

Course Information



Class Schedule

This folder contains a calendar listing of specific topics, assignments and due dates for the course.



Syllabus

Fall 2010, August 23-December 6

Course Instructor: Susannah J. Link

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UNCG Honor Code

All students are expected to abide by UNCG Honor Code. This means:

- All quizzes should be taken without using the text or any assistance from anyone;
- All writing assignments should be your own work;
- No internet plagiarism, or plagiarism of any kind, will be tolerated. **I will prosecute offenders to the full extent of the system.**
- For more information about the University's academic integrity policy, please visit these links:

Academic Integrity Policy: <http://saf.dept.uncg.edu/studiscp/Honor.html>

UNCG Student Code of Conduct: <http://saf.dept.uncg.edu/studiscp/Honor.html>



Course Description

This course seeks to introduce students to the history of the United States from Reconstruction until the present and will include the events, ideas, and people that have shaped Americans' economic, cultural, social and political experience. The main thrust of the course is to examine how and why the United States was transformed into an urban-industrial nation at home and how, abroad, it emerged as the world's pre-eminent power. In the course, we will cover two world wars, several depressions, the struggle for civil rights, the creation of a military, economic, political, and social colossus, and the emergence of globalization by the early 21st century.



Student Outcomes & Methodology

Student Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- understand how and why the United States became first a world power, then a superpower.
- identify the lasting contributions of the recent American past to our present.
- acquire a knowledge of each of the three eras: Reconstruction through Progressivism, America Becomes a World Power, and the Turn of the 21st Century.
- write competently and describe details, facts, and opinions concerning the subjects covered.

Methodology

lectures/discussion/distance technology/research



Required Text

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Vol. 2, second Seagull edition (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2009).



Course Requirements

This will be an entirely online course. Students should begin by logging onto <http://blackboard.uncg.edu>, and enter their UNCG Novell username, followed by their Novell password. Instructions on using Blackboard are available at this website, but for specific problems, call 6-TECH.

On the BB site, students will find everything needed for the class: audio lectures, primary documents, online quizzes and tests, and entry points for their discussions.

Grading Scale

Students will receive an A or a B in the course only by doing above-average work. I grade on a 10-point scale, so 90 and above is in the A range, 80-89 is in the B range, and so on, with pluses and minuses given at my discretion.

Grade Breakdown

2 tests: 30 percent (15 percent each)

Final exam: 25 percent

Textbook quizzes: 20 percent

Online discussion boards: 25 percent

Assignments

1. Online discussion: All students must participate during distance sessions in the class discussion page. **NB: Students MUST complete online discussion assignments for each of the 8 lessons in the class.** Comments must be posted no later than the deadline indicated on the discussion board, and waiting until the last day or two of the lesson to begin posting will hurt your grade.

The online discussion should be completed after listening to the audio and video lectures and reading the documents. Students may choose which of the posted questions to answer. Ideally, postings should be interactive and should react to what others have said.

Students are graded according to the following measures:

--quality of input,

--ability to generate a reasoned response among your peers,

--ability to integrate and synthesize what others in the class have contributed.

Discussion requirement: Three (3) posts of at least 100 words each per lesson per student.

I will assign grades according to the quality of comments and the degree to which they seek to interact with and engage other students. Those students who do not post at all will receive a discussion grade of zero for that class session; students who do not meet the minimum number of posts will receive a maximum grade of 50 percent. Those who wait until the last day or two of the lesson to begin posting will be graded down on that lesson's discussion.

Three or four students will serve as assigned online discussion leaders beginning

with Lesson 2. Discussion leaders are expected to post three discussion questions on the forum by 9 p.m. the night before the beginning of a new lesson; for example, by 9 p.m. on September 3 for Lesson 2. These questions are in addition to the three regular required posts. Throughout the remainder of the lesson, discussion leaders are responsible for monitoring the discussion, posting more questions and responding to other students in order to keep the discussion lively and focused on the historical context.

2. Quizzes: All students are expected to complete textbook readings on time, according to deadlines established in the course calendar. Upon completion of the readings in each lesson, students will complete a brief, multiple-choice quiz online, which will be available under "Assignments" from 7 am - 11 pm on the last day of that lesson. These are closed-book quizzes.

3. Tests: There will be three (3) tests. These will be online, in an essay format, and will be open book (limited to textbook, lectures, and primary documents for that unit).



Course Organization

The course is divided into 3 units and 8 lessons. There are assignments at both the lesson and unit levels, and students **MUST** complete these according to the deadlines provided.

Assignments: All students must complete the text and primary source readings in the window provided for each lesson. Within each lesson, they should do the following 1) read the textbook assignment and take the chapter quiz (there is one chapter quiz per lesson); 2) listen to the audio lectures (Lessons 1-8); 3) watch the video lectures (Lessons 1, 2, & 6); 4) read the primary sources and comment on the discussion board at least three times.