

# Syllabus

## HIS212-09 The United States Since 1865

Meeting Time/Location: MWF 9:00 to 9:50 HHRA 1215

Instructor: Mark Moser

Office: HHRA 2104

Office Hours Spring 2007: MWF 10:00 to 10:50 or W 4:00 to 5:00 (and by appointment)

Email: [mamoser@uncg.edu](mailto:mamoser@uncg.edu)

### Required Texts:

*The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People* Volume II: From 1865, Fourth Edition (Alan Brinkley)

*The Stolen Election: Hayes versus Tilden—1876* (Lloyd Robinson)

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West* (Dee Brown)

*Behind the Mask of Chivalry: The Making of the Second Ku Klux Klan* (Nancy MacLean)

*The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It: The Memoir of Jo Ann Gibson Robinson* (Edited by David J. Garrow)

*All the President's Men* (Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward)

### Grading:

Mid-Term Exam	20%
Book Tests (4)	40%
3-5 Page Response Paper	20%
Final Exam	20%
-----	
Course Total	100%

### Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college level class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. You will be allowed six (6) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. A seventh absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one whole letter grade. I reserve the right to drop any student—at any time during the semester—once they have missed eight (8) classes. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of “W” must drop the class on or before March 14. Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also affect your final grade. I occasionally notify students whenever they have incurred a sixth

absence, but please **DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON ME TO KEEP YOU INFORMED!!!** It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after attendance has been taken, as failure to do so will result in your being marked absent for that class session.

Students should contact me **ASAP** after missing a test/exam in order to request a makeup. All requests to take a missed test/exam will be considered on an individual basis. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to make up more than two (2) tests during the semester! Makeup tests will be allowed solely at my discretion and must be taken prior to the next class the student attends. Remember, it is your responsibility to contact me and request to take a missed test. Absolutely **NO** makeup tests will be given more than one week after the scheduled test date. (Be aware that certain portions of makeup tests may prove to be more difficult than those originally scheduled.) Assignments turned in late will be penalized one letter grade for each day late! Also please note that I do not make any distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. In other words, an absence is an absence. You are either here.....or you aren’t.

#### Course Objectives:

While enrolled in this course, students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of US History since the Civil War.
- Analyze and synthesize relevant information; i.e., interpret historical facts.
- Develop a personal and historical sense of time and space.
- Think critically and make informed judgments!

#### Procedures/Assignments:

As you have already seen, this course will require you to do a significant amount of reading. While I will admit that the reading load is somewhat demanding, it is very manageable provided that you follow my recommendations and don’t allow yourselves to fall behind. For the most part my lecture style is informal and conversational and I encourage active class participation. You will find that my lectures primarily organize themselves around key points from the assigned chapters, but may also include relevant information not included or emphasized in your readings. It will be to your advantage to have completed each class’s reading in advance for the following reasons: 1) it will make the lectures easier to follow because you will be at least somewhat familiar with the subject matter and 2) from time to time throughout the semester you may be asked to work together in small groups to discuss specific aspects of the assigned readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings, attend class, and, whenever appropriate, to contribute to the class in a meaningful manner. Please bring your textbook (*The Unfinished Nation*) with you to class each session!

You will choose one of the five additional readings this semester on which to write a 3-5 page response paper—for the other four books you will take a written test. You must let me know which book you wish to write your response paper on Friday, January 12.

Course Outline:

Week One—(January 8, 10, 12)

Course intro, lecture on the impact of the Civil War and overview of reconstruction

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 15 “Reconstruction and the New South”

Continue reading *The Stolen Election: Hayes versus Tilden—1876*

Week Two—(January 17, 19) No class Monday, January 15 (MLK, Jr. Holiday)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 15 “Reconstruction and the New South” (continued)

\*Test/Response Paper on *The Stolen Election* (Friday, January 19)

Begin reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Three—(January 22, 24, 26)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 17 “Industrial Supremacy”

Continue reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Four—(January 29, 31, February 2)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 19 “From Stalemate to Crisis”

Continue reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Five—(February 5, 7, 9)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 16 “The Conquest of the Far West”

\*Test/Response Paper on *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* (Friday, February 9)

Week Six—(February 12, 14, 16)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 20 “The Imperial Republic”

Week Seven—(February 19, 21, 23)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 21 “The Rise of Progressivism”

Week Eight—(February 26, 28, March 2)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 22 “The Battle for National Reform”

\*Mid-Term Exam (Friday, March 2) You will need a Bluebook.

Begin reading *Behind the Mask of Chivalry*

SPRING BREAK (No Class MWF March 5, 7, 9)

Week Nine—(March 12, 14, 16)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 23 “America and the Great War”

Continue reading *Behind the Mask of Chivalry*

Week Ten—(March 19, 21, 23)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 24 “The New Era”

\*Test/Response Paper on *Behind the Mask of Chivalry* (Friday, March 23)

Week Eleven—(March 26, 28, 30)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 25 “The Great Depression” and Chapter 26 “The New Deal”  
Begin reading *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Week Twelve—(April 2, 4) No class Friday, April 6 (Spring Holiday)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 28 “America in a World at War”  
Continue reading *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Week Thirteen—(April 9, 11, 13)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 30 “The Affluent Society”  
\*Test/Response Paper on *The Montgomery Bus Boycott* (Friday, April 13)  
Begin reading *All the President’s Men*

Week Fourteen—(April 16, 18, 20)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 29 “The Cold War” and Chapter 31 “The Ordeal of Liberalism”  
Continue reading *All the President’s Men*

Week Fifteen—(April 23, 25, 27)

Reading: Brinkley Chapter 32 “The Crisis of Authority”  
Continue reading *All the President’s Men*

Week Sixteen—(April 30, May 1\*)

\*Test/Response Paper on *All the President’s Men* (Monday, April 30)  
\*Review for Final Exam (Tuesday, May 1)

Final Exam—Friday, May 4 from 8:00am to 11:00am You will need a Bluebook!

-----

NOTE: From time to time I will post announcements and reminders on Blackboard. Please check your UNCG email accounts and Blackboard on a regular basis. I will respond to your emails as quickly as possible throughout the semester, but please be patient as there are many of you and only one of me!