Assignment Calendar

Below is a calendar of all your assignments due during this semester for quick reference.

| Assignment | Due Date |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Quiz 1 (Chapter 17) | January 28, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 2 (Chapter 18) | February 4, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 3 (Chapter 19) | February 11, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Paper 1 | February 11, 11:59 p.m. |
| Quiz 4 (Chapter 20) | February 18, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 5 (Chapter 21) | February 25, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 6 (Chapter 22) | March 4, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Paper 2 | March 4, 11:59 p.m. |
| MIDTERM EXAM | March 11, 8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. |
| Quiz 7 (Chapter 24) | March 25, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 8 (Chapter 25) | April 1, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 9 (Chapter 27) | April 8, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Paper 3 | April 8, 11:59 p.m. |
| Quiz 10 (Chapter 28) | April 15, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Quiz 11 (Chapter 29) | April 22, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| Paper 4 | April 22, 11:59 p.m. |
| Quiz 12 (Chapter 30) | April 29, 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. |
| FINAL EXAM | May 11, 8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. |

GRADES & ASSIGNMENTS

Grading Scale

For each completed assignment, you will receive a percentage score from 0 to 100. Your grade for the entire course will be based on the your performance on your exams, quizzes, and assignments.

Letter grades correspond to the following scores:

| А | 90 - 100 |
|---|----------|
| В | 80 - 89 |
| С | 70 - 79 |
| D | 60 - 69 |
| F | 0-59 |

Assignment Weights

Your grade in this course will be assessed based on your performance on two exams (one midterm exam and one final exam), 4 small writing assignments, 12 quizzes over assigned readings from the textbook (OpenStax *U.S. History*), and attendance and participation in our class meetings.

Your course assignments will be weighted as follows:

| | Percentage of final course grade |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Papers | 20% |
| Quizzes | 30% |
| Attendance & Participation | 10% |

Midterm Exam (20%)

The midterm exam will be over materials covered in class during the first 8 weeks and over material from chapters 17 through 23 in the OpenStax *U.S. History* textbook. During Week 7, a study guide will be made available on Blackboard. The midterm will consist of multiple choice questions, matching questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, questions related to maps or images, and no more than two short essay questions. The Midterm Exam will be administered on **Friday**, **March 11, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. in PAC 134.**

Final Exam (20%)

The final exam will <u>not</u> be cumulative: instead, it will test you on materials covered in class during weeks 9 through 15 and from chapters 24 through 31 in the OpenStax *U.S. History* textbook. During week 15, a study guide will be made available on Blackboard. The final exam will consist of multiple choice questions, matching questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, questions pertaining to maps or images, and no more than two short essay questions. The Final Exam will be administered on <u>Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. in PAC 134.</u>

Papers (20%)

During the semester, you will have four small writing assignments, two before Spring Break and two after the break. These papers will be all be short: they should be no fewer than <u>150</u> words, but no more than <u>250</u> words in length (at most, this means they should take up about one $8\frac{1}{2}$ inch by 11 inch page). Links will be made available on Blackboard for you to turn your papers in.

Your papers should adhere to the following formatting conditions:

| Margins | 1 inch |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Font | Times New Roman |
| Font size | 12 point |
| Spacing | Double-spaced |

Your name should be in the upper left-hand corner of the page.

The primary documents and questions for the papers will be made available on Blackboard the week before they are due. E.g.: The first paper is due on Friday, February 11 at 11:59 p.m. The document you are to analyze and the assignment instructions will be made available on Blackboard on Friday, February 4.

For each of these papers, you will be asked to examine a primary source or small set of primary sources – documents or artifacts produced by a person or people living in the past. You will then be asked a question about your interpretation of the source(s). Please, consider the source and the question carefully, and think about it for yourself. I do not want you to write down what you think the "right" answer is, or what you think I might want to hear. You are to rely on evidence from the source to make your own interpretation. The point of these assignments is that I want you to develop and express **your own** analysis and perspective.

So long as you adhere to the guidelines, answer the stated question, and rely on evidence from the primary source(s) to formulate your answer, you will do well on these assignments. I will correct grammar, spelling, and syntax errors, but will not downgrade you for them. If you do not answer the stated question, or if your answer is not based on evidence from the primary source(s) provided, you will receive a lower grade.

Below are the due dates for your 4 papers.

- 1. Paper 1: Friday, February 11, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. on Blackboard
- 2. Paper 2: Friday, March 4, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. on Blackboard
- 3. Paper 3: Friday, April 8, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. on Blackboard
- 4. Paper 4: Friday, April 22, 2022, at 11:59 p.m. on Blackboard

At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest paper grade.

Quizzes (30%)

Starting from the last class day of week 2 (Friday, January 28), you will be given short quizzes at the end of most weeks over that week's assigned reading material from the OpenStax *U.S. History* textbook available from Blackboard. These quizzes will always be administered at the beginning of a Friday class meeting, and you will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz. They will consist of a few (5 - 10) questions, including but not limited to multiple choice questions, true/false questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, matching questions, and questions related to maps or images.

These quizzes are not designed to trip you up: they are designed to help you learn, and to help your course grade. All of the information needed to perform well on these quizzes is in the main body of the assigned OpenStax *U.S. History* chapters, so as long as you read the main text of the assigned *U.S. History* chapters, you should do well on your quizzes. The questions will not focus on obscure facts, particular dates, or other details, but on the "big picture" of the chapter. Key individuals, social or cultural movements, ideas, major events, or other changes to U.S. society will be the topical focus of the quizzes.

You will be given a quiz during most weeks of the course; however, during the weeks listed below you will **not** be quizzed. These weeks are:

- 1. The first week of class (Jan. 19 Jan. 21)
- 2. The week of the midterm exam (Mar. 7 Mar. 11)
- 3. The second-to-last week of class (May 2 May 6)
- 4. The week of the final exam (May 9 May 11)

At the end of the semester, I will drop your lowest quiz grade.

Attendance and Participation (10%)

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class session, and attendance records submitted to Memorial High School. It is important that you attend class, as we will go over much of the material that will be on the exams and quizzes during lectures and class discussions. You are also expected to participate by engaging with discussion questions during class periods.

Of course, life happens, and it is likely that there will be times you are unable to attend class in person. Note that you do not need to contact me about why you are absent: there are no "excused" or "unexcused" absences, only absences.

For this course, as in all college courses, you have a limited number of absences which you may take before you fail the course entirely. In light of the present situation with the coronavirus pandemic and its broader societal impacts, you will have a higher number of potential absences than you would normally be given. You may be absent from this course up to <u>7 times</u> before your course grade is impacted. If you are absent an eighth time, the maximum highest grade you may earn for attendance and participation will be reduced to 5% of your final course grade. If you are absent a ninth time, you will receive "0%" for your attendance and participation grade. If you are absent a tenth time, you will fail the course entirely, and will receive a final course grade of "F."