U.S. History Survey, 1877 – Present  
HIS 134-502  
Spring 2016

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Office Hours: MW 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.; W 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.; TR 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.; or by appointment  
Class Meeting Time & Place: online via Desire2Learn

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

Texts & Materials:  
Required:  
• *The Dust Bowl*, a documentary film by Ken Burns.  
• *Farewell to Manzanar*, by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston.  
• Internet access and Desire2Learn access which meets all requirements as outlined in the “Get Prepared” section of SFA ONLINE available at http://www.sfaonline.info/#!get-prepared-c10jk.

Technical Support  
• For D2L technical support, contact student support at d2l@sfasu.edu or 936-468-1919. If you call after regular business hours or on a weekend, please leave a voicemail.  
• For general computer support (not related to D2L), contact the Technical Support Center at tsc@sfasu.edu or 936-468-4357.

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.
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.

Assessment Assignment
An assessment assignment will not be collected in this class.

Classroom Conduct
Although this is an online course, the Desire2Learn environment still represents a classroom. Conduct in this class environment is expected to meet the same standards of professionalism, courtesy, and respect that apply to a face-to-face environment. All communication in this class – in e-mail, discussion posts, class assignments, etc. – will be appropriate and respectful as deemed by the instructor. If a student’s conduct fails to meet this expectation, he / she will be informed of how to improve for future interactions.

Attendance Policy
As this is a web-based course, no traditional attendance policy exists. However, your consistent attention and effort to this, or any online class, is crucial to setting the foundation for a successful experience in the course. There are firm deadlines for the course as outlined in the Semester Calendar, and I strongly encourage you to log into the course at least every other day.

Make-Up Policy
Participation activities and module activities cannot be made up, and deadlines will not be extended. If you fail to complete these activities by the deadline for any reason, a grade of zero is earned for that / those assignment(s). I will not give a make-up exam or reading quiz or extend the response paper deadline without a university-approved, documented excuse. If you miss one of these assignments, it is your responsibility to contact me within one day of the missed assignment to initiate a discussion of if and when you will be allowed to take a make-up exam, etc.. (The instructor is not responsible for and will not consider electronic communication that fails to come through the system.) Reasons for missing an exam or quiz or failing to turn in the response paper such as forgetting, work schedules, travel plans, etc. will not be deemed satisfactory reasons for a make-up.

Grading Overview
Please read and understand how your grade will be determined. Keep up with your assignments and your grades as doing so will allow you to determine your progress in the course. While grading over curriculum elements such as writing assignments may superficially seem arbitrary, they are anything but. I grade according to a rubric designed explicitly for that assignment. Thus, instructors do not “assign” grades, but students “earn” grade in their courses. Take this advice: if you “need” a certain grade in the course for whatever reason, begin to earn that grade from day one. Do whatever work is necessary to earn that grade. Two or three weeks before the semester ends is NOT the time to begin worrying about your course performance. Also, I do not offer “extra credit” work to individual students for their individual grade concerns, so do not ask. I strongly believe that you should take responsibility for your actions. An online class requires you to be wise and responsible with your time and study habits. Be aware of this from the first day.
Course Requirements

NOTE: In order to earn access to the full course content, you must complete and earn a 100% on two quizzes – “Syllabus” and “Cheating and Plagiarism.” These two quizzes are required at the beginning of the course and are mandatory in order to access the rest of the course material. They also count as participation activities for the class.

NOTE: Follow the Semester Calendar closely for all due dates and times.

This course will have three exams, the third of which will be administered during the week of final exams, although it is not comprehensive. Each exam will include fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and / or essay questions. Exam questions will be based on information in the online module lectures and required (NOT recommended) textbook reading assignments. Each student is allotted 60 minutes to complete each exam with a 1 minute “grace period” to finish any remaining work. The penalty for taking more time than is allotted is five points per minute. You are responsible for monitoring and utilizing your time wisely, just like in a face-to-face class.

There will be one reading quiz based on Farewell to Manzanar which will include short answer questions. Each student is allotted 20 minutes to complete the quiz with a 1 minute “grace period.” The penalty for taking more time than is allotted is 5 points per minute.

There will be one response paper based on viewing The Dust Bowl documentary. This paper is due in the appropriate D2L Dropbox folder at the assigned date and time.

There will be ten module activities in this course designed to encourage thoughtful review of course material and interaction with classmates. These activities include discussions, quizzes, and document analysis activities. Each activity is worth 8 points. Detailed module activity instructions and expectations will be included with each specific activity. Deadlines for module activities are in the Semester Calendar. Late module activity submissions will NOT be accepted. For any module activity that is timed, there will be a 1 minute “grace period,” and then a penalty of 5 points per minute for taking more time than is allotted.

There will be five participation assignments this semester which are designed to keep students engaged while moving through the course. Participation assignments will be graded on a completed / not completed scale. Failure to adequately attempt a participation activity can also result in a “not completed” designation earned for that activity. At the end of the semester, a student will earn a percentage of the participation points available based on the percentage of participation activities effectively completed. These activities include reflection essays and the “Syllabus” and “Cheating and Plagiarism” quizzes. Detailed instructions will be provided with each activity. Late participation activity submissions will NOT be accepted.

Grading Policy

| Participation | 10 points |
| Module Activities | 80 points |
| Farewell to Manzanar quiz | 20 points |
| The Dust Bowl response | 20 points |
| Unit 1 Exam | 90 points |
| Unit 2 Exam | 90 points |
| Unit 3 Exam | 90 points |
| **Total Possible** | **400 points** |

A = 360-400 points  
B = 320-359 points  
C = 280-319 points  
D = 240-279 points  
F = 0-239 points  

(90.00% - 100%)  
(80.00% - 89.99%)  
(70.00% - 79.99%)  
(60.00% - 69.99%)  
(0% - 59.99%)
Technology Requirement
As you have elected to enroll in an online course, it is your responsibility to acquire a consistent, stable, dependable computer and internet connection with which to complete the assignments for the course by the deadlines indicated on the Semester Calendar. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to provide additional time for assignments or exams or an alternate means of completing the course due to technological issues on your part. **When completing assignments, especially exams and quizzes, it is highly recommended that you use a wired – rather than a wireless – connection.** Just as it is your responsibility to acquire and maintain adequate transportation to attend a face-to-face course, it is your responsibility to secure the technological means to participate in and complete this course. To make sure you are prepared to meet these requirements, check the “Get Prepared” section of SFA ONLINE at http://www.sfaonline.info/#!get-prepared-/c10jk.

Policy on Cheating
Cheating and plagiarism are extremely serious offenses and will not be tolerated in this course. All essay and short answer responses will be checked with the Turn-It-In system (available through Desire2Learn) for plagiarism. Also, false posts to discussions in order to view content before a legitimate post will be considered cheating. These scenario descriptions are not comprehensive, and if you have any questions about what does or does not constitute plagiarism, please let me know. Any assignments found to be plagiarized or any cheating that is found to occur will be addressed based on University policy, and points will be deducted from assignments. Please see below for additional information and the University policy and procedures for cheating and 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.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

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.

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/.