

HIST 152: United States Since 1877

UNIV 103, M/W/F 1:00-1:50PM

Office and Hours: REC 403, M/W 10:30A – 12:30P

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Course Description

The struggle to balance individual freedom with the collective needs of society is a characteristic feature of modern democracies, all of which need to make decisions about how to achieve a workable balance between these occasionally competing interests. These struggles between individual liberty and the collective interests of the American nation-state will serve as a guiding theme for our exploration of U.S. history since 1877.

As noted on the department website, we will begin by emphasizing the problems after Reconstruction, the new industrialism, the last frontier, and agrarian discontent. Attention is focused next upon overseas expansion and the Progressive Era. Later topics include the approach to and participation in World War I, the problems of prosperity during the "normalcy" of the 1920's, the depression and the New Deal, the role of the United States in World War II, the Cold War at home and abroad, the politics and culture of reform in the postwar era, the Vietnam war, the conservative ascendancy of the 1970s and 1980s, and a view of America in the 1990s.

The course will offer students a taste of social, economic, political, cultural, diplomatic and women's history, as well as introduce them to the craft of historical analysis itself.

Course Materials

J. Keene, et al., *Visions of America: A History of the United States* (Volume 2), 2nd. Ed.

MyHistoryLab

Simulation course pack and other materials (will be distributed as assigned)

Reading assignments will be announced in class each week and posted on the class agenda at the beginning of our meetings. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to obtain information about assignments from your fellow classmates using the online Blackboard discussion forum.

Course Assignments

Attendance and Participation (30%)

This portion of will be based on participation in discussion, in-class writing reflections, quizzes and other activities to be determined.

In-class Simulation (40%)

A more detailed description and required materials will be provided later in the course.

Final Exam (30%)

This will be a cumulative exam given during finals week. I will schedule one alternative final exam for those of you who have scheduling conflicts with our regular final exam. The test will be 50% multiple choice and 50% essay. An open review session will also be offered the week before the final exam.

Grade Percentages

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| 96% -100% A+ | 93-96%-A | 90-92%--A- |
| 87-89%--B+ | 83-86%--B | 80-82%--B- |
| 77-79%--C+ | 73-76%--C | 70-72%--C- |
| 67-69%--D+ | 63-66%--D | 60-62%--D- |
| 00-59%--F | | |

Students with Disabilities

If you need any special accommodations to participate fully in class, please see me as soon as possible. I will keep all discussions confidential as long as the situation permits. Please note that, in order for Purdue University to accommodate your needs, you will need to provide appropriate written documentation and have it on file with Student Services. Students should be aware that Services for Student Disabilities are available at 494-1247 if you need further assistance.

Cheating / Plagiarism

Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism, and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will likely result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

Disclaimer

In the event of a major campus emergency, the above requirements, deadlines, and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted once the course resumes on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the professor via email or phone.

Course Schedule

| Week | Topic | Assignment |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| August 20 th | Syllabus Day | |
| August 22 nd | Reconstruction | |
| August 24 th | The West | |
| August 27 th | Gilded Age | |
| August 29 th | Gilded Age | |
| August 31 st | Rise of Cities/Rural Reform | |
| September 3 rd | NO CLASS – LABOR DAY | |
| September 5 th | Modern Society | |
| September 7 th | Modern Democracy | |
| September 10 th | Progressives – Work | |
| September 12 th | Progressive – Government | |
| September 14 th | Progressives – Abroad | |
| September 17 th | Imperial America | |
| September 19 th | Imperial America | |
| September 21 st | World War I | |
| September 24 th | World War I | |
| September 26 th | The Twenties | |
| September 28 th | The Twenties | |
| October 1 st | The Great Depression | |
| October 3 rd | The New Deal | |
| October 5 th | The New Deal | |
| October 8 th | NO CLASS – FALL BREAK | |
| October 10 th | World War II | |
| October 12 th | World War II | |
| October 15 th | | SIMULATION |
| October 17 th | | SIMULATION |
| October 19 th | | SIMULATION |
| October 22 nd | Cold War | |
| October 24 th | Cold War | |
| October 26 th | Nuclear War | |
| October 29 th | New Deal Legacies | |
| October 31 st | Middle America | |
| November 2 nd | Civil Rights Movement (I) | |
| November 5 th | Nixon-Kennedy | |
| November 7 th | Vietnam | |
| November 9 th | Liberalism | |
| November 12 th | Civil Rights Movement (II) | |
| November 14 th | Women's Movement | |
| November 16 th | Downturn and Scandal | |
| November 19 th | Conservatism | |
| November 21 st | NO CLASS – TURKEY DAY | |
| November 23 rd | NO CLASS – TURKEY DAY | |
| December 3 rd | The Nineties | |
| December 5 th | New Threats to Peace | |
| December 7 th | Course Wrap-Up | Final Exam Review Session |
| December 10 th – 15 th | TBA | FINAL EXAM ALT. FINAL EXAM |