

HISTORY 212–The United States Since 1865

Fall 2014

Charles Bolton

Office: 2135 MHRA

Office Hours: Mondays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., or by appointment

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Teaching Assistants:

Brian Suttell (R-01 and R-04)

Sarah McCartney (R-02 and R-05)

Matthew Esterline (R-03 and R-06)

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Use a historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing divergent perspectives.
2. Use evidence to interpret the past coherently in writing.

Readings

Hoffman, et al., Major Problems in American History. Vol.II, 3rd edition. (Hoffman) [available at the UNCG Bookstore and other locations]

Other readings noted on the syllabus are available on Blackboard, under Course Documents.

There is also a textbook on reserve at Jackson Library: Roark, et al., Understanding the American Promise, Vol. II, for anyone who would like to consult a textbook.

Discussion Sections

Attendance at weekly discussion sections is mandatory. You are expected to do the assigned readings and be prepared for class. Your class participation grade will be based primarily on your participation in the discussion sections.

Schedule

August 20	Reconstruction
August 22	Discussion Sections Note: For this Friday only, sections will meet in the Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives, located in Jackson Library on the second floor of the main building. Sections R01 and R02 will meet there from 9:00 am – 9:25 am; Section R03 will meet there from 9:25 am – 9:50 am; and Sections R04, R05, and R06 will meet there at 10:00 am. Reading: Hoffman, chapter 1
August 25	The West
August 27	The West
August 29	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 2 (pages 37-50)
September 3	Industrialization
September 5	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 3 Assignment # 1 due
September 8	American Imperialism
September 10	American Imperialism
September 12	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 4
September 15	The Progressive Movement
September 17	The Progressive Movement

September 19	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 5; Lynching Statistics Assignment # 2 due
September 22	World War I
September 24	World War I
September 26	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 6
September 29	The 1920s
October 1	Mid-term Exam
October 3	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 7 Assignment # 3 due
October 6	The Great Depression and the New Deal
October 8	The Great Depression and the New Deal
October 10	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 8 Assignment # 4 due
October 15	World War II
October 17	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 9; Economic Sacrifice ad
October 20	World War II
October 22	The Cold War

October 24	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 10 Assignment # 5 due
October 27	The 1950s
October 29	Civil Rights Revolution
October 31	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 11
November 3	Civil Rights Revolution
November 5	Vietnam War
November 7	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 12; School spending statistics
November 10	Vietnam War
November 12	Lyndon Johnson and Domestic Politics
November 14	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapters 13 and 14 Rewrite of Assignment # 5 due
November 17	Nixon and Watergate
November 19	The 1980s and the New Right
November 21	Discussion Sections Reading: Hoffman, chapter 15; Ford's Pardon of Nixon Assignment # 6 due
November 30	The Recent Past
December 1	The Recent Past
December 8 (8:00 am)	Final Exam

Grading

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Class Participation: 15%

Mid-Term Exam: 20%

Final Exam: 25%

Writing Assignments: 40%

Grading Scale:

A+: 99-100

A: 93-98

B+: 87-89

B-: 80-82

C: 73-76

D+: 67-69

D-: 60-62

A-: 90-92

B: 83-86

C+: 77-79

C-: 70-72

D: 63-66

F: 59 and lower

Writing Assignments:

To complete these assignments, you will first need to read the assigned chapters in Hoffman, Major Problems in American History carefully. The discussion sections will provide instruction in the historical skills you will need to complete these assignments successfully.

Assignment # 1:

Analyze, contextualize, compare, and contrast two or three of the documents in chapter 3 of Hoffman. (2 pages)

Assignment # 2:

Analyze, contextualize, compare and contrast two or three of the documents in chapter 5 of Hoffman. (2 pages)

Assignment # 3

Explain how the primary documents in chapter 7 of Hoffman support or refute one or both of the essays at the end of the chapter. (2 pages)

Assignment # 4

Explain how the primary documents in chapter 8 of Hoffman support or refute one or both of the essays at the end of the chapter. (2 pages)

Assignment # 5

Using the primary documents and secondary essays in chapter 10 as your evidence, answer the following question: Was the United States or the Soviet Union more responsible for the Cold War? (4-5 pages)

Assignment # 6

Using the primary documents and secondary essays in chapter 15 as your evidence, answer the following question: What factors led to the rise of the New Right? (4-5 pages)

All writing assignments should be typed, double-spaced, one-inch margins on all sides, 12-point font. Essays will be graded for both content (what you write) and writing style (how you write). Some discussion about how to write well will be conducted during lectures and in the weekly discussion sessions, but if you need additional help, you can consult Mary Lynn Rampolla's A Pocket Guide to Writing in History (7th ed., 2012) or go to the University Writing Center (located on the 3rd floor of MHRA).

Late assignments will be docked 1/2 letter grade per calendar day (the clock starts ticking at the end of the class meeting when the assignment is due).

For Assignment # 5, you will be required to prepare a first draft, and then after you receive written feedback on that version, you will need to complete a revised version of your essay. For this assignment, 50 percent of your grade will be assigned to your first draft, and 50 percent of your grade will be assigned to your revised essay.

Exams

Your mid-term and final exams will be a combination of identification, short answer questions, and primary source document analysis. The final exam will also include a take-home essay question.

Make-up exams

If an unexpected event occurs that prevents you from taking one of the exams on the scheduled dates, you must contact me within forty-eight hours of the exam to schedule a makeup. You will also need to document your illness or emergency.

Class attendance

Regular attendance at all lectures and discussion sections is expected. You are allowed three unexcused absences in this class. Excused absences, such as for illness or emergency, require documentation. Every unexcused absence after three will lower the student's final grade by one-half of a letter grade. More than five unexcused absences may result in the student being

dropped from the course. Frequent tardiness is not allowed. Two tardies will count as one unexcused absence.

Other things you should know about this class

1. Please turn off cell phones or any other electronic devices before entering the classroom. Checking email, Facebook, etc. during class time is not permitted.
2. You can use a laptop in class to take notes or to access a website if directed by the instructor or your TA. Other uses of your laptop are not approved. Anyone caught violating this policy will have the privilege of bringing a laptop to class revoked for the remainder of the semester and failure to adhere to such a ban will result in grade penalties.
3. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” for the course. The out-of-class writing assignments do not require that you consult any outside materials. If you do consult other outside materials, make sure that you use them only for deep background understanding, not as the basis for your essays. Your essays should be based on your own ideas and written in your own words. If you are unfamiliar with or have questions about the University’s Academic Integrity Policy, you can find additional information at the following website:
<http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>
4. Selling class notes for commercial gain or purchasing such class notes in this or any other course at UNCG is a violation of the University’s Copyright Policy and of the Student Code of Conduct. Sharing notes for studying purposes, or borrowing notes to make up for absences, without commercial gain, are not violations.
5. No incompletes will be allowed as final grades for this course, except in the most dire, unavoidable, and tragic of circumstances.