over the three required books. Details of the reaction papers will be discussed more fully in a subsequent handout.

Bonus Points
Two and one-half bonus points may be earned each week, up to a maximum of 25 points, by reading the newspaper and connecting present-day current events with historical themes discussed in class. The points will be given if at the beginning of class you hand in a paragraph that identifies the article and explains how it ties into something discussed in class. The Dallas Morning News and Houston Chronicle are both available through your MySFA account.

An example paragraph is as follows:

In the City/State section of last Tuesday’s Houston Chronicle there was a story about old-fashioned pay telephones – the kind you put money in. The article explains that as cell phones are used more and more, pay phones are used less and less. This is an example of how technology is changing how Americans live.

Makeups
If an illness or emergency causes you to miss an exam, 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. Makeup exams will be taken in my office during office hours. You may only take a makeup exam if you missed an exam due to an excused absence.

Academic Integrity
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 being boiled in oil, or discipline in accordance with the 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](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-integrity.pdf).

This whole section on academic integrity should not be necessary. You learned it was wrong to cheat in kindergarten. Make it easy on everybody and just don’t cheat.

**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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Withheld Grades**
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 the future, 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**
Cell phones should be turned off during class. This includes texting and web searching.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

January
19  Introduction
26  *The American Promise*, Chapters 16 & 17

February
2   *The American Promise*, Chapters 17 & 18
9   *The American Promise*, Chapters 18 & 19
16  *The American Promise*, Chapters 19 & 20
23  **1st Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 16-20**

March
1   *The American Promise*, Chapters 21 & 22
8   *The American Promise*, Chapters 22 & 23
15  **No class, Spring Break**
22  *The American Promise*, Chapters 23 & 24; *Worst Hard Times* reaction paper due
29  *The American Promise*, Chapters 24 & 25

April
5   **2nd Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 21-25 & Worst Hard Times**
12  *The American Promise*, Chapters 25 & 26; *Hiroshima* response paper due
19  *The American Promise*, Chapters 26 & 27
26  *The American Promise*, Chapters 27, 28 & 29; *Prince Edward County* response paper due

May
3   *The American Promise*, Chapters 28, 29, & 30
10  **Final Exam: The American Promise, Chapters 26-30; Hiroshima; Prince Edward County**