

# U.S. History Survey, 1865 – 1965

## HIS 212-09 Spring 2004

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Office Hours: Tuesday 11-12

**Course Description:** This class examines the political, social, and cultural history of the United States from 1865 to 1965. We will explore several major themes in American history including: industrialization, immigration, the culture of consumption, civil rights, and social reform. Throughout, we will pay careful attention to the ways in which racial, ethnic, class, and gender differences have shaped historical experiences. We will bring all of this material together by focusing on the ongoing construction of the ideal of “America” during this period and on the struggles of disparate groups of Americans to realize the promise of “liberty and justice for all.”

**Learning Goals:** In addition to fostering historical literacy, the class has the following goals:

1. Cultivate the habits of historical thinking – interpretation, causal reasoning, critical questioning, and empathy – necessary to make informed and independent arguments about the American past.
2. Build skills in visual literacy. Learn to read and analyze the historical messages in photographs, political cartoons, paintings, and films.
3. Practice historical research skills and analyze primary documents.

### Required Reading

**All readings are available in the bookstore**

Faragher, et. al, Out of Many: A History of the American People, vol. 2

Faragher, et. al. Out of Many, Documents Set

Kate Chopin, The Awakening

Anne Moody, Coming of Age in Mississippi

### Grading and Assignments

Class participation 10% (attendance, discussion)

Short Writing Assignments 30% (Choose 3 assignments, 3-4 pages each)

Midterm 30%

Final Exam 30%

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is required. An excused absence requires a doctor's note. **Dropping the course is your responsibility. Students will not be dropped from the course for non-attendance.**

## **Course Schedule**

### **Tuesday Jan. 13 Introduction**

### **Thursday Jan. 15 America in 1876**

Textbook: xxviii-xxxi – Community and Diversity

*Slides: 1876 Fair*

### **Tuesday Jan. 20 Reconstruction**

Textbook: Chapter 17

Docs: 17-3 Freedmen's Bureau Bill, 1865

17-4 Black Code of Mississippi, 1865

*Slides: Political Cartoons from the Reconstruction Era*

### **Thursday Jan. 22 Westward Expansion**

Textbook: Chapter 18

Docs: 18-1 The Oklahoma Land Rush, 1889

18-2 Helen Hunt Jackson, The Thrill of Western Railroading, 1878

18-5 Red Cloud, Speech at Cooper Union, New York, 1870

20-8 Fredrick Jackson Turner, The Significance of the American Frontier, 1893

### **Tuesday Jan. 27 The Incorporation of America**

Textbook: Chapter 19

Docs: 19-2 Andrew Carnegie, Wealth, 1889

19-3 John Morrison, Testimony of a Machinist, 1883

### **Thursday Jan. 29 Industrialization - Labor**

Textbook: Chapter 19 – pp. 572-575.

Docs: 19-4 Terrance Powderly, The Knights of Labor, 1889

19-5 Samuel Gompers, Testimony on Labor Unions, 1883

*Audio: Joe Hill, "Don't Mourn, Organize!"*

### **Tuesday Feb. 3 Cultures of Consumption**

Textbook: Chapter 19 – pp. 583-585.

### **Thursday Feb. 5 The Leisure Class**

Textbook: Chapter 19

Docs: Thorstein Veblen, Conspicuous Consumption, 1899

Kate Chopin, The Awakening, 1899

### **Tuesday Feb. 10 Gender Roles in the Gilded Age**

Text: Kate Chopin, The Awakening, 1899 – Discussion Section

→ *Short Writing Assignment #1—Due in Class*

**Thursday Feb. 12 Immigration**

Textbook: Chapter 21 – pp. 643

Docs: 19-6 Lee Chew, Experiences of a Chinese Immigrant, 1903  
23-6 US Congress, Debating Immigration Restriction, 1921

*Film “Hester Street”*

**Tuesday Feb. 17 Immigration**

*Film “Hester Street”*

**Thursday Feb. 19 Progressive Reform**

Textbook: Chapter 21

Docs: 21-1 Jane Addams, The Subjective Necessity of Social Settlements, 1892  
21-5 Booker T. Washington, The Atlanta Exposition Address, 1895  
21-4 Margaret Sanger, The Case for Birth Control, 1917

*Slides: Documentary Photography in the Progressive Era*

**Tuesday Feb. 24 The New Woman**

Textbook: Chapter 21 – pp. 650-653

Docs: 19-9 M. Carey Thomas, Higher Education for Women, 1901

→ *Short Writing Assignment #2 -- Due in Class*

**Thursday Feb. 26 World War I**

Guest Lecture: Dr. Kaarin Michaelsen

Textbook: Chapter 22 -- pp. 660-687

Docs: 22-3 War Message to Congress, 1917  
22-6 Diary of an Unknown Aviator, 1918

**Tuesday March 2 Midterm Exam**

No Reading

**Thursday March 4 No Class – Early Spring Break**

**Tuesday March 9 Spring Break**

**Thursday March 11 Spring Break**

**Tuesday March 16 The Great Migration**

Textbook: Chapter 22 – pp. 687-688, Chapter 23 – pp. 723-726

Docs: 17-11 A Sharecrop Contract, 1882  
22-9 Letters from the Great Migration, 1916-1919  
23-8 Charles S. Johnson, The City Negro, 1925

*Audio: Oral Histories from the Great Migration*

**Thursday March 18 The 1920s: Business Ethos**

Textbook: Chapter 23

Docs: 23-2 Herbert Hoover, American Individualism, 1922  
Sinclair Lewis, Our Ideal Citizen, 1925 – Hand-out

## **Tuesday March 23 The 1920s: America Adopts the Automobile**

Textbook: Chapter 23

-Robert S. Lynd, "Inventions Re-Making Leisure" in Middletown, (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1956), pp. 251-312

-Henry Ford, "The Modern City - A Perstiferous Growth," The Dearborn Independent, 1926: 155-159 and 429-433.

-Lillian M. Rhoades, "One of the Groups Middletown Left Out," Opportunity, March 1933: 75-79. All on E-Reserve

## **Thursday March 25 The 1920s: Advertising Culture**

Textbook: Chapter 23

Docs: 23-3 Bruce Barton, Jesus Christ as Businessman, 1925

\*Roland Marchand, Advertising the American Dream, pp. 206-222. E-Reserve

→ *Short Writing Assignment # 3-- Due in Class*

## **Tuesday March 30 The 1930s: The Great Depression & the New Deal**

Textbook: Chapter 24

Docs: 24-2 Meridel Le Sueur, Women on the Breadlines, 1932

24-3 Franklin D. Roosevelt, First Inaugural Address, 1933

*Film Clip on The New Deal*

## **Thursday April 1 The 1930s: Movie Culture**

Textbook: Chapter 24

Docs: 23-1 Motion Picture Diaries

24-9 Motion Picture Production Code, 1930

*Film clips: "42 Street" (1933)*

## **Tuesday April 6 World War II**

Textbook: Chapter 25

Studs Terkel, The Good War - All selections on E-Reserve

"Introduction," pp. 3-16 and "A Sunday Morning"

## **Thursday April 8 Women War Workers**

Text: Studs Terkel, The Good War "Rosie" pp. 108-134, E-Reserve

*Film: "Rosie the Riveter" (1980)*

## **Tuesday April 13 The Good War**

Text: Studs Terkel, The Good War on Electronic Reserve

"Reflections on Machismo,"

John Abbott

Ted Allenby

"Neighborhood Boys"

Paul Pisicano

Mickey Ruiz

Dempsey Travis

"Flying High" pp. 343-349

→ *Short Writing Assignment #4-- Due in Class*

**Thursday April 15 America at Midcentury: Consumerism and the Cold War**

Textbook: Chapter 27

*Film: "Atomic Café"*

**Tuesday April 20 Civil Rights**

Textbook: Chapter 28

*Film: "Eyes on the Prize"*

**Thursday April 22 Civil Rights**

Guest Lecture: Dr. Tom Jackson

Text: Anne Moody, Coming of Age in Mississippi

**Tuesday April 27 Civil Rights**

Docs: *Anne Moody*, Coming of Age in Mississippi

Discussion Section

→ *Short Writing Assignment #5-- Due in class*

**Thursday April 29 The Great Society**

Textbook: Chapter 28

Docs: 29-2 Lyndon B. Johnson, *The Great Society*, 1964