**HISTORY 12 - HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1877, FALL 2012**

**10:00 to 10:50am MWF Class (#52274) and 9:30 to 10:45am T/Th Class (#52701)**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Randy Genera **Phone: (559-638-3641,Ext 3296); Email address**: randy.genera@reedleycollege.edu

**Office:** CCI - 210 **Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri: 9:00 to 9:45am; Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00am to 12:30pm**

**HISTORY 12 COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course traces the development of the United States from 1877 to the present, evaluating the events, individuals, and factors that have transformed America into a complex, multicultural, twenty-first century global superpower.

**BASIC SKILL ADVISORIES FOR HISTORY 12: Eligibility for English 125 and 126.**

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR HISTORY 12**: Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the changing characteristics of American political and governmental institutions since 1877.

2. Analyze the fundamental changes in the American economy since 1877.

3. Identify the key trends and movements in American cultural, social and intellectual life since 1877.

4. Analyze the causes and consequences of America’s foreign policy, wars, and rise to global prominence since 1877.

5. Identify the contributions and changing roles of gender and ethnic groups in American history since 1877.

**REQUIRED TEXT**: *American Histor: Connecting with the Past,* *Volume 2*, 14th Edition, by Alan Brinkley. **Every student must have this textbook.** Note: the 13th edition of the textbook is acceptable, and some copies of earlier editions of the textbook are available for short-term checkout at the Reedley College Library.

**ALSO REQUIRED:** A set of “History 11 Homework Assignments and Study Guides.” This comes in a shrink-wrapped package and must be purchased at the Reedley College Bookstore. **EVERY STUDENT MUST PURCHASE THIS ITEM.**

**SEATING CHART**: A seating chart will be prepared during the first week of the semester. You will be assigned to a specific seat in the classroom. If you want to towards the front of the classroom for better hearing or viewing, inform the instructor. Once the seating chart is finalized, all students must sit in their assigned seats

CELL PHONE ALERT: This class is a **NO CELL PHONE ZONE**. All electronic devices for communication or music-playing must be off and away from sight. Headphones and earbuds are also not allowed. If you must have access to your phone for emergency reasons, inform the instructor before class. Otherwise, all cell phone use is prohibited, including checking a device for messages, allowing a phone to ring, or leaving class to use a phone.

Every violation of the “no cell phone policy” will result in a five point penalty for the student responsible for the incident. The student may also be penalized with: (1) suspension from class for the rest of the class session when the incident occurs, and (2) loss of access to the History 12 Blackboard site for a period of time.

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:** The overall course grade for History 12 depends on the components below.

* **FIVE EXAMINATIONS** **(100 points each):** **(100 points each):** **five** examinations based on assigned readings and course lectures. The fifth (and final) exam is NOT comprehensive. All five exams count toward the overall course grade; **no exam score will be dropped.**

* **ONE TERM PAPER (100 points plus the possibility of bonus points)*:*** a brief (three to five pages) term paper. The instructor will provide students with a list of topics from which to choose.

* **ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS:** **(65 points):** There will be a variety of additional assignments, consisting of quizzes, homework, or turning in class lecture notes for credit. These assignments will count for approximately **65 points**. Quizzes in this class will be conducted with **815-E QUIZSTRIPS** (available at the college bookstore).
* **HISTORY HOTEBOOK (35 points with the possibility of bonus points):**Get a thin folder or binder (one-half inch thick or thinner) in which to keep your History 11 materials. The binder should have brads or rings to hold the sheets of paper. The notebook will include:

* **Classroom Lecture Notes:** STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE NOTES ON LECTURES IN THIS COURSE. Thorough, clear lecture notes help students succeed on exams.
* **Homework Assignments.**(PURCHASE THE HOMEWORK PACKAGE AT THE REEDLEY COLLEGE BOOKSTORE.) The instructor has developed a set of homework assignments for each chapter of the textbook; these are intended to help students understand the textbook readings as well as study for the exams given in this class. **Students should read each chapter of the text and answer --in writing-- the questions contained in the homework package**. The homework is tied directly to questions that will appear on examinations, so the homework package serves as a study guide to prepare and review for each exam.
* **BOTTOM LINE:** **Read one chapter of the textbook per week and complete the accompanying homework assignment** while reading the chapter. Each student must do his or her own homework; do not copy answers from another student’s work. Bring your History Notebook, with lecture notes and homework assignments, to every class session. Take lecture notes every day, and complete one chapter’s worth of homework per week. The notebooks will be collected and graded later in the semester.

**HOW YOUR OVERALL COURSE GRADE IS CALCULATED:**

Total points for the semester: 700. The 700 points include the following elements:

* 500 points (five examinations) +
* 100 points (term paper) +
* 65 points (additional assignments such as quizzes) +
* 35 points (History Notebook including textbook homework worksheets and classroom notes) =

Based on 700 points as the maximum for the class, students who earn 90% or more of the possible points will receive an A; 89% to 80% equals a B; 79% to 70% represents a C; 69% to 60% amounts to a D; 59% or lower translates into a failing grade.

BE AWARE OF THE DROP DEADLINE DATE. Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade until the **NINTH WEEK OF THE SEMESTER**. After ***Friday, October 12, 2012***, everyone enrolled in the class **WILL RECEIVE A LETTER GRADE.** Students who miss more than two weeks of class sessions prior to this date may be dropped from the course.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ABSENCES:** In this course, student participation is defined as being present in class, listening to lectures, and taking notes on class lectures. The instructor will take roll every session by distributing a sign-in sheet for signature by all students present. Students who walk out of class early will be marked as absent.

Regular, consistent class attendance is essential to success in this class. **Students with excellent participation (no more than one absence) will receive the benefit of five bonus participation points at the end of the semester.**

EVERY STUDENT MAY MISS **TWO WEEKS OF CLASS** (six class sessions for the MWF class or four class session for the T/Th class)) **WITHOUT PENALTY**. Students who miss more than two weeks of class before the ninth week of the semester may be dropped from the class. After the ninth week drop date has passed, students whose absences exceed the two-week limit will lose five **points** from their point total in class for each absence over the limit. Students with poor participation (excess absences) may also have their access to the course Blackboard suspended until they establish a pattern of regular class attendance.

**ACCOMMODATION:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**UNACCEPTABLE, DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR IN CLASS:** Basic courtesy and respect for the classroom setting are required in order to allow all students an equal opportunity to learn and succeed. Students who check their cell phones, sleep, walk out of class early, read magazines or books, carry on private conversations, or engage in other disruptive behaviorwhile in class is are engaging in disruptive behavior. Such behavior is not acceptableand is subject to any or all of the following penalties: suspension from class for one or two sessions, loss of access to the course Blackboard site, relocation to a seat near the front of class, or loss of five participation points for each case of disruptive behavior.

**CLASS POLICY ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**: In this class, cheating on an exam or quiz will result in a grade of “zero” points on the exam or quiz. In the case of a plagiarized term paper, the student will receive an “F,” typically with a score of “zero.” Plagiarized homework assignments will be assessed a penalty of up to 25 points.

**POLICY REGARDING TEST AND QUIZ MAKEUPS:** Tests represent the primary basis for your grade in this course. The instructor will notify you well in advance as to the date of an upcoming test. It is your responsibility to be prepared and present in class on the day of a scheduled exam.THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY FOR THIS COURSE.Nothing should prevent you from taking an exam on the scheduled day except the most urgent kind of personal emergency.

**EXCEPTIONS:** There may be occasions when you have a school activity or personal appointment that conflicts with the scheduled date for a test. In this case, contact the instructor several days IN ADVANCE and arrange to take the test at another time.

**IF YOU MISS AN EXAM OR QUIZ:**

1. The exam or quiz must be made up WITHIN ONE WEEK. No test scores are dropped in this class. Contact the instructor right away and set a time to complete the make up assignment. **AGAIN, ANY MISSED EXAM, QUIZ, OR HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT MUST BE MADE-UP WITHIN ONE WEEK.**
2. In the case of exams, **the makeup exam will be different from the one taken by the rest of the class** on the regularly scheduled test date. It will cover the same chapters, but it will consist of essay questions and fill-in-the-blank identification questions. Your best chance for success is to be in class on the day scheduled for the regular exam.

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| **KEYS TO SUCCESS AND FINAL COMMENTS:** You don't have to be a rocket scientist or a history major to succeed in this class. You simply need to do the work of a serious college student: read the textbook chapters (one per week), complete the homework assignments, come to class, and take notes on the lecture material. Feel free to ask questions concerning the material presented in lectures and the textbook. If you do these things, you are bound to be successful. A successful class requires a commitment from the students and the instructor to be meaningful and informative for everyone involved. Let’s work together to make this class a genuine success. Welcome to History 12. |

