

## Course Syllabus: Twentieth Century America

### Summer One; 2024

Contact Information: [Msaka@sulross.edu](mailto:Msaka@sulross.edu). If the system goes down or we are hit with a malware attack, use [MarkSaka25@gmail.com](mailto:MarkSaka25@gmail.com) as an emergency backup. Please do not email at this email unless the system goes down, I rarely check it.

### Course Objective

The objective of this course is to examine the history of the United States during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, basically from 1900 to the year 2000. This is a huge undertaking. It covers numerous topics, both foreign and domestic, as well as cultural, social, and political. In 1900, the United States was a continental power (with the exception being possession of the Philippine Islands), having just emerged victorious from the Spanish American War but by World War One in 1917, the American century was born. This continued through the Second World War through the Cold War and the age of the Hyperpower of the 1990s.

Domestically the United States underwent dramatic transformation in terms of population growth, immigration and ethnic change, the emancipation of numerous repressed peoples such as African Americans, Asian Americans, Latino Americans and women thorough various political and social struggles. The United States emerged as an industrial and urban society.

American culture radically shifted to from one of a Victorian and Protestant world view to a multicultural and multi-religious society. The emergence of film and Hollywood, radio and music, theater and dance, the Harlem Renaissance, etc.

In the realm of science and technology, in 1900, we were able to fly (not until 1903) and in 1969, America landed on the moon. We entered the atomic age as well as the digital age.

I of course could go on but you get the point, the twentieth century was amazing.

### Course Structure-Where to Go and How:

This course is a web offered and semi-asynchronous. What is semi-asynchronous? Good question, it means that you work at you own pace but you have specific due dates for the reading s and the short essays.

You must have regular access to the computer and the internet, the course is to be located on your Blackboard.

### Required Readings:

There are no required books for this course but you need to find books pertaining to your research topics.

## **Course Requirements**

There are a number of requirements for this course.

1. Email me within the first week of class and let me know that you have read and understand the syllabus and the requirements for the course.
2. You will be required to research and write three papers/ Each paper will cover a theme in 20<sup>th</sup> century American history. The potential subjects are listed below. Each paper must be based on one scholarly book and possibly two scholarly websites. I need to approve your topic and the sources.
3. The papers should be ten pages, double spaced, 12 font, and this does not include the title page or the endnotes or bibliography. The citations should follow the M.L.A. guidelines.
4. The dates the papers are due are as follows; paper one will be due June 12, and the second paper June 21, and the third paper July 3.
5. The following topics are suggestions but if you have one that you want to pursue, please feel free to suggest the topic and I will probably approve.

The Progressive Era 1900-1920, the First World War 1917-1918; the Raoring 1920s, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Second World War, Homefront U.S.A. 1941-1945; the 1950s, the Early Cold War 1945-1953, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the African American Civil Rights Movement, the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement, the Women Civil Rights Movement, Native Americans in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America, Asian Americans in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the 1970s, the Reagan Years of the 1980s, the Clinton Years of the 1990s, Scientific advances in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Technological advances in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Medical advances in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1960s Counterculture, or many others, these are just a few ideas.

**Distance Education Statement:** Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

**ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act):** Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's

responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students who need accessibility services should contact Rebecca Wren at 432-837-8691; Ferguson Hall Room 112.

### Marketability Skills of a History Major

**SLO 1**—The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content.

**Marketable skills**---Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.

Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.

Students can make written presentations to various audiences.

**SLO 2**—The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.

**Marketable skills**---Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.

Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.

Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.

**SLO 3**—The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and Nonameric an history.

**Marketable Skills**---Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.

Students can discharge responsibilities in an adequate manner.

Students can manage the absorption of data.

Papers will be evaluated on the following points:

1. strength of your historical arguments and content
2. how well you have used historical evidence to support your arguments • composition (i.e., spelling, grammar, sentence structure) • form (i.e., correct citation)

**Academic Honesty** the University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. “Cheating” includes: 1. Copying from another student’s test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs, or allowing another student to copy from same. 2. Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test. 3. Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work. 4. Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of a no administered test. 5. Substituting for another student; permitting any other person, or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit. 6. Bribing another person

to obtain a non-administered test or information about a no administered test. 7. Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of a rough and/or final version of an assignment by a professional typist. 8. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea in one's own written work offered for credit. 9. "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit. 10. "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials. 11. "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade. 12. "Falsification of Data" means the representation, claim, or use of research, data, statistics, records, files, results, or information that is falsified, fabricated, fraudulently altered, or otherwise misappropriated or misrepresented.

All academic dishonesty cases may be first considered and reviewed by the faculty member. If the faculty member believes that an academic penalty is necessary, he/she may assign a penalty but must notify the student of his/her right to appeal to the department chair, the dean and eventually, to the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs before imposition of the penalty. At each step in the process, the student shall be entitled to written notice of the offense and/or of the administrative decision, an opportunity to respond, and an impartial disposition as to the merits of his/her case. The decision of the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs shall be final.

---