

## AMERICAN HISTORY SYLLABUS FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO PRESENT

Instructor: Neal F. Johnson  
To contact: Call K.R.C.C. Switchboard  
Drop Date: Friday: March 8th

### Text

Nash, Gary B. et alii. The American People - Creating a Nation and a Society. Vol. 2. since 1865. New York: Harper & Row, Publishers 1986.

### Collateral Reading

Degler, Carl N. Out of Our Past. N.Y.: Harper Colophon Books, 1984.

Campbell, William Files et alii. Form and Style. Palo Alto: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1990.

Hacker, Diana. A Pocket Style manual. N.Y.: St. Martin's Press, 1993.

Hicks, John D. Advisory Ed. Readings in American History. Volume II. 1865 to Present. Cambridge: The Riverside Press, 1957.

Goldstein, Eleanor, ed. What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs. Boca Raton, Florida: Social Issues Resources Series, Inc., 1990. (Part V, Regions of the World: A Historical Sketch.)

Ashe, Arthur and Rampersad, Arnold. Days of Grace. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1993.

Brimelow, Peter. Alien Nation. N.Y.: Random House, 1995.

Sommers, Christina Hoff. Who Stole Feminism. N.Y.: Touchstone, 1995.

Sowell, Thomas. Inside American Education. New York: The Free Press, 1993.

\_\_\_\_\_ . Civil Rights: Rhetoric or Reality? New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1984.

\_\_\_\_\_ . The Economics and Politics of Race. New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1983.

\_\_\_\_\_ . Race and Culture. N.Y.: BasicBooks, 1994.

\_\_\_\_\_ . The Vision of the Anointed. N.Y.: Basic Books, 1995.

"Unforgivable Atrocity." Peijing Review. Vol. 38. No. 33. aug 14-20 1955. pg. 14-22. (The Nanjing Massacre: the oriental holocaust)

### Objectives

The purpose of this course is to survey U.S. History from 1865 to Present, to provide you with an understanding of the causes (reasons) for the actions taken by the leaders of the U.S. in domestic and foreign affairs, to help you to be critical in your reading of historical works and current events, and to help you to ask the right questions in attempting to analyze political (national and international), social, and economic data.

### The Readings

This course is divided into four sections: 1) Agriculture to Industry - A Social Revolution, 2) International Expansion - The U.S. Discovers its Overseas Interests, 3) World War I to World War II - The 1920's and '30's, the Failure to Return to the Past, and 4) World War II and its Aftermath - The Loss of Innocence in Domestic and Foreign Policy. You will be expected to read the Chapters in the text assigned to each section. In order to cover those topics not touched upon in the text there will be Chapters in the collateral reading assigned to each section. All information in the readings is subject to testing, either directly, in the form of knowing the facts, or as support for essay questions.

### Papers

Students are expected to write one term paper of the course of the Term. These papers are to be no more than four pages in length. The time frame for these topics is 1866 to present. These papers are to be critical essays, not just reports. This will be explained in class. The subject areas will be listed below. The paper is due on the Monday of Week nine (9). Please note that English proficiency will play a major part in your grade. Papers not handed in on time will receive a grade of F. Absence from class on the day the paper is due will not constitute an excuse. If a problem arises see or call me!!!

Subject areas for Term Papers:

1. The Negro in American History - Slavery as an institution -

The conflict between morality and social awareness - The Civil War's aftermath - The emergence of another "ethnic group" -  
 Required Reading: Arthur Ashe, Days of Grace, Chapter 5.

Fogle and Engerman, Time on the Cross, V. 1.

Sowell, Race and Culture, Chapter 7.

D'Souza, The End of Racism

2. George Armstrong Custer - Villain or "just a soldier doing a job" - Political Scapegoat.
3. Women's goals in the 1800's - Political, social, economic - Women in the KKK  
 Required Reading: Kathleen M. Blee, Women of the Klan  
  
 Women's goals in the 1900s - Feminism vs Gender Feminism  
 Required Reading: Christina Hoff Sommers, Who Stole Feminism
4. The Republican Party of the 1860's and Teddy Roosevelt - The Liberal Party? When did it become "Conservative?"
5. European Socialism....by any other name....Progressives? Liberals? etc.....
6. United States Immigration in the 20th Century - Problems and solutions - real or unreal?  
 Required Reading: Peter Brimelow. Alien Nation
7. The Great Depression - Did the "solutions" work or simply protect the helpless?
8. The League of Nations and the United Nations - brothers under the skin?
9. Civil Rights - the 1950's on - Affirmative Action - a rose by any other name may not be a rose  
 Required Reading: Sowell; D'Souza; Chavez; Schlesinger
10. The United States role in International Affairs - The importance of the military in U.S. foreign and domestic policy
11. Foreign Trade - Important to Whom?

The instructor reserves the right to substitute any other topic for one of the reviews required above.

### Tests

There will be three tests this Semester, including the final exam. The tests will be scantron exams which can be true-false,

matching, multiple choice, or any combination of the three. There will be 50 questions on each exam. Any test can include an essay question or questions.

**Map Test** - A Map Test will be given during the term starting the third week of class. All students will be given a list of items to learn and the test will consist of locating these items on a map(s). Students will be allowed to take the test as many times as they wish. All must take the test at least once. The grade will consist of the highest mark achieved on the tests. Grades will not be lowered.

### Grades

Grades will be determined on a total point basis:

- (1) Map Test = 30
- (2) Regular tests = 50 pts each = 150 Total
- (3) Term Paper = 150
- (4) Total Points = 330

In Percentage Terms: A=90; B=80; C=70; D=60; F=59 or lower

**Attendance Policy:** Students missing three consecutive (in a row) class periods will be dropped from the class. After the final drop date no student can be dropped and will receive a final grade.

## Assignments

Week 1 to 5

The American People

- Chapter 17 - Reconstruction
- Chapter 18 - The Farmers World
- Chapter 19 - The Rise of Industry
- Chapter 20 - Politics and Protest
- Chapter 22 - the Progressives

Degler, Out of Our Past

Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12

Hicks, Readings

- Reconstruction and Readjustment 1865-1877 pp 1-25.
- The Indians pp 27-32.
- The Cattleman's Frontier pp 38-40.
- The Farmer's Frontier pp 43-46.
- Organized Labor 1865-1902 pp 71-92.
- Agriculture and the Agrarian Revolt 1865-1896 pp 94-114.
- Cities: Their Growth and Problems, 1885-1912 pp 116-133.
- U.S. Relations with its Neighbors, 1900-1917 pp 162-176.

Test

Week 6 to 12

The American People

- Chapter 21 - The U.S. & Overseas Interests
- Chapter 23 - World War I
- Chapter 24 - Era of Isolationism
- Chapter 25 - The Panic of 1929 or The Great Depression
- Chapter 26 - World War II

Degler, Out of Our Past

Chapter 13

Hicks, Readings

- The Search for Normalcy, 1919-1929 pp 231-246.
- The Quest for World Peace pp 292-310.

Goldstein, What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs. Part V. Regions of the World.

Test

Week 13 to 18

The American People

Chapter 27 - The Cold War

Degler, Out of Our Past. Chapters 14, 15

Hicks, Readings

The United States and World Leadership pp 338-359.

Ashe, Days of Grace, Chapter 5.

Sowell, Inside American Education, Part 2.

Sowell, The Economics and Politics of Race, Chapter 6.

Sowell, Civil Rights

Chavez, Linda. Out of the Barrio. N.Y.: Basic Books, 1991.

D'Souza, Dinesh. The End of Racism. N.Y.: The Free Press, 1995.

Paglia, Camille. Sex, Art, and American Culture. N.Y.: Vintage Books, 1992. **OPTIONAL READING**

Schlesenger, Arthur M., Jr. The Disuniting of America. N.Y.: W.W. Norton & Company, 1992.

Final Exam

The instructor reserves the right to change assignments for tests at any time.

American History from the Civil War to Present  
Instructor: Neal F. Johnson  
Spring Semester 1996

Changes in Syllabus

Week 1 to 5

\*D'Sousa, The End of Racism.

- Chapter 1. The White Man's Burden: The Collapse of Liberal Hope
- Chapter 2. Ignoble Savages: The Origins of Racism
- Chapter 3. An American Dilemma: Was Slavery a Racist Institution
- Chapter 9. Is Europcentrism a Racist Concept? The Search for an African Shakespeare

Week 6 to 12

\*D'Sousa, The End of Racism

- Chapter 4. The Invention of Prejudice: The Rise of Liberal Antiracism
- Chapter 5. A Dream Deferred: Who Betrayed martin Luther King, Jr.?
- Chapter 7. Is America a Racist Society? The Problme of Rational Discrimination

Week 13 to 18

\*D'Souza, Dinesh. The End of Racism. N.Y.: The Free Press, 1995.

- Chapter 6. The Race merchants: How Civil Rights Became a Profession
- Chapter 8. Institutional Racism and Double Standards: Racial Preferences and Their Consequences
- Chapter 10. Bigotry in Black and White: Can African Americans be Racist?
- Chapter 11. The Content of Our Chromosomes: Race and the IQ Debate
- Chapter 12. Uncle Tom's Dilemma: Pathologies of Black Culture
- Chapter 13. The End of Racism: A New Vision for a Multiracial Society

\*Sowell, The Vision of the Anointed

- Chapter 1. Flattering Unction
- Chapter 2. The Pattern
- Chapter 3. By the Numbers
- Chapter 4. the Irrelevance of Evidence
- Chapter 6. The Crusades of the Anointed
- Chapter 7. The Vocabulary of the Anointed

