

AMERICAN HISTORY 1301 WB SYLLABUS

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**Course Objectives:** To provide a balanced and thought-provoking treatment of the American past; to examine the lives and experiences of Americans of all national origins and cultural backgrounds; and seeks connections between the many factors – political, economic, technological, social, religious, intellectual and biological – that have molded and remolded American society over four centuries.

- Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
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.

**Textbook:** Alan Brinkley, **The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People, Sixth Edition.**

**Drop Policy:** You are responsible for dropping this class, if you quit doing the work. The Instructor **will not** do so. Failure to drop results in an F.

**Assignments:** We will cover Chapters **3** through **17**. Chapter exams will be posted every **Thursday (this includes holidays)** beginning, **Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. and conclude with the final exam on Thursday, May 3, 2012.** The exam will be available beginning at **8:00 p. m.** every **Thursday** will remain available until **8:00 p.m. the following Monday** and then will no longer be available. I will **not** open the test **after the deadline**, so if you have problems taking the test, be sure you get in touch with me before the deadline. I have given you four (4) phone numbers where you can reach me. It is your responsibility to reach me before the deadline for the test. Make a copy of the syllabus so that you can always have my phone numbers available. If you e-mail me and I don't answer you before the deadline then you will not be able to take the test – that is why I have given you all my phone numbers. Do not call me on the OC number after office hours and expect a timely response because I will not be in my office. Every exam will cover one chapter. You will have an hour to complete each exam. The final will be comprehensive. Questions for the final will be taken from all of the other chapter exams. All exams weigh equally. Use correct grammar when completing your test. **I will take off points if you don't use capitals where appropriate, correct punctuation, etc.** If you go over the time limit you are subject to points being taken off your grade, so be sure and watch the time. The exams will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, true/false, identification and essay questions or a combination of these formats. **There will be no opportunities for extra credit work.**

**WEB Exam Schedule**

<b>Test</b>	<b>Chapter(s)</b>	<b>Date Opened</b>	<b>Date Closed</b>
1	3	01.26.12	01.30.12

2	4	02.02.12	02.06.12
3	5	02.09.12	02.13.12
4	6	02.16.12	02.20.12
5	7	02.23.12	02.27.12
6	8	03.01.12	03.05.12
7	9	03.08.12	03.12.12
8	10	03.15.12	03.19.12
9	11	03.22.12	03.26.12
10	12	03.29.12	04.02.12
11	13	04.05.12	04.09.12
12	14	04.12.12	04.16.12
13	15	04.19.12	04.23.12
14	16	04.26.12	04.30.12
<b>15</b>	<b>(Comprehensive Final)</b>	<b>05.03.12</b>	<b>05.07.12 (Chapters 3 – 17)</b>

**Examinations:** You will have an hour to take each exam. In the **rare** instances, students encounter technical problems while taking on line exams (the most common problem being getting kicked out of the exam), the policy for this is as follows: contact me through one of the contact points provided in this syllabus and we will attempt to fix the problem. If getting “kicked off” the exam becomes a pattern, I will ask that you come to the OC testing center to take your exams and you will not be allowed to take your book or any other notes into the testing center. I have given you my phone numbers because I am not always on the internet. If you do not hear from me within 30 minutes, call one of my numbers. **It is your responsibility to contact me before the test deadline.** I reserve the right to determine if you have a valid reason for missing an exam!!! Please remember that I do not have office hours during the summer, so if you call me at my office number I might not respond for days. **I have provided my home phone number and an alternate number (do not call this number after 5:00 or on the weekend) so that you can contact me at all times. Call me on my cell phone as a last resort.** You can call me anytime as long as it is after 9:00 a.m. and before 9:00 p.m. I do not always check my e-mail on the week-ends so it is important that you remember to try and contact me on my home phone or my cell number. I try my best to respond as soon as possible but please make allowances for those times that I am out of pocket (i.e. out of town, etc.)

**Statement of Special Accommodations:** Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the 1973 Vocational Rehabilitation Act and with the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

**Additional reminder**...if you do need to contact me regarding a problem or concern, please remember that this is a college course. It is up to you, the student, to get in touch with me. This is not the responsibility of your parents, guardian, older sibling etc. It is your responsibility as a student and I will not discuss anything regarding your involvement in this course with anyone else.

**Make-up Exams:** If you are unable to take an exam during the assigned time period, you need to contact me as soon as possible (before the deadline to take the exam). Failure to do so will

result in a loss of a letter grade on the exam. Otherwise there are no make-ups. Make-up exams will more than likely be complete essay exams. Once again, I reserve the right to decide if your reason for missing an exam is valid. If I decide your reason is invalid, you will not have a chance to make up the exam.

**Grading Policy:** All exams weigh equally and will count for 1/15<sup>th</sup> of your semester average. Final grades will be based on the following averages: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, below 60=F.

**Cheating will result in an automatic F for the course.**