

History 212-02
Fall 2005
Moore 226
TR 12:30-1:45

Laurinda de Beck
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This course will survey both chronologically and topically the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. We will seek to understand the events of our history in terms of individual decisions and the forces that shaped them, creating our unique American culture.

1. Required text: Alan Brinkley, American History, A Survey. Vol.II Since 1865. The chapters cited in your reading assignments refers to the Brinkley text It is VERY important for you to read your assignments before coming to class.
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly. (You are responsible for material presented in lectures which may not be in the text.) With 5 unexcused absences, you will be dropped from the class. To be excused, you must contact me within 48 hours of your absence. Most acceptable excuse: you are too ill to be in class.
3. Research projects/student presentations: Some topics in American history deserve a closer look than your text provides. So each of you will be asked to research one of these and give an oral report to the class. Topics and instructions are listed separately.
4. Tests and grades: There will be two one-hour tests and a final exam. You will be given study guides for each. The tests are each 25% of your final grade, the student projects are 25%, and the exam is 25%.

CLASS SCHEDULE

8/16 Introduction

8/18 & 8/23 Chapter 15: Reconstruction, the New South

8/25 Chapter 16: Conquest of the Far West

8/30 & 9/1 Chapter 17: Industrial Supremacy

9/6 Chapter 18: Age of the City

9/8 & 9/13 Chapter 19: From Stalemate to Crisis

9/15 Chapter 20: The Imperial Republic; Student presentations on chapters 15-20

9/20 Chapter 21: Rise of Progressivism

9/22 & 9/27 Chapter 22: Battle for National Reform

9/29 TEST

10/4 & 10/6 Chapter 23: America and the Great War

10/11 NO CLASS: Fall Break

10/13 Chapter 24: The New Era

10/18 & 10/20 Chapter 25: The Great Depression

10/25 Chapter 26: The New Deal; Student presentations on chapters 21-26

10/27 Chapter 27: Global Crisis

11/1 & 11/3 Chapter 28: America in a World at War

11/8 TEST

11/10 & 11/15 Chapter 29: The Cold War

11/15 Student presentations on chapters 27-33

11/17 Chapter 30: The Affluent Society

11/22 Chapter 31: The Ordeal of Liberalism

11/24 NO CLASS: Thanksgiving

11/29 Chapter 32: The Crisis of Authority

12/1 No Reading. Discussion of current issues in this age of globalization.

Exam: Thursday, December 8 at 12 noon.