



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**United States History II**

**HIST 1302.D081**

**Jennifer Nichter**

**NOTE: This is a 16-week course.**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

Spring 2024

## United States History I

HIST 1302.D081

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### **Course Description:**

This course is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War, and post-Cold War eras.

Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.

### **Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

Must have passed the reading portion of the TSI Assessment or have credit for INRW 0402.  
Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

### **Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

N/A

### **Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Jennifer Nichter

MCC Email: [jnichter@mclennan.edu](mailto:jnichter@mclennan.edu)

Office Phone Number: N/A

Office Location: N/A

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00 PM via email

Other Instruction Information: I will respond to email inquiries with 24 hours, 48 hours on weekends

### **Required Text & Materials:**

1. Eric Foner, Give Me Liberty! (MCC Custom) Brief 7th ed. (New York: W.W. Norton, 2023). ISBN: 97813240570932.
2. Argersinger, Jo Ann, *The Triangle Fire: A Brief History with Documents*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2016). ISBN: 9781319048853
3. Phillips, Sarah T and Shane Hamilton, *The Kitchen Debate and Cold War Consumer Politics: A Brief History with Documents*, 1<sup>st</sup> ed. (New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2014). ISBN: 9780312677107

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

### **Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

A variety of methods will be used in teaching United States History II, including the use of lecture, discussion, written assignments, and various projects. Student assessment will include objective exams, readings of primary and secondary sources, discussions, subjective and

objective essays, projects and portfolios. These measures will assess critical thinking, communication, social responsibility and personal responsibility. A departmental rubric may be used to assess different aspects of the course objectives

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

**Critical Thinking:** Through lecture and a variety of objective strategies, students will be assessed on critical thinking ability. Objective examinations will specifically be used to assess critical thinking. Other assessment vehicles may include essays, portfolios, primary source objective exams, and presentations.

**Communication:** Measures such as objective tests, written assignments, discussions, portfolios, and presentations may be used to measure the student's ability to communicate.

**Social Responsibility:** Because the teaching of history involves evoking examples of successes and failures in social responsibility, and the continual importance of this issue politically and personally today, social responsibility naturally is emphasized. Assessment measures may include readings, primary document exams, discussions, projects, and essays.

**Personal Responsibility:** Because the teaching of history also involves evoking examples of successes and failures in personal responsibility, and the consequences that personal choices can have, personal responsibility is also naturally emphasized. Assessment measures may include participation, readings, primary document exams, discussions, projects, and essays.

**Learning Outcomes**

**Upon successful completion of this course, students will:**

Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.

Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.

Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

**Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be

withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

Note: For the purposes of this course, each week begins on Monday and ends on Saturday (with the exception of the final week). Please review this schedule carefully as some weeks have more than one assignment due.

Week One: Reconstruction  
01/08-01/13: Read Foner Ch. 15  
01/13: DBQs 1 due (Discussion board questions)

Week Two: The Gilded Age  
01/15-01/20: Read Foner Ch. 16  
01/20: DBQs 2 due

Week Three: Freedom and Boundaries  
01/22-01/27: Read Foner Ch. 17  
01/27: DBQs 3 due

Week Four: The Progressive Era  
01/29-02/03: Read Foner Ch. 18  
02/03: DBQs 4 due

Week Five:  
02/05-02/10  
02/10: Paper #1 due

Week Six: WWI  
02/12-02/17: Read Foner Ch. 19  
02/17: DBQs 6 due

Week Seven: The Great Depression and 1920s  
02/19-02/24: Read Foner Ch. 20  
02/24: DBQs 7 due

Week Eight: MIDTERM EXAM (Ch. 15-20)  
02/26-03/02  
03/02: Midterm Exam due

Week Nine: SPRING BREAK  
03/04-03/09

Week Ten: The New Deal  
03/11-03/16: Read Foner Ch. 21  
03/16: DBQs 10 due

Week Eleven: WWII  
03/18-03/23: Read Foner Ch. 22  
03/23: DBQs 11 due

Week Twelve: The Cold War  
03/25-03/30: Read Foner Ch. 23  
03/30: DBQs 12 due

Week Thirteen: The Idyllic 1950s  
04/01-04/06: Read Foner Ch. 24  
04/06: DBQs 13 due

Week Fourteen:  
04/08-04/13  
04/13: Paper #2 due

Week Fifteen: The 1960s  
04/15-04/20: Read Foner Ch. 25  
04/20: DBQs 15 due

Week Sixteen: Conservatism  
04/22-04/27: Read Foner Ch. 26  
04/27: DBQs 16 due

Week Seventeen: FINAL EXAM (Ch. 21-26)  
04/30 (Tuesday): Final Exam due

**Power Points slides accompany each chapter in the text. These are meant to supplement your notes, not serve as your only source of information. They can be found in the “Lectures” link under the “Content” tab in Brightspace.**

***Instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If a change becomes necessary, you will be notified via email, as well as an announcement on the Brightspace portal.***

**Course Grading Information:**

**Grading Criteria**

Discussion Board	30%
Essay I	15%
Essay II	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

**Total** **100%**

*Discussions (and general Brightspace information):*

As an online course, the most important prerequisite is that you have access to McLennan's Brightspace portal, located at <https://brightspace.mclennan.edu/d2l/login> (preferably by way of a high-speed internet connection). **If you do not have login credentials (i.e., a username or password) for McLennan's Brightspace portal, or do not know if you do, you must resolve this immediately.** Failure to do so will result in a serious disadvantage in the course, since regular assignments begin during the first week of the semester. Although some of you are familiar with Brightspace, these details bear repeating.

Be sure to look around the Brightspace course shell. The main modules that I will use in this course include "Announcements," "Class documents," "Discussions," "Lectures," and "Syllabus." By way of a few words on each:

- "Announcements," found on the home page for our course, is where I will post communications about the course.
- "Class documents," found under the "Content" tab, is where you will find further instructions concerning your papers and exams, as well as any additional readings that are assigned throughout the semester.
- "Discussions" is the Brightspace Discussion Board where you will post answers to your weekly assignments. **You will answer five questions on the Discussion Board each week where, for each question, you are required to submit three posts.** The first should be a longer post that thoroughly answers the question and demonstrates that you mastered the reading for that week. The second and third posts are shorter comments to your classmates' posts. Each week that they are assigned, I will post discussion questions on Monday. They will be due the following Saturday night at midnight.

**\*\* Each week, you will have the opportunity to earn 5 bonus points by posting your response to my question by Wednesday evening. Please see the discussion forums for more information.**

**\*\* You must start a new thread (a response to my initial question) before you can read and reply to other threads (i.e., your classmates' posts).**

- "Lectures," found under the "Content" tab, is where I have posted Power Point slides for each week of reading in the Foner textbook. These slides help to supplement the notes you take as you read.
- "Syllabus," found under the "Content" tab, is where I will always post the latest version of the syllabus (in case there are revisions during the semester).

The inherent flexibility of a course of this type is that you can complete the weekly assignments at your leisure, while the drawback is that you will have to be disciplined and self-motivated to such an extent that you are able to complete all assignments in a timely manner.

*Essays:*

You will write two five-page analytical essays for this class. A detailed instruction sheet will follow as we approach the first essay assignment.

*Midterm and Final Exams:*

The midterm and final exams will be submitted online. You will not need to come to campus to take the exams. The exams may consist of multiple choice, short answer and/or essay questions. Detailed instructions will follow as we approach the first exam.

**Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:**

*Late Papers and Incompletes:*

Any assignment submitted after the due date and time will be subject to a penalty of ten percent per twenty-four-hour period late. This includes papers and discussion board responses. **Exams will not be subject to this penalty – if you fail to take/turn in an exam on time, you will receive a zero.**

An incomplete will only be granted to those students who 1) find it impossible to complete the course due to circumstances beyond their control, and 2) have kept me informed of those circumstances as they develop.

*Exam Make-up Policy:*

Due to the online nature of this course, there will be no opportunity to take an exam other than at the assigned date and time. If you are unable to take an exam as scheduled, you will not receive a grade for that exam.

*Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:*

Please see MCC's Academic Integrity Statement: <https://www.mclennan.edu/Accommodations-Title-IX/academic-integrity/index.html>

Artificial Intelligence (AI, including Chat GPT): use of any AI software or interface to compose or complete any work in this course is not allowed. The use of generative AI tools is not permitted for writing entire sentences, paragraphs, or essays to complete class assignments (this includes ALL work in the course - discussion responses, essays and/or exams).

**If you plagiarize any portion of your assignment/exam, it will result in a zero for that assignment/exam. There are no exceptions to this policy.**

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

**\* Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement**  
([www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity))

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating

**[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

**(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)**

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.



10/09/2023



## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES**

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) (254)299-8122  
Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an

emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.