**HIST 1312: U.S. History Since 1865**

**Fall 2014**

**Instructor:** Dr. Cristina Salinas

**Office Number:** UH 326

**Email Address:** csalinas@uta.edu

**Faculty Profile:**

**Office Hours:** T/TH 11:00-12:30

**Teaching Assistant:** Robert Caldwell; Robert.caldwell@mavs.uta.edu

**Teaching Assistant Office Hours:** UH 228B; T/TH 8:30-9:30AM; T 12-1:00 PM

**Section Information:** 1312-007

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** UH 115, T/TH 9:30-11:00 AM

**Description of Course Content:** This course offers an introduction to the history of the United States from 1865 to the present day. Never fixed categories, ideas about nation and belonging have always been contested and defined (and re-defined), through wrenching struggle and moments of affirmation. We will examine the growth of the state in American society as well as the ways in which people themselves helped define a nation. While this course is focused on the events and broad currents that fashioned daily life in the United States, we will also consider American history from an international perspective, exploring the ways in which the United States both shaped, and was shaped by, global flows of migration, ideas, and capital. The power to shape society, while unequal, has always been multidirectional and multidimensional.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

* Students will demonstrate competent knowledge of U.S. history from 1865 to the present, as well as analyze major events in U.S. history by comparing and contrasting historical eras, and analyzing the impact of major events on American society.
* Students will write evidentiary-based papers and exams, in order to learn how to construct arguments well supported by evidence. Students will utilize primary and secondary sources and distinguish between different types of sources.
* Students will learn how to evaluate evidence in order to distinguish between different types of historical scholarship and historical arguments. Students and the instructor will examine primary documents to learn how evidence is used to construct historical interpretations.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

Nancy Hewitt and Steven Lawson, Exploring American Histories: A Brief Survey with Sources

Jo Ann Argersinger, The Triangle Fire: A Brief History with Documents

Anne Moody, Coming of Age in Mississippi

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

**Mid-Term Exam (25%):** This in-class exam will consist of two short essay questions and one longer essay question drawn from lectures, readings and discussion over the first half of the course.

**Triangle Fire Response Paper (10%):** You will write a three-page paper responding to the Triangle Fire text, impersonating a contemporary observer of the tragedy, and considering the question of social responsibility.

**Primary Document Blogposts (15%):** I will post a question about a primary document found in the textbook. You will study the primary document, and post a two-paragraph response to the question on Blackboard. These responses will be due by midnight on Thursday night. You will respond to three questions over the course of the semester.

***Coming of Age in Mississippi* Reponse Paper (15)%:** You will write a four-page paper responding to *Coming of Age in Mississippi*.

**Final Exam (35%):** This exam will consist of essay questions from the second half of the course as well as one essay that draws from the entire course. It will take place during the assigned finals time.

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will not take attendance.

**Grading**: Assignments will be given a numerical grade based on a 200-point scale. At the end of the course, the 200-point scale will be converted to a 100-point scale and to a letter grade. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

**Make-up Exams**: Make-Up Exams will only be allowed for students with documented medical or personal emergencies. Alternative arrangements will be made for students with university-related conflicts or religious observance, but they must be approved in advance.

No late blogposts will be accepted. Papers will be penalized one-half letter grade for each day they are late.

**Grade Grievances**: [Optional.] Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located [insert a description of the nearest exit/emergency exit]. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Writing Center:** The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40-minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit [https://uta.mywconline.com/](https://owa.uta.edu/owa/luket%40exchange.uta.edu/redir.aspx?C=jqplelmmw0KcvkWv1pRv_rHS8ofUUtFIXl_CWZTLffEmCPyZf3x4ncUbBmD9p3gSPROCbhSJj7U.&URL=https%3a%2f%2futa.mywconline.com%2f" \t "_blank) to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at [www.uta.edu/owl/](http://www.uta.edu/owl/).

**Course Schedule**

**Readings and Assignments may be adjusted at instructor’s discretion:**

**THU. Aug. 21: First Day of Class. Syllabus Review.**

**TUE. Aug. 26:** Reconstruction. Reading: *Exploring American Histories*, 425-448.

**THU. Aug. 28:** Reconstruction. Reading: *Exploring American Histories* (EAH), 425-448.

**TUE. Sept. 2:** Rise of Jim Crow Segregation.

**THU. Sept. 4:** Trans-Mississippi West. Reading: EAH, 459-483.

**TUE. Sept. 9:** Labor and Capital. Reading: EAH, 493-516.

**THU. Sept. 11:** Workers, Farmers, Challenges to Capitalism. Reading: *Triangle Fire*, 1-36.

**TUE. Sept. 16:** Immigrants and the City. Reading: *Triangle Fire*, 39-71.

**THU. Sept. 18:** Immigration Restriction. Reading: *Triangle Fire*, 72-126.

**TUE. Sept. 23:** Progressive Era. **Triangle Paper due by 9:30 AM via Blackboard.**

**THU. Sept. 25:** The U.S. and Empire. Reading: EAH, 621-633.

**TUE. Sept. 30:** WWI. Reading: EAH, 633-643.

**THU. Oct. 2:** Roaring Twenties. Reading: EAH, 653-685. **Exam Review Sheet posted on Blackboard.**

**TUE. Oct. 7:** Rise of Consumer Culture. Reading: EAH, 653-685.

**THU. Oct. 9: Midterm Exam.**

**TUE. Oct. 14:** Great Depression. Reading: EAH, 686-696.

**THU. Oct. 16:** The New Deal. Reading: EAH, 697-711.

**TUE. Oct. 21:** WWII. Reading: EAH, 720-734.

**THU. Oct. 23:** WWII and the Homefront. Reading: EAH: 734-746.

**TUE. Oct. 28:** Global Cold War. Reading: EAH, 756-778.

**THU. Oct. 30:** Domestic Cold War. Reading: *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, Chapter 1-4.

**TUE. Nov. 4:** African American Civil Rights. Reading: *Coming of Age*, CH 5-9.

**THU. Nov. 6:** African American Civil Rights. Reading: *Coming of Age*, CH 10-15.

**TUE. Nov. 11:** Student Anti-War Movement. Reading: *Coming of Age*, CH 16-19.

**THU. Nov. 13:** Chicano Movement/American Indian Movement. Reading: *Coming of Age*, CH 20-25.

**TUE. Nov. 18:** Women’s Liberation Movement. Reading: *Coming of Age*, CH 26-29.

**THU. Nov. 20:** Rise of New Right. ***Coming of Age in Mississippi* Paper Due**.

**TUE. Nov. 25:** The U.S. and Latin America.

**THU. Nov. 27: No Class. Thanksgiving.**

**TUE. Dec. 2:** War on Drugs/Border Militarization. **Last Class Day.**

**Final Exam: THU. Dec. 11, 8:00-10:30 AM, UH 115.**

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

For non-emergencies, contact the UTA PD at 817-272-3381.