

Three Rivers Community College  
US History II CRN 11644  
K202 B1  
Wed: 6:00 – 8:45

Chuck Marcotte, Instructor  
E-mail: [cmarcotte@trcc.commnet.edu](mailto:cmarcotte@trcc.commnet.edu)

## Syllabus: Spring 2015

### Required Texts:

Brands et al. American Stories: A Brief History of the United States 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Volume 2.  
Sinclair, Upton. The Jungle. You may purchase this book on your own or read it in its entirety at:  
[http://www.literatureproject.com/jungle/index.htm#TOC\\_Section\\_2](http://www.literatureproject.com/jungle/index.htm#TOC_Section_2)

In addition to the above texts a series of primary and secondary source handouts, assignments, sample papers and guidelines, will be provided on my **Blackboard** site.

**Course Description:** This course is a survey of American history from colonial times to 1877 including the major political, economic, social, cultural, and diplomatic developments in American history, such as the revolution, the Constitution, Jefferson, Hamilton, Jackson, Sectionalism, slavery, mid-century expansionism and the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

### Course Outcomes:

- 1) Explore the complexity of the human experience;
- 2) Develop a body of historical knowledge explaining the dynamics of change over time;
- 3) Interpret and contextualize the past on its own terms;
- 4) Evaluate a variety of historical sources, primary and secondary, for their credibility and utility;
- 5) Generate a historical argument that is reasoned and based on historical evidence;
- 6) Combine argument and evidence into effective narrative that describes and analyzes the past.

**Attendance:** Lectures in this course complement and supplement the assigned readings they do not repeat them. As a consequence your attendance is, in this course, a requirement. Each class represents a full week of academic instruction. More than two missed classes will result in a reduced grade (one-full letter grade for each additional class). Chronic lateness will be treated as an additional absence. You must sign the attendance sheet prior to each class. See me about any anticipated unavoidable absence well before the date in question.

### Assignments/Exams:

- ❑ **Five critiques** (about **one [+] page[s]** in length) on the articles assigned from the readings I provide on BlackBoard or from handouts provided in class.

- ❑ **Research Paper** (five pages in length) the paper must be submitted in hard copy as well as a PDF file.
- ❑ **A Legal Brief** on a Supreme Court decision.
- ❑ \* A series of **quizzes** on readings from the text (if needed). You will take these quizzes at the beginning of class. Quizzes should last no longer than 15 minutes.
- ❑ **Test** on the book The Jungle by Upton Sinclair.
- ❑ A **mid-term** and **final exam**.

\*In order to be successful in this class, you must read the assigned material carefully and participate regularly in class discussions. If classroom discussion is unusually weak or lacking, quizzes will take its place. The purpose of a quiz is to test that which would normally be determined through vigorous class discussion; therefore, when discussion is weak or limited to only a few students, a quiz will surely follow.

**Grading Policy:** Your grade in this class will be determined by the average of the total amount of points received on all assignments.

#### **Further Notes**

- ❑ Quizzes and critiques missed due to absence or lateness cannot be made-up.
- ❑ Unless there are extenuating circumstances, absence from the mid-term exam must be made up prior to the next class. Absence from the final exam must be made up by May 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be your responsibility to make arrangements with me to make up exams.
- ❑ Late papers (i.e. book reviews, major essays, etc.) will lose one letter grade per day...There **will be no exceptions**. If you know you are going to be absent from class on the date a paper is due either turn in the paper a week before or e-mail me the paper as an attached file before the start of class on the due date. Make sure you request a confirmation email from me.
- ❑ Each of the assigned papers must be typed. Papers must use 10 to 12 point Times New Roman font (or a similar type font). **MLA format** will be followed for headings, headers, in-text citations and works cited pages (when applicable). Papers that do not meet the required length will be penalized accordingly.
- ❑ Cell phones are NOT to be used in class.
- ❑ Check your e-mail. Topic outlines and articles may be sent as attached files in order to reduce paper use.

Please be advised that the instructor reserves the right to change or modify the syllabus.

#### **College Withdrawal Policy:**

Students may withdraw, in writing at the Registrar's Office, for any reason until the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> week of classes. From the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> week through the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor.

**Disabilities Statement:**

If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. You can make an appointment with a DSP by calling (860) 383-5217. Please note:

- 1.) For academic adjustments, you will have to provide documentation of your disability to the DSP.
- 2.) Instructors cannot provide adjustments until you have delivered written authorization (from a DSP) to the instructor.
- 3.) Adjustments take effect when you deliver your written authorization to the instructor in person (provided there is adequate time for the instructor to make necessary arrangements).
- 4.) Adjustments do not apply to tests/assignments that were due prior to your delivering written authorization to your instructor in person.

**TRCC Disabilities Service Providers**

Matt Liscum

(860) 383-5240 Room A-119

- Physical Disabilities
- Sensory Disabilities
- Medical Disabilities
- Mental Health Disabilities

Chris Scarborough

(part time) (860) 892-5751  
Room A-119

- Learning Disabilities
- ADD
- Autism

**MyCommnet Alert:**

myCommNet Alert is a system that sends text messages and emails to anyone signed up in the event of a campus emergency. Additionally, TRCC sends messages when the college is delayed or closed due to weather.

All students are encouraged to sign up for myCommNet Alert. A tutorial is available on the Educational Technology and Distance Learning Students page of the web site.

[http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/div\\_it/educationaltechnology/Tutorials/myCommNetAlert/MIR3.html](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/div_it/educationaltechnology/Tutorials/myCommNetAlert/MIR3.html)

**Digication Statement:**

All students are required to maintain a learning portfolio in Digication that uses the (Three Rivers) College Template. Through this electronic tool, students can see their

own growth in college-wide learning. The student can keep and continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select random works to improve the college experience for all. No names will be attached to the assessment work; it will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. In class outlines, students will find recommended assignments which support various college-wide learning abilities. The student will have a tool which can integrate their learning from the classroom, school, and life and allow for another opportunity of learning at TRCC! Students will be able to make multiple portfolios.

**Assignments:**

To supplement and complement the following reading assignments you will receive additional handouts dealing with the topics listed below. These handouts will include both primary and secondary sources.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
January 28	Topics: Course overview, Reconstruction and Government to 1877 Readings: Brands: Chapter 16, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 1
February 04	Topic: Big Business and Organized Labor Readings: Brands: Chapter 18, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 2
February 11	Topic: Emergence of Urban America <b>Critique 1 due</b> Readings: Brands: Chapter 19, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 3
February 18	Topics: Politics of the Late 19 <sup>th</sup> Century and the Agrarian Revolt Readings: Brands: Chapter 20, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 4
February 25	Topics: The Progressive Era; <b>The Jungle Due (Test)</b> Readings: Brands: Chapter 22 and 23, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 5
March 04	Topics: An Emerging World Power <b>Critique 2 due</b> Readings: Brands: Chapter 21, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 6
March 11	<b>Mid-term Exam</b>
March 18	<b>No Class Spring Break</b>
March 25	Topics: America and the Great War <b>Critique 3 due</b> Readings: Brands: Chapter 24, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 8
April 01	Topics: Modern Times: The 1920s Readings: Brands: Chapters 25, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 9

April 08      Topics: The Great Depression    **Critique 4 due**  
Readings: Brands: Chapter 26, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 10

April 15      TBD

April 22      Topics: World War II    **Research Paper due**  
Readings: Brands: 27, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 12

April 29      Topics: Cold War America 1945-1960    **Critique 5 due**  
Readings: Brands: Chapter 28, Selected Readings on BlackBoard Week 13

May 06      Topics: Affluence and Anxiety in American Society 1945-1960    **Legal Brief due**

May 13      **Final Exam**