Course Syllabus

HISTORY 12.  Section #54613 Syllabus

U.S. History from 1877

Spring 2021

Instructor:  Ron Froese

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Required text: *U.S. History*. Contributing authors are P. Scott Corbett, Volker Janssen, John M. Lund, Todd Pfannestiel, and Paul Vickery. This textbook is published by Open Stax.  Accessed by using the following link:  https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history

Course Description and Objective

This course will trace the historical events and trends, and the people who affected them, in the U.S. from its rise from ashes [1865] to its height of global dominance [1990s] to its role in an age of global distractions. We will highlight certain themes: the age of Reconstruction, the age of industrialization and its concomitant strengths and weaknesses, the periods of World Wars, the struggle against communism, the turbulent 1960s and 1970s, and the global strategies of the 1980s-2000s. Each student will gain a general appreciation for history, and a specific understanding of this time period; as well as valuable skills in both oral communication and written research.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the changing characteristics of American political and governmental institutions since 1865.

2. Analyze the fundamental changes in the American economy since 1865.

3. Identify the key trends and movements in American cultural, social and intellectual life since 1865.

4. Analyze the causes and consequences of America’s foreign policy, wars, and rise to global prominence since 1865.

5. Identify the contributions and changing roles of gender and ethnic groups in American history since 1865.

6. Demonstrate the ability to interpret primary and secondary sources, discern between the two and to compose an argument that uses them, as appropriate, for support.

Course Assignments

1. Introductory Video. Take an introductory video of yourself and upload it in the assignment section of Canvas [5 points].
2. Read the text and watch the PowerPoints video lectures. Being prepared for class will improve comprehension and enhance test scoring performance. It will also promote more contributions to the discussions.  There will be weekly quizzes based on the PowerPoints/lectures.
3. Attendance and Participation.Student attendance is monitored by the submission of assignments, tests, papers, and the viewing of lectures. Although grades are not given for attendance, regular/weekly visits and submissions in the Canvas portal will indicate a student’s intent to continue in the class. If a person is unable to maintain a steady pace throughout the class, please advise the instructor of any extenuating circumstances so that late penalties may be waived. If there is no student activity in Canvas within the first two weeks of the class without notifying the instructor of his/her absence, the student will be dropped from the class. Student inactivity for a prolonged period may result in the student being dropped from the class.  If a student fails to do any assignment within the first two weeks, the student will be dropped from the class.
4. Writing Assignments/Discussions. There will be discussions/writing assignments associated with occasional modules.  There are 16 of these throughout the semester and each of them are worth 5 points [80 points].
5. Tests/Quizzes. There will be tests/quizzes each week associated with the lectures.  Every module will have quizzes associated with the video lecture that will be due weekly.  Remember to take the quizzes on time, because there is a 10% reduction per day and if the test is not taken by day 10, zero credit will be given.  If a student receives a deficient grade [D/F] on any test, the Starfish Alert system may be notified.  Reedley College is desirous to see all students succeed academically and will provide any assistance deemed necessary to that end.  Such services may include getting help from a history tutor at the Tutorial Center [226 points].
6. The Research Project.This assignment will consist of 4 parts:  the first assignment will be to **analyze the evidence** in two primary documents [10 points].  This is **due on Monday, 1 March**.  The second part, due on **Monday, 8 March**, is to **formulate a thesis** [5 points]. The third part is to create an outline [5 points]. The **outline** is due on **Monday, 22 March**.  The fourth part is **the final 1,200 word draft**, complete with footnoting and a bibliography [80 points], which is due on **Wednesday, 21 April**.  The final draft must be submitted to the Assignment/Turnitin section of Canvas. If your paper lands in the red zone of Turnitin and has a score of 75% in the similarity index/score, the assignment will not be accepted, will receive a zero grade, and the offence will be reported to the dean’s office.  If your paper lands between 50%--75% in the similarity index, your paper will be downgraded.
7. Office Hours. If the college administration awards the instructor office hours, a student may seek assistance on anything related to this course. I will tentatively hold office hours via Zoom at the following time slot: 1.00pm-2.00pm on Wednesdays. These hours are only from the sixth to seventeenth week of the semester [17 February to 12 May 2021]. However, if a student needs to contact me outside of this time frame, because of a conflict with this office hour schedule, the instructor is available for a Zoom session at any mutually-agreed-upon time.

Grading

Total number of points to be awarded is 391.

Grade Distribution

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Final Grade | Final Percentage |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

If a student has a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media [i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.] per the Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.  If a student thinks that he/she might qualify because of an existing disability, contact Disabled Students Programs & Services at 638.0332.  Reasonable accommodation will be made for those with legitimate disabilities.

Everyone who participates in the educational process at Reedley College is expected to pursue honesty and integrity in all aspects of their academic work.  Cases of academic dishonesty (cheating or plagiarism) may have serious consequences that range from partial credit after work is redone to zero credit (if it is an egregious offence).

Communication Policy

1. It is very important that I am in constant contact with you throughout this semester. If you are doing well and doing every assignment in a timely fashion, I still would like to hear from you. If you are struggling with an assignment and/or lagging in the weekly readings and assignments, feel free to ask me how I can encourage you to strive on.
2. My preferred mode of communication is through the course’s Canvas Inbox. In that window, you will click on the ‘pencil’ icon on the top of the screen to open a dialog box. I will usually respond to these messages within 24 hours. If you do not hear from me within that time frame, please try to resend the message, because I may not have received the message or may have accidentally deleted it!
3. You can also communicate with me through email. My email address is: [ron.froese@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:ron.froese@reedleycollege.edu). Again, you should hear back from me within 24 hours.
4. You can also visit with me during Office Hours. This will be through Zoom and there will be a waiting room where you will wait until admitted into my ‘virtual office’. Since I am an adjunct instructor, my office hours have not been awarded yet, but they usually start in the 6th week of the semester. Tentatively they will start on Wednesday, 17 February and will take place on Wednesdays at 1.00pm for one hour.
5. Another way that you can communicate with me or with other students in this class, is through the Question and Answer Discussion Board. Here you can ask questions about anything relating to History 11, and I or your colleagues will share our insights.

Drop Policy

1. If a student does not complete the introductory video/written assignment [birthplace, high school, academic goals, ultimate destination for work] by the end of the first week, the student will be dropped from the class unless the instructor has been notified with a valid reason for a late submission.
2. If a student fails to participate in the class, submit any work or contribute significantly to any discussion, for more than two weeks, then that student will be dropped from the class unless the student has notified the instructor of the reason for the hiatus. Valid absences may include illness or injury.
3. After the mid-way point in the semester, at the end of the 9th week, if the student is failing and has not withdrawn from the class, the student will be unable to withdraw from the class without receiving a deficient letter grade.

Late Work Policy

1. If a student submits work after the due date, Canvas will assess a late submission penalty. If this submission is only a few minutes late [no longer than 15 minutes], the instructor may waive the penalty.
2. For each day that the assignment is past due, the student will lose 10%. After ten days, there will be no credit given for the assignment.  It is extremely important that each student keep up with the weekly assignments in order not to incur late penalties.

Important Dates

1. Last day to drop this course and qualify for a refund:  **Friday, 22 January**.
2. Last day to register for a full-term class:  **Friday, 29 January.**
3. Last day to drop this course on WebAdvisor and avoid a “W” on one’s academic record:  **Friday, 29 January**.
4. Last day to change to/from pass/no pass:  **Friday, 12 February.**
5. Last day to drop this course and avoid a letter grade on one’s academic record:  **Friday, 12 March.**
6. End of the semester:  **Friday, 21 May**.

Module Schedule

*Weeks 1-2. Module 1. Assignment due by Monday, 18 January.*

*Weeks 2-3. Module 2. Assignments due by Wednesday, 27 January.*

*Week 4. Module 3. Assignments due by Friday, 5 February.*

*Weeks 5-6. Module 4. Assignments due by Sunday, 14 February.*

*Weeks 6-7. Module 5. Assignments due by Tuesday, 23 February.*

*Weeks 7-8. Module 6. Assignments due by Thursday, 4 March.* ***Research Project Part 1: Analysis due on Monday, 1 March.***

*Weeks 8-9. Module 7. Assignments due by Saturday, 13 March.* ***Research Project Part 2: Thesis due on Monday, 8 March.***

*Weeks 10-11. Module 8. Assignments due by Monday, 22 March.* ***Research Project Part 3: Outline due on Monday, 22 March.***

*Weeks 11-13. Module 9. Assignments due by Monday, 5 April.*

*Weeks 13-14. Module 10. Assignments due by Wednesday, 14 April.*

*Weeks 14-15. Module 11. Assignments due by Friday, 23 April.* ***Research Project Part 4: Final Draft of Paper is due on Wednesday, 21 April.***

*Weeks 16-17. Module 12. Assignments due by Sunday, 2 May.*

*Weeks 17-18. Module 13. Assignments due by Tuesday, 11 May.*

*Weeks 18-19. Module 14. Assignments due by Thursday, 20 May.*

Course Aids

WEBADVISOR for Students

**The website is:**[http://webadvisor.scccd.edu/ (Links to an external site.)](https://skyhawk.scccd.com/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://webadvisor.scccd.edu/)

**The standard webadvisor login is:**

**Username:  lastname\_id\_number      (example: smith\_0123456)  
Password:  six digit birth date    (example: January 10th, 1970 = 011070)**

**Be careful! Webadvisor will probably make you change your password when you first use it.  
Write it down - make it simple.  
Try using your initials and then your birthday.**

**The helpdesk hours are 8-5 Monday thru Friday.  
The email address is**[helpdesk@scccd.edu](mailto:helpdesk@scccd.edu)**-- try to use this first  
The phone number is 244-5960 -- try to use this for emergencies only.**

Instructors and students can access Canvas by going to [https://scccd.instructure.com](https://scccd.instructure.com/)

**Students** – log in using the following procedure:

**Username**: Your 7-digit student ID number.

**Password**: If you have not previously changed your password, it is:  
*First name initial* (upper case) + *last name initial* (lowercase) + *date of birth* (mmddyy)  
**Example**: John Smith born on July 9th of 1988     Password =Js070988