

U.S. History After 1877

TEXTS

Shi, David Emory. America: A Narrative History, Volume 2, Brief 12th ed. New York: W. W. Norton and Co., 2016. ISBN #: 978-0-393-88255-1 (Code for book not required, and can be purchased as a used copy)

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Course Description

HIST 1302 is a survey of United States history from the end of Reconstruction in 1877 to the present, when America arises from a nation of agrarians to a world power. Included topics are: the rise of industry in the late 19th century, the Progressive movement, World War I and II, the Cold War, Watergate, domestic and foreign policy, and in-depth analyses of the leaders of America during this period. Historical events will be viewed in light of their effects on our country today.

In this course the student will develop critical thinking skills and improve written and verbal communication through a discussion of U.S. history. The course will increase knowledge and understanding of how and why the United States came to its current form. The ultimate goal of this course is to increase students' analytical and expressive abilities through the study of history.

Learning Objectives

Your work in this course will be measured via the following outcomes:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

Core Learning Outcomes

All Core courses in the state of Texas seek to teach, develop and measure student's skill on four of six skills deemed essential by employers. In this course we will teach, develop and measure:

- **Critical Thinking Skills (CT):** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills (CS):** to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Social Responsibility (SR):** to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Personal Responsibility (PR):** to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making.

Office Hours

By appointment.

Major Topics

This course will explore: The New South, Second Industrial Revolution, Urbanization, Gilded Age, American Imperialism, Progressivism, World War I, Roaring 1920s, Great Depression, New Deal, World War II, Cold War, Affluent 1950s, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, Counter Culture, Great Society, Conservative Resurgence and Watergate.

Grading	Grade Weight	Grade Scale	
	Exam 1	15%	100-90 A
	Exam 2	15%	89-80 B
	Textbook vs AI etc	40%	79-70 C
	Post Textbook paper to Discussion board	10%	69-60 D
	Final	20%	59-0 F

Description of Grade Criteria

Exams

Exam 1, Exam 2 and the Final examination consist of a combination of one essay (half or more of the exam points - minimum of 500-750 words) as well as a combination of **paragraph length vocabulary definition prompts**. Take care to allot appropriate time preparing for the essay as well as the other portions of the exam. **All vocabulary** prompts must be completed. Students will **choose one of two essay questions** that appear on the exam to develop into a multi-paragraph response supported with details from the text book, documents and lecture.

Students should prepare for major exams by reviewing key terms, names, laws, and events as well as reading documents carefully and brainstorming answers to **possible essay questions** posted under "Content" in the "Advice and Information" folder of the course website. Reviewing the example essay will help students understand the length and depth of response expected.

Textbook vs AI Etc.

Each student will select one chapter from the Shi textbook and complete a 2-3 page double spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font assessment of how content in that chapter differed from what students found from:

1. An AI search (such as Bing, ChatGPT etc.)
2. Internet search (such as Google)
3. Social Media (including but not limited to Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok etc.)

Students must **sign up** for the chapter they wish to evaluate by **emailing** the instructor. Only one student will assess each chapter. These papers will be due based on the exam date for the information in each textbook chapter. For example, Chapters 1 through 6 are covered on exam 1. Therefore students who sign up for any of the first six chapters will have their paper due before the first exam. When students email the professor with their chapter request, they will be given a specific deadline for their paper.

In addition to submitting textbook comparison paper to the professor, students will also **post their paper in the discussion board** for fellow students to use as a learning tool. Note, these papers will be posted before they are graded, so each student should use their judgement about whether each paper offers valuable insight.

Learning Environment

Unless otherwise announced in class, we will follow the reading and examination schedule listed on the Tentative Course Calendar. The teacher **will not withdraw** students.

This is an adult learning environment and all students are treated accordingly. All participants should respond to one another with respect. Feel free to disagree with one another, the textbook and even me, as long as you do so appropriately. It is important to learn how to disagree with people's ideas without attacking or insulting.

Cheating & plagiarizing

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism/AI usage, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu> Click on the CATALOGS AND SCHEDULES link under STUDENTS.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and will, at a minimum, result in a zero in the particular assignment in which the offense was created. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

Please note: Any submitted work that shows evidence of **Artificial Intelligence** usage will be considered plagiarism and will be reported to the Dean of Student Services.

Use of AI such as but not limited to ChatGPT, Bing etc. except when specifically permitted in assignment instructions is forbidden and constitutes cheating.

Attendance

While this is a flexible environment, it is expected that you will “attend” class on a regular basis. Each unit has several lectures associated with it. Students are required to take notes from instructional videos as well as the textbook and fellow student’s discussion postings for each chapter. Students are expected to submit all required assignments on or before the deadline. Ample time is allotted to complete assignments, therefore **no late or make up work will be accepted**. Deadlines are all central time.

Students with Special Needs

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. For student to receive any accommodation, documentation must be completed in the Office of Disability Services. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor at 979-230-3236 for further information.

Homework

College professors expect students to spend 2-3 hours per week preparing for each semester hour (3= 6-9 hours weekly reading, quizzing, studying, researching and writing outside class).

Make-up Exams

If students miss an exam they should immediately make arrangements with the instructor to take a make-up in Student Services. Students must complete make-up exams within **one week** of the missed exam. No make ups are possible for the final. To schedule an exam stop by or call 230-3253 and **notify the teacher before the exam**. For LS Policies, visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

Title IX

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District’s non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College’s policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If you experience an incident of discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are “Responsible Employees” and must report what you tell them to college officials. You can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below. Additional information is found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at

www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct.

Alex Crouse, Director of Student Life and Title IX Coordinator 979-230-3355;
alex.crouse@brazosport.edu

Mareille Rolon, HR Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinator 979-230-3303;
mareille.rolon@brazosport.edu

Student Services

Information about the Library is available at <http://www.brazosport.edu/library> or by calling 979.230.3310.

For assistance completing online work, an open computer lab, online and make-up testing, audio/visual services, and study skills, visit Learning Services next to the Library, call 979.230.3253, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

For drop-in math tutoring, the writing center, supplemental instruction and other tutoring including e-tutoring, visit the Student Success Center, call 979.230.3527, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/studentsuccesscenter>.

To contact the Social Sciences & Business Department call 979-320-3226

The Student Services provides assistance in the following:

Counseling and Advising	979.230.3040
Financial Aid	979.230.3294
Student Life	979.230.3355

Technical Difficulties

To reach the Information Technology Department for computer, email, or other technical assistance call the Helpdesk at **979-230-3266**. You will get critical information from your instructor throughout the semester through D2L and e-mail. If you are having issues with these services, it is crucial that you call the department to sort out the issue as soon as possible.

BC offers students use of numerous computers on campus in Learning Services and elsewhere which are properly configured to work with course software. The online portion of this class were not designed for and may not work from a smartphone or tablet. A fully functional desktop or laptop computer will be required. Staff on duty in Learning Services can answer many questions about online courses. We cannot, however, ensure that the millions of possible individual variations on personal computers will work properly with this course. Although most students never encounter difficulty, if you run into problems:

- Read and follow instructions for compatible browsers found on the Log In screen for the class.
- Disable firewall or pop-up blockers. Many of these will clash with the security functions in the course software.
- Install and update **virus protection** on a regular basis.

When all else fails, contact BC Information Technology at <http://www.brazosport.edu/IT/Pages/default.aspx> Or Online Learning <http://www.brazosport.edu/bconline/Pages/default.aspx>

Please understand that we can only offer the most general advice for improving compatibility of home computers with the course because it is impossible for us to know all the details of your computer's configuration. You are responsible for knowing your computer or for completing assignments on campus.

Study Tips

1. **Class attendance and participation** prove crucial to success. This class will become as enjoyable, challenging and rewarding as each student makes it. Come to class ready to discuss your reading. Wonder out loud about what seems unclear or unimaginable. Question the author and instructor's interpretation of events to arrive at other valid interpretations.
2. Take careful **notes** of both **lecture and reading**. Students tend to over-highlight, instead try noting important points in the margins of the book or making brief notes in a notebook. Writing proves far more active than highlighting, improves retention, and facilitates review and study.
3. Find a **group** of people to work with.
4. **Outline** a possible answer for each question with key terms and events.

Course Calendar

All times listed are in Central Standard Time (CST).

Date	Event/Assignment
January 16	Class Begins
January 20	Email Professor with Textbook vs AI etc. choice due by 4pm
February 15	Textbook vs AI Etc. Papers for Chapters 1-5 due and posted to Discussion Board
February 19 or 20	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)
March 21	Textbook vs AI Etc. Papers for Chapters 6-10 due and posted to Discussion Board
March 25 or 26	Exam 2 (Chapters 6-10)
April 1	Last day to withdraw without a grade
April 29	Textbook vs AI Etc. Papers for Chapters 11-15 due and posted to Discussion Board
May 2 nd through 6 th	Final Exam Chapters (11-15)

All due dates expire at 11:55pm Central Standard Time. **Due dates are not extended** except in the event of massive regional events such as hurricanes, tornadoes or freezing which create lengthy widespread power and internet outages. Individual or localized power failures are not justification for extending deadlines. Computers will fail, power will go out, human error will occur, and internet service will be interrupted at some point in the semester. If students delay completion of assignments until the last day, they risk being unable to turn in work. Work not submitted by the deadlines will earn a grade of 0. Students should **work a minimum of 24 hours ahead** of all deadlines as insurance against technological or human failure and notify the professor immediately in the event of a problem. Students should identify **alternate locations** for completing assignments on time including but not limited to the Brazosport College campus or regional libraries.