office hours: Monday & Wednesday 11:00-noon

HIS 212-03 MWF 10:00 am Graham 423

United States History 1865 to present

Fall 2005

This course seeks to familiarize students with the major topics in American History since 1865. We will focus on diverse subjects including politics, race, gender, economics, and culture, all the while attempting to understand how historical events touched everyday citizens. For the most part, the course format will be lecture, although I believe in open discussion and differences of opinion. This is not your high school History class that required you to memorize a lot of dates—we are going to talk about themes and trends, not just spaces on a calendar. Remember, History is not written in black and white, but rather in more murky shades of gray that are open to interpretation.

Texts

The American Journey, Vol. II, portfolio edition by David Goldfield, et al. Make sure to get volume II!

Our text is a condensed version, but still packed with lots of information. We will also have some various reading and handouts along the way.

Assignments & Grading Policies

Midterm exam- 30%

Final- 30%

Seven Reading Quizzes- 25%

Participation & Attendance - 15%

Reading Quizzes are completely surprise quizzes. There will be NO MAKEUP of reading quizzes, unless you have an extraordinarily valid and well-documented reason. There will be seven reading quizzes, each worth fifteen points for a total of 100 points (if you just ran the math, you realize I'm helping you out there.) If you keep up on the reading and with your attendance, these quizzes will be a very easy way to receive points towards your final grade. The two term exams will be a combination of short answer and short essay. They will be based on both the lectures and the assigned readings.

*Important Note—attendance is mandatory, and I will take it each class. As this class is developed around a series of lectures, consistent attendance is the only way to pass the class. No points will be deducted for four (4) unexcused absences; beyond that your participation grade will suffer a ten-point deduction for each class missed. After seven unexcused absences, I reserve the right (given by the registrar's office) to drop you from the course for non-attendance.

Schedule

Not written in stone! But, hopefully, a good planning tool for all of us (flip page over, please...)

| Date | Topics | Readings |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| August 15 | Introduction & Discussion | |
| August 17 & 19 | Reconstruction | Chapter 16 |
| August 22 | The "New" South | Chapter 17 |
| August 24 | Rise of the City | Chapter 18 |
| August 26 | Industrialization & Immigration | Ψ |
| August 29 | The Mystique of the West | Chapter 19 |
| August 31 | Plight of the American Indian | Ψ |
| September 2 & 5 | No class- Labor Day Holiday | Enjoy yourself! |
| September 7 | Why is the Gilded Age Gilded? | Chapter 20 |
| September 9 & 12 | Populist Uprising | Ψ |
| September 14 | Roosevelt's Rampage | Chapter 21 |
| September 16 | Roosevelt, part two | <u> </u> |
| September 19 | Progressives and their President | Ψ |
| September 21 | Splendid Little War | Chapter 22 |
| September 23 | One Last Round for TR | No reading assigned |
| September 26, 28, 30 | The End of the Old World | Chapter 23 |
| October 3 | Versailles and after | Ψ |
| October 5 | Midterm Exam—good luck! | |
| October 7 & 10 | Fall Break | Enjoy yourself! |
| October 12 | The Unfinished Homefront | Chapter 24 |
| October 14 | Do the Twenties Really Roar? | Ψ |
| October 17 | What goes upmust come down | Ψ |
| October 19 | Hoover vs. Roosevelt—a contrast | Chapter 25 |
| October 21 & 24 | The Great Depression | Ψ |
| October 26 | The New Deal | Ψ |
| October 28 & 31 | Roosevelt Rising | Ψ |
| November 2 | Rise of the Isms | Chapter 26 |
| November 4 | The End of Neutrality | Ψ |
| November 7 | Mobilization | Ψ |
| November 9, 11 | The Second World War | Ψ |
| November 14 | Searching for Peace | Chapter 27 |
| November 16 & 18 | War, Hot and Cold | Ψ |
| November 21 | The Myth of the Fifties | Ψ |
| November 23 & 25 | Thanksgiving Break | Enjoy yourself! |
| November 28 | The Kennedy Years | Chapter 28 |
| November 30 | Civil Rights, part one | Ψ |
| December 2 | Civil Rights | Chapter 29 (first half) |
| December 5 | Wrap up & Review for Final | • |
| December 7 | Final Exam Noon – 3pm | Good luck! |