

Spring 2006 University of North Carolina - Greensboro
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History 212: The United States Since 1865 Course Syllabus

This course is a survey of major themes in United States history from 1865 to the present. It will examine industrialization, immigration, urbanization, social reform, imperialism, race, class and gender relations, and the growth of the federal state. We will explore these topics from the perspective of politicians, social reformers, labor unions and civil rights activists as well as ordinary American men and women from a variety of backgrounds. Students will examine a wide range of primary historical sources including memoirs, novels, letters, manifestos, speeches, and oral interviews. They will learn how to evaluate different methods of historical thinking and will gain an appreciation for how centrally history structures our daily lives.

Discussion Sections:

Each Friday you will meet in a discussion section. Attendance is mandatory. Before class, you must print all of the assigned primary sources for the week and highlight the important passages. Bring all of your readings to section and come prepared to actively participate in the discussion. Failure to do so will hurt your grade.

Required Texts:

(available at UNCG bookstore, Addams bookstore on Tate St., and on reserve at Jackson library)

David Goldfield, et. al., *The American Journey: A History of the United States, Volume II, Portfolio Edition*. Pearson Education, Inc., 2006.

Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*. Penguin Classics, Reprint Edition, 1993.

Philip Caputo, *A Rumor of War*. Owl Books, Reprint Edition, 1996.

Course Requirements (all percentages are approximate):

Attendance, participation and class citizenship in lecture and discussion: 25%

Midterm Essay and Test: 20%

Final Essay and Test: 25%

Three primary source assignments: 3 x 10% = 30%

EXTRA CREDIT: History sheds new light on current events and vice versa. Choose a newspaper article published during the semester that speaks to themes that we have discussed in the course and write a paragraph explaining why you believe that it is relevant. Hand in both the paragraph and the article. You may submit up to THREE extra credit assignments. The last day we will accept assignments is April 24.

E-mail Policy, Blackboard, Power Point, and Cellphones:

E-mail is the best way to reach us. We will always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response from us within 48 hours, you should assume that we did not receive your message and try again. If you do not receive confirmation of your message, it means that we did not receive it and you will not be credited for any information that you communicated.

We will use e-mail to contact you, so you must check your UNCG email account regularly. All messages will be sent to UNCG accounts.

The course will have a blackboard website, which will have copies of the syllabus, handouts, and assignments. You can also access all of the additional readings from blackboard.

I will use power point in lecture. The slides are intended to help guide your note taking. They will *not* provide a complete set of notes. It is imperative that you take notes to supplement the power point in order to succeed in the course.

Lectures and sections require your full attention. Cellphones and any other electronic equipment must be turned off at all times.

Grades:

We will use the following grading scale: 93 and above A, 90-92 A-, 88-89 B+, 83-87 B, 80-82, B-, 78-79 C+, 73-77 C, 70-72 C-, 68-69 D+, 63-67 D, 60-62 D-, 59 and below F.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of others without giving them credit. If something you write implies that you are the originator of words or ideas, they must be your own. If you use someone else's exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and followed by a citation. If you put someone else's ideas into your own words, you must give that person credit. Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized severely and could automatically fail the course.

Course Schedule:

The numbers listed before the name of documents refer to the numbers on the CD Rom that accompanies the textbook. Documents and articles without numbers are accessible through blackboard. CD Rom documents are also accessible through blackboard under the title: "Textbook documents."

Week 1

January 9 Introduction to the course. Read the syllabus.

- January 11 Textbook: Chapter 16, pp. 320-336
 Docs: 16-4 Mississippi Black Code (1865)
 Truth, “When a Woman Gets Her Rights, Man Will be Right” (1867)
 African Americans and the Impact of Freedom (1866)
- January 13 Discussion Sections
- Week 2**
- January 16 No class, MLK Holiday
- January 18 *Primary Source Assignment #1 Distributed*
 Textbook: Chapter 17, pp. 337-59
 Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapter 1-8
 Doc: Grady, “The New South” (1886)
 16-11 Rapier, “Testimony Before U.S. Senate” (1880)
- January 20 Discussion Sections
- Week 3**
- January 23 Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 9-17
 Docs: Pamphlets by Ida B Wells-Barnett (1892-1920)
 Rebecca Latimer Felton, Letter to the Atlanta Constitution (1898)
 Alexander Manly, Editorial (1898)
 “North Carolina City Confronts Its Past “ (2005)
- January 25 Textbook: Chapter 19, pp. 386-402
 Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 18-27
 Docs: 17-2 Diary of Westward Travel (1852)
 17-6 Congressional Report on Indian Affairs (1887)
 17-7 Tragedy at Wounded Knee (1890)
 Report of the Commission on Indian Affairs (1869)
 Rules for Indian Boarding Schools (1890)
- January 27 Discussion Sections
- Week 4**
- January 30 Textbook: pp. 360-371, 379-85
 Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 28-37
 Docs: The Impact of Mechanization (1889)
 Carnegie, “The Gospel of Wealth”(1889)
 Lloyd, “Wealth Against Commonwealth” (1884)
- February 1 Textbook: pp. 371-379
 Docs: Gompers, “Why Strikes are Necessary” (c. 1890s)
 Rosenfeld, “The Sweatshop” (1898)

February 3 Discussion Sections

Week 5

February 5 Docs: The Story of a Sweatshop Girl (1902)
On the “Evils” of Chinese Immigration (1878)
19-8 Chew, *Life of a Chinese Immigrant* (1903)
19-12 Antin, *The Promised Land* (1912)

February 8 Textbook: Chapter 21, pp. 423-447
Doc: 21-6 Addams, “Twenty Years at Hull House” (1910)
21-7 Roosevelt, “The New Nationalism” (1910)

February 10 Discussion Sections

Week 6

February 13 *Primary Source Assignment #1 Due*
Textbook: Chapter 22, pp. 448-468
Docs: 20-3 Beveridge, “The March of the Flag” (1898)
20-5 McKinley, “Decision on the Philippines” (1900)
Cartoons on American Imperialism (1920s)

February 15 Textbook: Chapter 23, pp. 469-90
Doc: Alice Paul Inspires Her Fellow Suffragists (1917-1918)

February 17 Discussion Sections

Week 7

February 20 *Primary Source Assignment #2 Distributed*
Textbook: Chapter 24, pp. 491-509
Docs: Advertisements of the 1920s
The Ku Klux Klan (1924, 1921)
The Scopes Trial (1925)

February 22 *Midterm Take Home Essay Assignment Distributed*
Textbook: Chapter 25, pp. 510-533
Docs: “The New Deal and the ‘Common Man’”
24-7 Mrs. Henry Weddington, Letter to President Roosevelt (1938)

February 24 Discussion Sections

Week 8

February 27 Come to lecture. No reading. Study!

March 1 MIDTERM TEST, TAKE-HOME ESSAY DUE

March 3 No discussion sections (Happy Early Spring Break!)

March 6 and March 8 - NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK

Week 9

- March 13 Textbook: Chapter 26, pp. 534-54
 Docs: 25-3 Roosevelt, “The Four Freedoms” (1941)
 Charles Kukuchi on Life in a Japanese Internment Camp (1942)
- March 15 Come to lecture. No reading.
- March 17 Discussion Sections

Week 10

- March 20 Guest Lecture: Dr. Jeff Jones
 Textbook: Chapter 27, pp. 555-577
 Docs: President Harry S. Truman’s Address Before a Joint Session of Congress
 (1947)
 Speech by Andrei Zhdanov (1947)
 The Truman Administration Deals with the Communist Menace: The 1947
 Loyalty-Security Program (1947)
- March 22 *Primary Source Assignment #2 Due*
 Textbook: pp. 578-92
 Docs: A Veteran on the GI Bill (n.d.)
 A Journalist Describes Levittown (1948)
 Reynolds, “Little Boxes” (1962)
 29-2 Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique* (excerpt) (1963)

- March 24 Discussion Sections

Week 11

- March 27 Article: Sugrue, “The Deindustrialization of Detroit”
 Docs: “A Real Estate Agent Explains the Fine Art of Blockbusting” (1962)
- March 29 *Primary Source Assignment #3 Distributed*
 Textbook: pp. 592-99
 Text: *Rumor of War*, Prologue and Part 1
 Docs: 28-2 Sherrod, “Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
 Memorandum” (1961)
 King, “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” (1963)

- March 31 Discussion Sections

Week 12

- April 3 Textbook: pp. 599-604, 612-16
 Text: *Rumor of War*, Part II

- Docs: 28-9 Carmichael and Hamilton, from *Black Power* (1967)
- April 5 Text: *Rumor of War*, Part III and Epilogue
Docs: 28- 7 Johnson, The Tonkin Gulf Incident (1964)
- April 7 Discussion Sections
- Week 13**
- April 10 Textbook: pp. 604-12
Docs: 28-4 SDS, “The Port Huron Statement” (1962)
29-5 The Gay Liberation Front, *Come Out* (excerpt) (1970)
Bread and Roses, “Declaration of Women’s Independence” (1970)
Tillmon, “Welfare is a Women’s Issue”(1973)
Third World Women’s Alliance, “Equal to What?” (1969)
- April 12 Docs: 27-2 Brown v. Board of Education (1954)
29-6 Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education (1971)
29-8 Malloy, Southie Won’t Go (1975)
How Can We Educate Our Children? (1965)
- April 14 No Discussion Sections – Spring Holiday
- Week 14**
- April 17 *Primary Source Assignment #3 Due*
Textbook: pp. 596
Docs: 29-3 Johnson, The War on Poverty (1964)
Defenders (1964) (Johnson, “The Great Society”)
The Attack From The Right (1964) (Goldwater, “Conscience of a Conservative”)
- April 19 Textbook: pp. 618-51
Falwell, “The Moral Majority” (1981)
Reagan, Inaugural Address (1981)
Cuomo, “A Tale of Two Cities” (1984)
- April 21 Discussion Sections
- Week 15**
- April 24 *Final Take Home Essay Assignment Distributed*
Textbook: pp. 652-72
- April 26 Come to lecture. No reading. Study!
- April 28 Discussion Sections
- Week 16**

May 1

FINAL TEST, TAKE-HOME ESSAY DUE