Course Instructor: Angela Bell
Office hours: by appointment
E-mail: angela.bell@hccs.edu
Phone: (713) 589-3692 before 9:00 p.m.

Course content and description:
This course will cover roughly the second half of American history from 1877 to the present, with special emphasis on the developing concepts of race/ethnicity and gender. Course assignments will require the development of skills in writing, analyzing, reading, organizing, and discussing.

Course readings:
Additional Readings:

Course assignments: Course grades will be based on lectures, readings, and discussions. Each of these three is an integral part of the final grade. Examinations will include essay questions, short answer/identification questions, and objective information and will account for the bulk of your final grade. There will be three short quizzes on the additional readings as well as chronology, vocabulary, and maps. In addition, students will be expected to produce a short paper and a course project. Attendance and participation will also factor into the final grades. There will be no curve in this class.

Grading:
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-test</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Map quizzes (2 at 2.5%)</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings quizzes (3 at 5%)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grading scale:
A=90-100%
B=80-89%
C=70-79%
D=60-69%
F=0-59%

Grade percentages will be rounded from two decimals. For example, an 89.45 and above will be considered a 90%, while an 89.44 will be considered an 89%. A grading scale is listed above.
**Learning Web/Blackboard:** In order to access information needed for this course, you will need to use the college’s Learning Web site and/or the blackboard site. This is where you will be able to access course information, such as the course syllabus, study guides for exams, and instructor contact information. You will also be able to view your grades on Blackboard. Go to [http://learning.hccs.edu/](http://learning.hccs.edu/) and/or [http://hcscs.blackboard.com/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct](http://hcscs.blackboard.com/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct) in order to access the information.

**Attendance:** Student attendance is necessary for success in this class and is worth 10% of your final grade. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the information you need as quickly as possible. You will need to ask other students in order to receive lecture information. Assignments and other pertinent information are available from the course instructor.

**Powerpoints, lecture notes, and assignments will not be posted online. This is not negotiable.** In addition, an extra credit assignment may be given throughout the semester. Students will not be able to participate in the extra credit activity if absences exceed four (4) throughout the semester.

**Blue Books for Exams:** Each student will be required to supply three 8 ½” x 11” blue books for taking exams. They are available at the campus bookstore for a minimal price. Each student must bring three blue books to class by Week 3 of class (February 1). A grade will not be assigned for the midterm exams until the instructor has received blue books from a student.

**Missed exams and quizzes:** Exams and quizzes must be taken on the days and times indicated on the syllabus. If an emergency occurs preventing you from taking a quiz or an exam, it is your responsibility to make a reasonable and timely effort to contact the instructor (i.e., send an email) BEFORE THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD. Exams and quizzes can only be made up with a valid note from a relevant person (doctor, psychiatrist, funeral director, etc.). Make-up exams and quizzes are likely to be more challenging than those given at regularly scheduled times.

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Service Office. You can reach the Northwest ADA Counselor at 713.718.5708.

**Mission Statement:** The Houston Community College System is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering academic preparation, and lifelong learning opportunities that prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in an increasingly international and technological society. The Northwest History Department will provide an environment conducive to learning and encourages academic excellence. Furthermore, the History faculty will encourage the development of the following competencies: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Critical Thinking and Computer Literacy.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person’s work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. Plagiarism includes turning in someone else’s work as your own. It also includes the use of
unattributed sources in your written work. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration, consult the course instructor. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. For your own protection, familiarize yourself with the University’s policies on academic dishonesty.

Course Repeat Notice: NOTICE: Students who take a course for the third time or more must now pay significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. At HCC it is an additional $50 per credit hour. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test-taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

List of lecture topics:
Week 1
1/18—Course introduction/The Legacy of the Civil War and Reconstruction

1/20—The South and the Importance of Race
Reading—Ayers, pp. 401-413, 420-430

Week 2
1/25—The Urban North—the Gilded Age and Industrialization
Reading—Ayers, pp. 416-419, 460-467; Ables pp. 13-19
Vocabulary quiz 1

1/27—The Urban North and the New South
Reading—Ayers, pp. 438-446, 451-458, 467-472
Map Quiz 1

Week 3
2/1—Taming the West—Westward Expansion
Reading—Ayers, pp. 413-416, 446-451; Baum, pp. 9-86, Chapters 1-6
Bluebooks due

2/3—Settling the West—Farm and Labor Protests
Reading—Ayers, pp. 432-437, 477-483; Baum, pp. 87-183, Chapters 7-12; Ables, pp. 27-33
Vocabulary quiz 2

Week 4
2/8—Imperialism—Expanding the Borders
Reading—Ayers, pp. 473-477, 497-511; Baum, pp. 184-254, Chapters 13-18
Paper choice 1 due

2/10—The Progressive North
Reading—Ayers, pp. 472-473, 483-489, 513-525; Baum, pp. 255-314, Chapter 19-24 and Afterword
Chronology quiz 1
Week 5
2/15—The Progressive Nation
Reading—Ayers, pp. 489-497, 525-554
Baum quiz

2/17—Exam #1

Week 6
2/22—World War I
Reading—Ayers, pp. 554-587; Ables, pp. 63-69

2/24—The Red Menace—WWI, Race, and the Red Scare
Reading—Ayers, pp. 587-595
Vocabulary quiz 3

Week 7
3/1—Clashes of the 1920s
Reading—Ayers, pp. 597-622

3/3—The Great Crash—Onset of the Great Depression and the First New Deal
Reading—Ayers, pp. 624-636
Vocabulary quiz 4

Week 8
3/8—The Great Depression—the Dust Bowl and the Second New Deal
Reading—Ayers, pp. 639-665, 667-674

3/10—World War II—View from Across the Ocean
Reading—Ayers, pp. 636-639, 665-667, 674-686; Ables, pp. 125-132
Map Quiz 2

3/14-3/18—Spring Break, NO CLASS

Week 9
3/22—World War II—Impact on America
Reading—Ayers, pp. 686-699
Paper choice 2 due

3/24—The Bomb and the Beginnings of the Cold War
Reading—Ayers, pp. 699-707, 716-719
Chronology quiz 2

Week 10
3/29—The Good Old Days—Communism, Consumerism, Consensus, and Conformity
Reading—Ayers, pp. 709-716, 719-724, 744-753

3/31—Exam #2
Week 11
4/5—The McCarthy Era
Reading—Ayers, pp. 725-740
Vocabulary quiz 5

4/7—Black vs. White—the Beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement
Reading—Ayers, pp. 740-743; Baldwin, pp. 1-10
Projects due

Week 12
4/12—The Turbulent 1950s?—Balancing Race and Communism
Reading—Ayers, pp. 753-768; Baldwin, pp. 11-65
Vocabulary quiz 6

4/14—The Dream Dies—Vietnam, the Great Society, and the New Left
Reading—Ayers, pp. 768-780; Baldwin, pp. 66-106

Week 13
4/19—The Civil Rights Movement—the Women’s Movement, Black Power, and Gay Rights
Reading—Ayers, pp. 780-787
Baldwin quiz

4/21—The Traumas of 1968 and the 1970s
Reading—Ayers, pp. 787-800; Ables, pp. 221-234

Week 14
4/26—Retrenching in the 1970s—the Rise of the Religious Right
Reading—Ayers, pp. 800-826; Baer, pp. xvii-70, Prologue and Part 1; Ables, pp. 283-289
Vocabulary quiz 7

4/28—The 1980s—The Reagan Revolution
Reading—Ayers, pp. 828-843; Baer, pp. 71-147, Part 2
Paper choice 3 due

Week 15
5/3—Desert Storm and the New World Order
Reading—Ayers, pp. 844-862; Baer, pp. 149-223, Part 3 and Epilogue
Chronology quiz 3

5/5—The World of 9/11—Terrorism, Genocide, and the New Normal
Reading—Ayers, pp. 862-883
Baer quiz

Final Exam—Tuesday, May 10, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.