

HISTORY 152-1
United States since 1877
Spring 2019

TTH 3:00-4:15 PM
UNIV 201

Instructor:
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Course Description:

This course sets out to explore how social, political, economic, and cultural forces shaped the development of the nation from the late nineteenth through the present. It specifically draws attention to the broad trends, events, and key figures of these times and examines their impact on the lives of ordinary Americans. Topics covered in this course include modernization and industrialization, World War I and II, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Cold War at home and abroad, the Vietnam War, and the Civil Rights Movement.

Assigned Text:

Foner, Eric. *Give Me Liberty! An American History, Volume 2, 4th edition* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2014).
ISBN: 978-0-393-92028-4.
Tyson, Timothy B. *The Blood of Emmett Till* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2017)
ISBN: 978-1476714851

Course Requirements and Policies:

There will be two (2) mid-term exams and a final exam for this course. The two mid-terms will each count for twenty-five percent (25%) of your final grade and the final exam will count for fifty percent (50%). The first mid-term will focus on document interpretation, requiring students to draw on material presented in lectures and the textbook to contextualize and explain two separate exhibits. Mid-term two will consist of two sections, a short-answer identification section and an essay section, that draw on the lecture material, the textbook, *Give Me Liberty!*, and the other course readings. The final exam will be entirely essay in format.

Attendance:

Attendance is not required, but you will find it difficult to do very well in this course if you are not in class regularly. I do not take roll and I give no points for attendance. In return for not treating you like middle-school students, I expect you to be attentive and respect the rights of others to a constructive learning environment. Turn off cell phones and all such handheld devices.

Lastly, this syllabus maybe subject to change as dictated by class needs and at the instructor's discretion.

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading policies are subject to changes made necessary by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. **In the event of such an emergency, I will notify you of key schedule or policy changes by email.**

Syllabus:

Week One: Reconstruction's Demise

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 15, "What Is Freedom?": Reconstruction, 1865 – 1877"

Tuesday, January 8, 2019:

Course Introduction and Lecture: "Presidential vs. Congressional Reconstruction"

Thursday, January 10, 2019

Lecture: "Reconstruction's Collapse and the Rise of the New South"

Week Two: Standardizing the Nation: Innovations in Technology, Business, and Culture

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 16, "America's Gilded Age, 1870 – 1890"

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Lecture: "Industrial Development and the Rise of Corporate Empire"

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Lecture: "Wage Earners and the Culture of Work"

Week Three: Toward an Urban Society

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 17, “Freedom’s Boundaries, At Home and Abroad, 1890 – 1900”

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Guest Lecture: Wil Haygood

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Lecture: “The Spread of Jim Crow and Stirrings of Reform”

Week Four: Political and Cultural Conflict in a Decade of Depression and War

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 18, “The Progressive Era, 1900 – 1916”

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Lecture: “The Politics of Stalemate and the Rise of Populism”

Thursday, January 31, 2019

Lecture: “The Crisis of Depression and the Election of 1896”

Week Five: The Progressive Era

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 19, “Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916 – 1920”

Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Lecture: “The Changing Face of Industrialism”

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Lecture: “The United States Goes to War”

Week Six: From Roosevelt to Wilson in the Age of Progressivism

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 19, “Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916 – 1920”

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Lecture: “Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and the Spirit of Progressivism”

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mid-Term Exam 1

Week Seven: Rise of Modern America

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 20, “From Business Culture to Great Depression: The Twenties, 1920 – 1932”

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Lecture: "City Life in the Roaring Twenties"

Thursday, February 21, 2019

Lecture: "Republican Politics and the Election of 1928"

Week Eight: The New Deal

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 21, "The New Deal, 1932 – 1940"

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Lecture: "The Great Depression and Roosevelt's Plan for Recovery"

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Lecture: "The Impact of the New Deal"

Week Nine: America and the World

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 22, "Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World War II, 1941 – 1945"

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Lecture: "The Road to War"

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Lecture: "The Home Front"

Week Ten: Spring Break

Monday, March 11 – March 16, 2019

Week Eleven: The Cold War

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 23, "The United States and the Cold War, 1945 – 1953"

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Lecture: "Turning the Tide against the Axis Powers"

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mid-Term Exam 2

Week Twelve: Postwar Affluence and Anxiety

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 24, "An Affluent Society, 1953 – 1960"
Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 1 – 5.

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Lecture: "The Postwar Boom"

Thursday, March 28, 2019 Lecture: TBA

Week Thirteen: The Sixties

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 25, “The Sixties, 1960 – 1968”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 6 – 10.

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 Lecture: “The Struggle over Civil Rights”

Thursday, April 4, 2019 Lecture: “LBJ’s Great Society”

Week Fourteen: New Conservatism

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 26, The Triumph of Conservatism, 1969 – 1988”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 11 – 15.

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 Lecture: “Nixon, Watergate, and Its Aftermath”

Thursday, April 11, 2019 Lecture: “The Reagan Revolution”

Week Fifteen: Week Fifteen: Into the Twenty-First Century

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 27, “Globalization and Its Discontents, 1989 – 2000”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 16 – 18, Epilogue.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 Lecture: “The First Bush and the Changing Faces of America”

Thursday, April 18, 2019 Lecture: “Bill Clinton and the Rise of the New Democrats”

Week Sixteen: Into the Twenty-First Century

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 28, “A New Century and New Crises”

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Lecture: “George W. Bush and the Republican Resurgence”

Thursday, April 25, 2019 Lecture: “Barack Obama and Post-Racial Politics”