

Sul Ross University  
Rio Grande College  
History 4315  
Fall Semester, 2015  
Instructor: Jim Williamson  
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Text: *The Unfinished Nation*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition  
ISBN: 978-0077-286-347

Class Meetings: MW 4:30 – 5:45

Course Scope:

A history of the United States through the end of the nineteenth century. This course will focus on the political, economic, social, and cultural developments of the country between the Jeffersonian Era and the rise of the United States as a world power.

Course Objectives:

After successful completion of this course:

- a. students will develop an ability to read both history textbooks and primary historical documents comprehensively, analytically, and critically.
- b. students will demonstrate through their performance in the essays and exams and discussions a solid comprehensive knowledge of the subject matter.
- c. students will write college level papers that answer specific questions pertaining to the course subject matter using primary source documents and following writing conventions standards for the social sciences.

Course Evaluation:

Three Exams @ 100 points	300
One Paper (Instructor approved)	100
Total possible points	400

- A 360 – 400
- B 320 – 359
- C 280 – 319
- D 240 – 279
- F < 240

Lecture Topics:

An Agrarian Republic  
The Growth of Democracy  
The South and Slavery  
Industry in the North  
The Territorial Expansion of the United States  
The Coming Crisis and the Civil War

Reconstruction  
Agricultural Frontiers from 1860 – 1900  
Progressive and Reform Movements from 1870 – 1900

Student Objectives:

In order to successfully complete this course, the student must be able to:

Read all assigned materials before class and be prepared to discuss the assignments in detail.  
Students are ultimately responsible for their own success in this, or any other class.

Read Text and Outside Reading Assignments  
Think critically about what has been learned  
Express opinions in class and participate  
Attend classes regularly  
Take notes on visual materials and lectures presented as part of this class  
Form study groups in order to help each other in the learning process  
Take an active role in your own education

Academic Integrity Statement:

Academic integrity is highly valued in our campus community. Academic integrity directly concerns ethical behaviors which affect both the academic environment and the civic community. Academic dishonesty seriously violates the integrity of the academic enterprise and will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty is regarded as any act of deception, benign or malicious in nature, in the completion of any academic exercise. Examples of academic dishonesty include cheating, plagiarism, impersonation, misrepresentation of ideas or facts for the purpose of defrauding, use of unauthorized aids or devices, falsifying attendance records, violation of testing protocols, inappropriate course assignment collaboration, and any other act prohibited by the instructor of record.

Attendance Policy:

Check the Sul Ross Rio Grande College catalog for attendance policies

Technology Requirements:

Internet and Library Data Bases