**UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE 1877**

**Thinking, Talking and Writing Historically**

**M&W – 12:10-1:25**

**Hist 2334**

**Spring 2017**

**Room: Strake 204**

**Class: 1471-B**

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202 Mt. Vernon History House, ext. 3192

Office Hours: M: 11:00-12:00. M&W: 2:00-5:00, and by appt.

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**COURSE MAIN TOPICS/THEMES**

- Students will gain factual knowledge about:
  - The economic, social, and political causes and consequences of the United States' shift from a rural, agrarian society to an urban, industrial society.
  - The role of racism and Social Darwinism in the United States at home and abroad America's participation in the two world wars.
  - The economic, social, and political causes and consequences of the Great Depression and New Deal.
  - The political, social, cultural, and military causes and consequences of the Cold War at home and abroad.
  - The causes and consequences of political liberalism, socialism, and conservatism.
  - America's role in the Middle East, particularly in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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**COURSE ACTIVE LEARNING AND OBJECTIVES**

* **First**, this is an ACTIVE LEARNING course, meaning that it requires students’ participation. By reading, analyzing, and discussing primary sources (evidence from the past) and secondary sources (interpretive accounts written by historians), students will learn to think and write like historians:
  * They will become familiar with the language and habits of mind that define the discipline of history.
  * They will gain first-hand experience with issues of historical interpretation.
  * They will learn that history is not simply a series of facts neatly tied together to form fixed conclusions; instead, it is an interpretative endeavor which continually evolves as a result of new evidence and changing perspectives.

* **Second**, students will sharpen their writing skills through a series of assignments designed to make them aware of the basic structures and routines of academic writing.

* **Third**, Equipped with the ability to think historically, students will offer their own historical interpretations on the course discussions, academic writing and on exams.

Upon completing this course, students will be able to...

* exhibit an understanding of the social, cultural, economic, and political history of United States since 1877.
* apply a critical lens to the ways in which historians produce knowledge.
* analyze and discuss both primary and secondary sources.
* work collaboratively and constructively assess the work of their peers.
* develop and write a formal research paper.
REQUIRED READINGS
2. Walker, Alice. The Color Purple. (Reserved-Library)
4. And some readings available on Black Board.

TWO MAIN COURSE ASSIGNMENTS
1. Analytical Paper on The Color Purple. It is geared toward analyzing the book as primary account narrative that is part of U.S. literary tradition/Slave Narrative. It is meant to build critical thinking and writing skills, and it includes to practice documenting sources properly (ie citations). This assignment also requires reading one essay about Slave Narratives-provided in Blackboard (Bb).
   The assignment worth 100 points and consists in 2 parts.
   1. Students will submit notes based on the Book’s reading (4 different occasions, 10 points each) divided as follows: Notes # 1: 1-73, Notes # 2: 74-145, Notes # 3: 146-216, Notes # 4: 217-288
   2. The Analytical Paper: 60 points.
      A Guide to write the Analytical Paper will be available in Bb. The Analysis represents 10% of your final grade. It is NOT a research paper. WRITE 6-8 PAGES & INCLUDE 6-8 DIRECT QUOTATIONS.

2. Research Paper / Portfolio (RPP): Your Research will focus on a United States event/period of time/ character that happened/lived since 1877 to end of Twentieth Century (a list of topics and primary source documents will be provided). It is a portfolio because it is divided in 6 phases/assignments as follows: a proposal, an Annotated Bibliography, a Thesis Statement, 4 Reports, a Peer Review, and the Final Paper. The research portfolio represents 30% of your final grade.
   Guides to complete all the different phases/assignments will be provided through Bb.
   USE 6 PRIMARY SOURCES AND 4-6 SECONDARY SOURCES. YOUR FINAL PAPER SHOULD BE 10-12 PAGES.

GRADES
Quizes and Workshops (20%): 200 points (4 points each)
Analytical Paper (10%): 100 points (60 points-Paper, 40 points-Book Notes/ 10 points)
Midterm Exam (20%): 200 points
Final Exam (20%): 200 points
Research Paper Portfolio (30%): 300 points (10 points – Proposal
                                      20 points – Annotated Bibliography
                                      10 points-Thesis Statement
                                      40 points-Four RP Reports
Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100%</td>
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

General: Students are expected to attend class, answer quizzes, complete all reading assignments, participate in class discussions and workshops, and finish all assignments on time. Out of respect for other students and the professor, arrive to class on time.

Quizzes and Workshops = Attendance and Participation: At the beginning of each class, students will answer a quiz question related to the assigned readings. The last half hour of the class will consist on a workshop: students will break into small groups to complete various activities based on weekly reading assignments or on the Research Paper. The instructor will evaluate individual participation within small groups, as well as overall group performance. Your quizzies and workshop grades represent 25% of your total grade.

Plagiarism Online-Tutorial from Library: In lieu of giving a graded quiz on plagiarism, I am asking all students to take the online Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Tutorial. The certificate that you passed the quiz is due in class on the date indicated on the course schedule. If you fail to turn in the certificate, a tardy penalty will be taken out for each day that is passed. You cannot pass the class without completing and passing the tutorial quiz. Links to the description and the tutorial are also posted on Blackboard.

Library Instruction: All students are required to individually attend instruction at the library with a research librarian to learn how to use library resources, and provide proof of attendance.

Assignments submission: Students will submit all class assignments both in Blackboard and in hardcopy by the start of class time on the due date.

Exams: Based on both lectures and course readings, there will be a Midterm and a Final exam. Both will have two parts: Multiple choice and an Essay question. The midterm exam represents 20% of your total grade, while the final exam represents 20% of your total grade. All examinations must be completed at the time scheduled unless you present a verifiable and acceptable excuse. Make-up exams must be scheduled within one week of the original exam.

ADA ACOMMODATIONS

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities must also contact Counseling and Disability Services in Crooker Center. This office can be reached at (713) 525-2169 or 6953. Please provide a copy of the official letter stating the required academic accommodations.
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the definitions of academic dishonesty and plagiarism found in the Undergraduate Catalog. Ignorance of the university's policies does not excuse students from infractions of the regulations. The professor's written or verbal instructions supplement these instructions.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

- Cheating on an examination or test, for example by copying from another's paper or by using unauthorized materials before or during the test;
- Plagiarism, which one represents as one's own the work of another, whether published or not, without acknowledging the precise source;
- Knowing participation in the academic dishonesty of another student even though one's own work is not directly affected;
- Any conduct which reasonable persons in similar circumstances would recognize as dishonest in an academic setting. ALL instances of suspected academic dishonesty MUST be reported to the University. Students have the right to appeal. Please see the handbook for the proper procedures.

Penalty: The penalty for an incident of academic dishonesty is a mark of zero for the work in question.

NOTE: the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as deemed appropriate over the course of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with these changes, which will be announced in class.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: Students are responsible for knowing ALL the material assigned for this class; therefore, attendance at every class period is crucial. Students are expected to be in the classroom and in their seat at the time the class begins.

Tardiness: Students will sign in at the beginning of class. Students arriving more than five minutes late will no longer be able to sign the attendance list – this will therefore count as a tardy. Three-3-tardiness equals one absence. At times, students may arrive late to class or have to leave early for justified reasons. If that happens, students have to contact the professor before or after class.

Assignment to make up Absences: Students can make up ONLY 3 Absences by submitting a typed, double-spaced, with the answers for questions included in textbook readings, for the missed day, or any other material. This is a requirement for any absence for any reason. Turn in the class make up within one week of returning to class. Failure to turn in it will result in the loss of 10 points per class’ attendance and participation.

* Athletes: If students are part of a University sport team or University-related activity that requires attendance/miss a class, they must to provide the professor with an official calendar, highlighting the days they will be absent, and they have to submit the class make up paper.

Late Assignment Penalties: An assignment turned in after the beginning of class according to the time stamp on the Blackboard system will receive a 5% penalty for the day it is due. A 10% percent penalty is assessed the following day. An additional late penalty of 10% will be assessed each
following day that it is late (including weekends) until a 50% penalty is reached. Assignments will not be accepted for credit one week after the assignment is due.

**Extensions:** There are times when students have difficulty managing academic workloads. It is possible to ask for an extension on an assignment before the due date. An extension penalty of 3% will be assessed on all extended work. If a student fails to turn in an assignment by the new due date, the regular late penalties will apply. Customarily, only one extension is allowed per semester.

**Email Policy:** Outside of office hours, the best way to communicate with the instructor is via email. However, it is critical that students provide their name and course reference number in the subject line of all correspondence. The University of St. Thomas e-mail system is the official system for this class. I will use the @stthom.edu addresses to communicate with students. Students must check their UST email regularly as I will send important reminders and useful information via email throughout the semester.

**Electronic Device Policy:** Due to widespread abuse of the privilege in previous classes, student use of laptops in the classroom is conditional on their use only for taking class notes. If any student is caught using his or her laptop for anything other than classroom activity, the student will receive a 3 point penalty off the attendance grade per instance. Cell phones must be silenced during class. Text messaging and other uses of electronic devices are strictly prohibited. If a student is caught text messaging or otherwise violating this policy, he or she will receive a 3 point penalty off the attendance grade and will be warned once. If the behavior continues, they will be asked to leave the classroom.

**Withdrawal from course** it is students’ responsibility to withdraw from the class.

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### Course Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Themes/Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments/due dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M Jan 23</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>W Jan 25</td>
<td>Reconstruction 1865-1877</td>
<td>Chapter 15-Henretta, 478-505</td>
<td>Plagiarism Tutorial Workshop 1</td>
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<td>M Jan 30</td>
<td>Conquering a Continent 1854-1890</td>
<td>Chapter 16-Henretta, 508-536</td>
<td>Notes-Color Purple 1 Pg: 1-73 Workshop 2</td>
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<td>W Feb 1</td>
<td>Industrial America</td>
<td>Chapter 17-Henretta, 544-571</td>
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<td>The Victorians Make the Modern</td>
<td>Chapter 18-Henretta, 574-602</td>
<td>Notes-Color Purple 2 Pg: 74-145 Workshop 4</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>W Feb 8</td>
<td>Rise and Reform of Industrial Cities</td>
<td>Chapter 19-Henretta, 606-632</td>
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<td>M Feb 13</td>
<td>Populism and Progressivism</td>
<td>Chapter 20-Henretta, 636-664</td>
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<td>W Feb 15</td>
<td>An Emerging World</td>
<td>Chapter 21-Henretta, 684-699; 706-709</td>
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<td>M Feb 20</td>
<td>Discussion Color Purple</td>
<td>Essay Bb</td>
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<td>W Feb 22</td>
<td>Great Depression and New Deal</td>
<td>Chapter 22-Henretta, 718-729; 736-745</td>
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<td>M Feb 27</td>
<td>New Deal Continued</td>
<td>Chapter 23-Henretta, 745-763</td>
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<td>W Mar 1</td>
<td>Midterm Review</td>
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<td>M Mar 6</td>
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<td>W Mar 8</td>
<td>America in World War II</td>
<td>Chapter 24-Henretta, 766-797</td>
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<td>Mar 13-Mar 17</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>M Mar 20</td>
<td>Postwar, Containment and Korean War</td>
<td>Chapter 25, Henretta, 806-818</td>
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<td>W Mar 22</td>
<td>Cold War Anti-Communism and Liberalism</td>
<td>Chapter 25, Henretta, 818-834</td>
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<td>M Mar 27</td>
<td>Cold War Confrontations</td>
<td>Chapter 26, Henretta, 840-865</td>
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<td>Civil Rights</td>
<td>Chapter 27, Henretta, 870-892</td>
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<td>M Apr 3</td>
<td>Civil Rights continued</td>
<td>Chapter 27, Henretta, 914-933</td>
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<td>W Apr 5</td>
<td>Vietnam War</td>
<td>Chapter 28, Henretta, 904-914</td>
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<td>M Apr 10</td>
<td>Vietnam War continued</td>
<td>Chapter 28, Henretta, 914-933</td>
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<td>W Apr 12</td>
<td>Liberal Crisis and Conservative Rebirth</td>
<td>Chapter 29, Henretta, 938-949</td>
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<td>Liberal Crisis and Conservative Rebirth</td>
<td>Chapter 29-Henretta, 950-964</td>
<td>In-Class Peer Review</td>
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<td>Foreign Policy</td>
<td>Chapter 30-Henretta, 974-999</td>
<td>Workshop 21</td>
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<td>M Apr 24</td>
<td>Global and National dilemmas</td>
<td>Chapter 31-Henretta, 1004-1015</td>
<td>Research Paper</td>
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<td>Global and National dilemmas</td>
<td>Chapter 31-Henretta, 1018-1033</td>
<td>Workshop 23</td>
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<td>M May 1</td>
<td>Documentary TBA</td>
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<td>Workshop 24</td>
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<td>W May 3</td>
<td>Last Day of classes</td>
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<td>Workshop 25</td>
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<td>W May 10</td>
<td>12:00-2:30 Final Exam</td>
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