

HIS 212 – The US Since 1865
Fall 2016 – Dr. Parsons

Professor: Dr. Anne Parsons
Lecture Times: Mon. & Wed., 1:00-1:50
Main Email: Email via Canvas
Secondary Email: aeparson at uncg dot edu

Office Hours: Friday, 9:30 AM-12:00 PM
Office: MHRA, #2112
Lecture Room: Bryan 160

Discussion Section #1 (212-01 – 80167)

Time/Locat'n: F 12-12:50 – BRY 106
Teaching Assistant: Ethan Roy
TA Office: MHRA 2323
TA Office Hours: M, W 2-3
TA Email: esroy@uncg.edu

Discussion Section #2 (212-02 – 84055)

Time/Locat'n: F 1-1:50 – MHRA 1211
Teaching Assistant: Ethan Roy
TA Office: MHRA 2323
TA Office Hours: M, W 2-3
TA Email: esroy@uncg.edu

Discussion Section #3 (212-03 – 84056)

Time/Locat'n: F 12-12:50 – MHRA 1209
Teaching Assistant: Richard Smith
TA Office: MHRA 2323
TA Office Hours: M, W 10-11
TA Email: rmsmi28@uncg.edu

Discussion Section #4 (212-04 – 84233)

Time/Locat'n: F 1-1:50 – MHRA 1206
Teaching Assistant: Richard Smith
TA Office: MHRA 2323
TA Office Hours: M, W 10-11
TA Email: rmsmi28@uncg.edu

Course Description

What were the game-changers that shaped the modern United States? This class promises to answer that question by exploring the people, events, ideas, and inventions that dramatically altered the U.S. since the Civil War and the consequences that those changes had. Throughout the semester, students will deepen their understanding of the country's transformations in economics and labor relations, race and ethnicity, reform and social justice movements, science and technology, gender and sexuality, and the United States in the world. By understanding how these forces constructed modern America, students will be better prepared to understand contemporary issues and to help bring about change in the ways they see fit.

The course breaks down into five sections, each one devoted to a topic. In every section of the course, we will delve into the correlating issue through textbook readings, primary source documents, films, and class discussion. At the end of the section, you will either take an in-class quiz or write a paper to review what you learned during those weeks. The five areas are:

- Defining Freedom
- Storming and Forming
- The United States in the World
- America Divided
- Challenges of a New Century

At the same time, you will learn a set of skills that are central to the study of history, to working in professional environments, and to civic engagement. These skills include the following:

- Using an historical approach to analyze and contextualize primary and secondary sources representing different perspectives. You will be able to think more critically and build your information literacy skills. (Gen Ed. Learning Goal 1)
- Describing, interpreting, and evaluating the ideas, events, and expressive traditions that have shaped collective and individual human experiences through inquiry and an analysis of history. (Gen Ed. Learning Goal 2)
- Using evidence to interpret the past coherently by writing in history's genre. (Writing Intensive Learning Objective 1 and 2)

Graded Work

We will grade you on four main areas: attendance /participation, homework, in-class quizzes, and papers. Your grade does not rely solely on one or two big tests. Instead, in order to get a good grade in this class, you must show consistent effort in all aspects of the course— participating in class, doing the weekly homework assignments, studying for the quizzes, and writing your papers.

Attendance and Participation – 15%

Students are expected to read the assigned materials for each class and to actively participate in the lectures and discussion sections. The instructors and TAs will take attendance at each class, the TAs will evaluate your attendance, preparation and participation in discussion sections, and together we will decide your participation grade.

Homework (InQuizitive & Canvas Exercises) – 25%

The best way to learn something is by doing it. So, each week, in addition to the readings, you will also have regular homework assignments –either in the *Give Me Liberty!* textbook's InQuizitive platform or as posted on Canvas. These exercises will help you understand the readings, making the course easier overall. We will make the InQuizitive and Canvas assignments available two weeks before they are due and will grade these exercises as complete or incomplete (100% or 0%). To receive a “complete” with InQuizitive, you must score 80% or higher. Finally, you will receive two “free passes” – you can skip two homework assignments without penalty.

In-Class Quizzes – 25%

You will take three in-class quizzes in this class that will assess what you have learned in that specific section of the class. You will have 25 minutes to take the quiz and we will base it on the homework, lecture and discussion sections. The quizzes will include a mix of multiple-choice questions, ID questions, a document review, and/or brief essays. If you miss class that day, you must get an excused absence in order to retake the quiz at a later date.

Papers – 35%

Finally, this class is a writing intensive class and will train you to use evidence to interpret the past through two written assignments. In order to foster an environment of learning and success in writing, you will work on outlining, drafting, and revising the papers in discussion sections. You will have the option to revise your papers and all final revisions are due no later than December 4, 2017. The first paper is weighted 15% of your final grade and the second is 20%.

Course Parameters

Late Policy – It is important to hand in assignments on time, both for this class and as a best practice in the professional world. The homework exercises are due no later than the time of class on the day they are due. As for the papers, for every day that a paper is late, we will deduct 3 points from the total grade. If you know of any reason in advance that you cannot hand in an assignment on time, please speak to your teaching assistant.

Digital Devices – Please do not use laptop computers, cell phones, tablets, or other digital devices during lecture. Because the lecture will be based on reviewing and discussing the materials, digital devices will not be necessary. If, for reasons of disability or accessibility, you need to use a digital device, please inform the instructor as soon as possible. Each TA will formulate his own policy regarding digital devices in discussion sections.

Communications – There are many students in the class and the TAs and instructor are committed to answering your questions promptly and effectively. To do that, there are two class rules about communications:

- 1) Please contact your assigned TA first if you have any questions. The TA will then contact the instructor for more information if needed.
- 2) If you have a question about InQuizitive, you must contact the InQuizitive tech support before contacting us. If you contact InQuizitive and cannot resolve the issue, then you can email your TA. You must submit the IT ticket that proves that you contacted InQuizitive when you contact your TA.

Academic Support & Disability Accommodations

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro seeks to promote meaningful access to educational opportunities for all students. Should you have any needs or questions related to disability issues, please contact the [Office of Accessibility Resources and Services](#) (OARS), located in the Elliot University Center, #215. As an instructor, I am committed to making this course accessible to all of the students in it, and will work with OARS to accommodate students' requests. You do not need to disclose details about your disability to the instructor in order to receive accommodations.

For assistance with writing assignments, contact the [UNCG Writing Center](#), where staff members hold appointments both in person and via instant-messaging. [The Digital Media Commons](#) and the [Digital ACT Studio](#) in Jackson Library provide help with multimedia

projects and UNCG's [Speaking Center](#) offers a great resource for building public, small-group or individual speaking skills.

Academic Integrity & Plagiarism

The UNC-Greensboro community values integrity in the work of its students. To that end, you must submit work that you yourself have written. Copying the work of others and passing it off as your own (known as plagiarizing) will not be tolerated in this classroom. The consequences for plagiarism can include receiving a zero for the assignment, a failing grade for the class and/or university sanctions. To prevent plagiarism, all students will submit their papers through Turnitin, which is embedded in Canvas. This program compares students' work to thousands of other websites and student papers in its database.

Required Reading

- Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History* Seagull vol. 2 (New York: WW Norton: 2017).
- Eric Foner, *Voices of Freedom: A Documentary History* vol. 2 (New York: WW Norton: 2017).

You must purchase the 2017 copies of these textbooks because the older versions will not match the assignments in this class. We recommend that you purchase a hardcopy of these two books *Give Me Liberty!* and *Voices of Freedom* as a bundle at the UNCG Bookstore, and you will receive a password for InQuizitive when you do so. If you cannot purchase the bundle, please speak with one of your TAs.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Week 1 – Introductions

8/16 – Lecture – An Introduction to the Class and to the Study of History

8/18 – Discussion Sections – Introductions to the Class and to History

DEFINING FREEDOM

Week 2 –Defining Freedom: The Reconstruction Era

8/21– Lecture – The Meanings of Freedom

Due: *Voices of Freedom* Read Documents 95, 96, and 98 and do the assignment posted on Canvas

8/23 – Lecture – Radical Reconstruction

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty*, Ch. 15 and do the InQuizitive Exercises “How to Use InQuizitive” and the Ch. 15 exercise (Login with Your Textbook Password)

8/25 – Discussion Sections – Reviewing Reconstruction

Week 3 – Defining Freedom: The Reconstruction Era

8/28 – Lecture – *Slavery By Another Name*

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom*, Document 99 and do the assignment posted on Canvas

8/30– Lecture and In-Class Quiz – Gender, Sexuality, and Freedom

Due: Study for In-Class Quiz

9/1 – Discussion Sections – Reviewing Reconstruction

STORMING AND FORMING

Week 4 – Storming and Forming: Westward Expansion

9/4 – Labor Day – Enjoy the Weekend!

9/6 – Lecture – Westward Expansion

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 16, pp. 613-629 and do the assignment posted on Canvas

9/8 – Discussion Sections – Review Westward Expansion

Week 5 – Storming and Forming: Industrializing America

9/11 – Lecture – The Second Industrial Revolution & Paper #1 Handed Out

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 16, pp. 603-613 and 629-647 and do InQuizitive Ch. 16

9/13 – Lecture – Industrialization and Changing Gender Roles

Due: Do the assignment posted on Canvas

9/15– Discussion Sections – Work on Paper #1

Due: Paper #1 Worksheet on Canvas

Week 6 – Storming and Forming: Social Change in the Progressive Era

9/18 – Lecture – Organizing Workers in the Industrial Age

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 18 pp. 691-702 and Read *Voices of Freedom*, Documents 118 and 123

9/20 – Lecture – People on the Move: Immigration

Due: Draft Paper #1

9/22 – Discussion Sections – Paper #1

Due: Rough Draft of Paper #1 – Bring a hardcopy to discussion section and post to Canvas

Week 7 – Storming and Forming: The Search for Order in the Progressive Era

9/25 – Lecture – Social Order & Social Control: The Progressive Era

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 18 pp. 702-733 and do InQuizitive Ch. 18

9/27 – Lecture – Progressive Era: Ida B. Wells and Challenging the Racial Order

Due: Edit Paper #1

9/29 – Discussion Sections – Review the Progressive Era

Due: Submit final draft of Paper #1 in hardcopy and via Canvas

THE UNITED STATES IN THE WORLD

Week 8 – An Emerging Power

10/2 – Lecture – An Era of Empire and World War I

Due: Do the InQuizitive Ch. 17 Map Exercises

10/4 – Lecture – The Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 20 and do InQuizitive Ch. 20

10/6 – Discussion Sections – Review the United States as an Emerging Power

Week 9 – World War II

10/9 – Fall Break – No class. Take a well-deserved break!

10/11 – Lecture – The World at War Again: World War II

Due: Read Ch. 22 and do InQuizitive Ch. 22

10/13 – Discussion Sections – Review America in World War II

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 147 and 152 and do the assignment posted to Canvas

Week 10 – The Opening of the Cold War

10/16 – Lecture – World War II

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 153 and 154 and do the assignment posted to Canvas

10/18 – Lecture and In-Class Quiz – The Cold War in the Atomic Age

Due: Study for In-Class Quiz

10/20 – Discussion Sections – Review the United States in the World

A DIVIDED AMERICA

Week 11 – A Divided America: The Age of Liberalism

10/23 – Lecture – New Deal Liberalism

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 21, pp. 818-837 and do InQuizitive Ch. 21

10/25 – Lecture – Liberalism in the 1950s

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 157 and 159 and do assignment posted to Canvas

10/27 – Discussion Sections – Review the Age of Liberalism

Week 12 – A Divided America: The Civil Rights Era

10/30 – Lecture – Civil Rights Activism

Due: Read Ch. 25 and do InQuizitive Ch. 25

11/1 – Lecture – Beyond Civil Rights

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 175, 177, and 178 and do the assignment posted to Canvas

11/3 – Discussion Sections – Review Civil Rights and Beyond

Week 13 – A Divided America: Rising Conservatism

11/6 – Lecture – The Rise of Conservatism – Paper #2 Handed Out

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 180, 184, and 185 and do assignment posted to Canvas

11/8 – Lecture and In-Class Quiz – Reagan and the 1980s

Due: Study for In-Class Quiz

11/10 – Discussion Sections – Review America Divided and Prepare for Paper #2

Due: Paper #2 Worksheet – Due in hardcopy and via Canvas

CHALLENGES OF A NEW CENTURY

Week 14 – The Challenges of a New Century: The Turn of the Millennium

11/13 – Lecture – The Post-Cold War World and Globalization

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 27 and do InQuizitive Ch. 27

11/15 – Lecture – The Culture Wars

Due: Draft rough draft of Paper #2

11/17 – Discussion Sections – Review Challenges of a New Century

Due: Submit rough draft of Paper #2 to TAs in hardcopy and via Canvas

Week 15 – Challenges of a New Century: The Twenty-First Century

11/20 – Lecture – Globalization and the Digital Age

Due: Read *Give Me Liberty!* Ch. 28 and do InQuizitive Ch. 28

11/22 – Thanksgiving Holiday – No Lecture. Take a breather if you can!

11/24 – Thanksgiving Holiday – No Discussion Sections.

Week 16 – Challenges of a New Century: Contemporary Social Issues

11/27 – Lecture – Struggles over Freedom in the Twenty-First Century

Due: Read *Voices of Freedom* Documents 194, 195, 196, and 197 and do assignment posted to Canvas

11/29 – Lecture – Looking to the Future

Due: Submit a hardcopy of Paper #2 due in hardcopy and via Canvas

Thank you for a wonderful semester!