

U.S. HISTORY FROM 1865 TO THE PRESENT
Spring 2012
Tuesday and Thursday 10:50
Rooms 1/326 and 224

Course Code: AMS 211
Course Id: 01888
Course Credit: 3
Instructor:
Email:

AMS Office: Room 215
Tel.: 66-33-09 ext. 267
Office hours: by appoint.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is a survey course on the history of the United States from the Reconstruction to the present. It traces and analyzes key political, economic, social, and cultural developments of American people since the Reconstruction with particular attention to industrialization, westward expansion, progressivism, World Wars, Cold War, the tumultuous sixties, and conservatism. It is designed to examine how the United States evolved from agrarian nation to an urban, industrialized, and multicultural society; how it rose as a super power in global arena, and how its institutions and value and belief system were formed. The course will also introduce students to some of the sources and methods used by historians to reconstruct the American past. In addition to honing your skills in critical thinking and communicating your thoughts orally and in writing, the course will help you to gain an appreciation for the process by which history is constructed.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Be on time!

Do not sleep in class!

Remain until class is dismissed!

If you leave the room for more than 15 minutes during the class, you will be automatically regarded as absent for that day's class.

Turn off cell phones, beepers, pagers, and other electronic devices! This rule automatically implies that you cannot play any games on your cell phones or any other electronic devices during the class. Students, who disrupt the class and deprive other students of the opportunity to learn, will be asked to leave the room immediately.

Do not carry on private conversations during class!

Respect other students in class!

MAKE-UP WORK AND LATE PAPERS

Make-up examinations will be given only in cases of extreme emergency. You are expected to notify me as soon as possible and to discuss your circumstances with me. Do not otherwise assume that you will be permitted to take a make-up exam. **Late papers and assignments are not accepted!**

I AND X GRADES

I and X grades will be given only in extraordinary cases of an emergency nature such as serious illness, hospitalization, or the death of a close family member. In these cases of extreme emergency, you must notify me as soon as possible. You must provide an appropriate medical or legal documentation indicating your reasons. **DO NOT expect to get I or X grades just because you do not feel like attending the class or doing the course work!! X is an administrative grade, which means that a student is dropped from the course by instructor. So, don't ask or beg for X grade!!**

ATTENDANCE (10%)

DO NOT MISS CLASS! You are expected to attend all classes. Always plan to arrive on time, having completed the assigned readings and prepared for discussions. If you are seriously ill or must miss a class for some emergency reasons, you need to provide an appropriate medical or legal documentation indicating an excused absence. Unexcused absences will significantly lower your course grade.

PARTICIPATION (10%)

Ten (10%) percent of your grade for this course is determined by your participation in class discussions. You are expected to participate in class discussions and encouraged to raise questions. Class participation can help improve your grade. It will NEVER lower your grade. DO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS!

QUIZZES (20%)

Twenty (20%) percent of your grade for this course is determined by pop quizzes that will be given from time to time throughout the semester. They will be administered only during the first 20 minutes of class and be based on that day's reading assignments. SO, DO THE READINGS!! You may use your notes during the quizzes. YOU MAY USE ONLY YOUR OWN NOTES AND STUDY GUIDES! YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE PHOTOCOPIES OF YOUR FRIEND AND/OR CLASSMATE'S ANSWERS AND NOTES. Failure to do so will result in F for the quiz. There will be no make-up quizzes administered to absentees. No extra time is given to students who come late to class on those days.

PRESENTATIONS (20 %)

Each student is expected to make an individual presentation on the topic that he/she has to choose from the provided list. After doing a thorough research on a chosen topic, you will be given 20-25 minutes to present your research findings and to lead the class discussion on a fixed date. An outline of your presentation and list of sources should be submitted **a week before the presentation is due**. Additional guidelines on how to make an historical presentation will be provided during the second week of the semester.

You need to study the topic thoroughly in order to deliver and explain your material effectively, answer your classmates' questions, and engage them into the class discussion. You will also need to submit a short summary of your presentation, which should be limited to 2-3 pages.

DO NOT E-MAIL ME YOUR PAPERS AND DO NOT HAVE THIRD PARTIES HAND IN YOUR PAPERS! I WILL NOT GRADE THEM!

Required format for papers: Times New Roman 12, double-spaced, properly documented footnotes, endnotes, and bibliography. Proofread carefully; errors in grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling will lower your grade.

PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE FAILURE OF THE COURSE!

MIDTERM EXAM (20%)

The midterm exam will be an in-class exam consisting of several short essay questions. All questions are of equal value. The detailed instructions will be provided before the midterm exam.

FINAL EXAM (20%)

The final exam will be an in-class exam consisting of several essay questions. All questions are of equal value. The detailed instructions will be provided before the final exam. **YOUR FINAL EXAM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS YOU SUBMIT YOUR TEXTBOOK.**

GRADING

Grades will be determined by the quality of work demonstrated by each student.

GRADING PERCENTAGE SCALE

10% Attendance	A 93-100%	C 73-76%
10% Participation	A- 90-92 %	C- 70-72%
20% Individual Presentation	B+ 87-89 %	D+ 67-69%
20% Quizzes	B 83-86 %	D 63-66%
20% Midterm Exam	B- 80-82 %	D- 60-62%
20% Final Exam	C+ 77-79%	F 0-59%

GRADING EXPLANATION

A, A-	Excellent work
B+, B, B-	Good, above average work
C+, C, C-	Average work
D+, D, D-	Poor, below average work
F	Failure, unacceptable work

REQUIRED READING

Mary Beth Norton *et al.*, *A People and a Nation: A History of the United States*, Vol. II: *Since 1865* (7th ed., 2005).

Collection of primary documents

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

Week	Dates	Topics
1	August 26	Introduction
	August 29	Chapter 16: Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865-1877, pp.419-451.
2	September 2	Chapter 17: The Development of the West, 1877-1900, pp. 451-476.
	September 5	Chapter 18: The Machine Age, 1877-1920, pp. 479-506.
3	September 9	Chapter 19: The Vitality and Turmoil of Urban Life, 1877-1920, pp. 509-539.
	September 12	Chapter 20: Gilded Age Politics, 1877-1900, pp. 541-565.
4	September 16	Chapter 21: The Progressive Era, 1895-1920, pp. 567-584.

	September 19	Chapter 21: The Progressive Era, 1895-1920, pp. 584-592.
5	September 23	Chapter 22: The Quest for Empire, 1865-1914, pp. 595-607.
	September 26	Chapter 22: The Quest for Empire, 1865-1914, pp. 607-618.
6	September 30	Chapter 23: Americans in the Great War, 1914-1920, pp. 621-639.
	October 3	Chapter 23: Americans in the Great War, 1914-1920, pp. 639-651.
7	October 7	Chapter 24: The New Era, 1920-1929, pp. 651-679.
	October 10	Chapter 25: The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1941, pp. 679-694.
8	October 14	Chapter 25: The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1941, pp.694-711.
	October 17	Midterm Exam
9	October 21 -24	Fall Break
10	October 28	Chapter 26: Peacekeepers and Warmakers: Americans in the World, 1920-1941, 711-727.
	October 31	Chapter 26: Peacekeepers and Warmakers: Americans in the World, 1920-1941, 727-739.
12	November 4	Chapter 27: The Second World War at Home and Abroad, 1941-1945, pp. 739-767.
	November 7	Day of October Socialist Revolution (No class meeting)
13	November 11	Chapter 28: The Cold War and American Globalism, 1945-1961, 767-783.
	November 14	Chapter 28: The Cold War and American Globalism, 1945-1961, 783-797.
14	November 18	Chapter 29: American at Midcentury, 1945-1960, pp. 797-812.
	November 21	Chapter 29: American at Midcentury, 1945-1960, pp. 812-827.
15	November 25	Chapter 30: The Tumultuous Sixties, 1960-1968, pp. 827-841.
	November 28	Chapter 30: The Tumultuous Sixties, 1960-1968, pp. 841-859.
16	December 2	Chapter 31: Continuing Divisions and New Limits, 1969-1980, pp. 859-874.
	December 5	Chapter 31: Continuing Divisions and New Limits, 1969-1980, pp. 874-889.
17	December 9	Chapter 32: Conservatism Revived, 1980-1992, pp.889-917.
	December 12	Chapter 33: Global Bridges in the New Millennium: America Since 1992, pp. 917-947.
18	December 16	Final Exam

*Changes to syllabus can be made upon discretion of the instructor.