

Syllabus for History 12: American History from 1864
Reedley College
Summer 2017

Course #: 76845

Instructor: Carl Geissert

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Office Hours: Daily, 11:00-11:25 a.m.

Meeting Days: Daily

Meeting Time: 08:10-11:00 a.m.

Room: Washington Union High School, Room E4

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the primary political, social, cultural, and economic developments in American history from the end of Reconstruction to the near present. Because this survey covers such a large swath of time, it will be useful to frame the class around several over-arching themes: 1) racial/ethnic assimilation and conflict; 2) political participation and exclusion; 3) the pursuit of the American Dream; and 4) the emergence of the United States as a global power.

This course fulfills the requirement for Area D1, American History: *To understand and analyze the basic principles underlying human social behavior.* The essay exams and writing assignment provide students the opportunity to write in excess of the minimum writing requirement.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing a course in Area D1 (American History), a student will be able to:

1. Identify the changing characteristics in 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 them and to compose an argument which uses them, as appropriate, for support.

Course Objectives:**In the process of completing this course, students will:**

1. examine the development of political and governmental institutions in the United States from the Reconstruction Era to the present.
2. describe the evolution of the American economy after 1865, focusing on America's emergence as a modern industrial society and dominant force in the global economy.
3. compare and contrast trends and movements in American social, cultural, and intellectual life from the 1865 to the present.
4. trace changes in American social structure as influenced by such factors as urbanization, industrialization, the expansion of suburbs, and the movement toward a post-industrial society in the mid-twentieth century.
5. evaluate the contributions, socio-economic conditions and experiences of minority groups and women in the history of the United States from 1865 to the present.
6. analyze changes in United States immigration policy as well as the impact of immigration on American society since 1865
7. identify the main features and consequences of the United States' foreign policy, focusing on America's emergence as a world power as well as its role in major wars and international conflicts since the 1865.
8. Assess the importance of specific prominent persons, places, and events in United States history
9. demonstrate the ability to interpret primary and secondary sources, discern between them and to compose an argument which uses them, as appropriate, for support.

Required Books:

- 1) Brinkley, Alan. *American History: Connecting with the Past, Volume 2: from 1865*, 15th Edition.

Course Organization:

Each class period will be broken up into three activities: Quiz, lecture, and discussion.

Quizzes on the previous day's lecture and readings will be given every day at the beginning of class, excluding exam days.

Each day will also include a lecture. The assigned textbook reading for each day will help you follow these lectures more easily. This textbook reading, from Alan Brinkley's *American History*, appears on the course schedule under the day's lecture. While you should do the textbook reading each week so that you can better understand lectures, you do not need to bring the textbook with you to class, unless directed to by the professor.

Finally, we will have daily discussions based around the reading of a primary source document relating to the period being studied. During discussions, you must come prepared to discuss the assigned reading for that day. All reading assignment will be on Canvas under the "Files" tab. Careful reading of the assigned material is essential to discussion sections. **Bring the assigned readings to class on discussion days. If you do not, you will not be allowed to stay for class.**

Assignments, Requirements, and Expectations:

- 1) **Attendance.** Students are expected to attend all class meetings, be on time, and be in class the entire class session. Roll will be checked at the beginning and end of each class period. Students leaving before the end of class will be counted as absent. If you miss more than one class period, your participation grade will suffer. *If you are absent from any class, it is your responsibility to find out what announcements were made.*
- 2) **Tardiness.** Don't be late to class. It is distracting, rude and unfair to fellow classmates and to the instructor when a student is late. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor (on a break or after class) that you are present if you arrive after roll has been taken. If you know that you will be late in advance, please let me know through email.
- 3) **Quizzes.** Every non-exam class meeting will begin with a 10 question multiple-choice quiz covering the previous days lecture and reading. In total, you will take 13 quizzes for this course, the 10 best scores of which will be applied to your grade.
- 4) **Exams.** There are a total of four exams in this course, one scheduled for every Friday.

Two exams will be multiple choice, each accounting for 10 percent of your grade in the course. These exams will draw heavily, but not exclusively, on material from the previous week's quizzes. On exam days,

two essay exams are also scheduled for the course—one midterm exam and a final exam. Each essay exam will test what we cover in lectures as well as the assigned

readings. **The final exam for this course will be held on Friday, July 7 during regular class hours.**

Make-up exams will be given only in extraordinary circumstances. Failing to plan ahead does not qualify: it is your job to anticipate problems and to arrange your life so that you have sufficient time to prepare for each exam. If an emergency arises, contact me immediately. *If you do not show up for an exam and I have not heard from you, you will receive an F.*

- 5) **Paper.** You are required to write one 4-6 page paper, which will account for 25% of your final grade in the course. You will bring two copies of a rough draft of your paper to class on Tuesday, July 3rd for a revision workshop. Students that fail to turn in a rough draft will lose a letter grade off of their score for the final paper. **The final paper is due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, July 5th,** and the topic will be given out well in advance of these dates. For every day that the paper is late, I will deduct one letter grade from the total points earned on this assignment.

Your Paper should follow the typical format for college-level papers: typed, 12pt font, double-spaced, 1 in. margins.

- 6) **Academic Dishonesty.** Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.

Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another's work, supplying one's work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor's permission, using or is playing notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely.

Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on a particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.

- 7) **Participation.** Participation is crucial to your success in this course. Each student must be prepared to discuss the assigned readings on discussion days. *Students who do not actively and constructively participate will receive low participation grades. Simply showing up for discussions, in other words, will not earn you a passing participation grade.*
- 8) **Cell phone policy.** Turn your phones off while in class. If your phone rings or vibrates, I answer it. Don't even think about texting while in class. *If I see you texting, your final course grade will be lowered by one letter grade.*
- 9) **Computer policy.** You may use a computer or tablet to take notes in class. If you do so, you must turn off your wireless and you must sit in the front row. You may also download Friday readings onto a computer or tablet and bring that to discussions. *You may not use a cell phone for this purpose.*
- 10) **Disruptive Classroom Behavior.** The classroom is a special environment in which students and faculty come together to promote learning and growth. It is essential to this learning environment that respect for the rights of others seeking to learn, respect for the professionalism of the instructor, and the general goals of academic freedom are maintained. Differences of viewpoint or concerns should be expressed in terms which are supportive of the learning process, creating an environment in which students and faculty may learn to reason with clarity and compassion, to share of themselves without losing their identities, and to develop and understanding of the community in which they live. Student conduct which disrupts the learning process shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.
- 11) **Email.** Please check your campus email account regularly. If you do not, you may miss an important announcement about class.

Grading:

Participation: 15%

Quizzes: 15%

Multiple Choice Exams: 20%

Midterm Exam: 10%

Final Exam: 15%

Final Paper: 25%

Grading Scale:

This Course follows a typical grading scale.

90-100%	A
80-90%	B
70-80%	C
60-70%	D
59% and Below	F

Office Hours: Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel to contact me via email to arrange a time before or after class to meet with me.

Students With Disabilities: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (e.g. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Course Schedule: [SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN THE EVENT OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES]

1. Tuesday, June 13-

Lecture: Introduction to History 12; Course Syllabus; Reconstruction

Discussion: Louisiana Black Code, 1865

Reading: Chapters 15: Reconstruction and the New South (pgs. 401-416) & 16: The Conquest of the Far West (whole chapter)

2. Wednesday, June 14-

Quiz: Reconstruction

Lecture: The Closing of the West; Rise of Industrial Capitalism, Immigration and the Revolt of labor

Discussion: Carnegie, “The Gospel of Wealth” and “Trade Unionist Protest the Gift of a ‘Carnegie Library’”

Reading: Chapters 17: Industrial Supremacy & 18: Age of the City

3. Thursday, June 15-

Quiz: Industrial Capitalism, Closing of the West

Lecture: Jim Crow and the New South; Manhood at the Turn of the Century

Discussion: Washington “Atlanta Compromise” and Du Bois “Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others”

Reading: Chapter 15: Reconstruction and the New South (pgs. 417-429)

4. Friday, June 16- Exam #1 on Chapters 15-18

Lecture: The Spanish American War and American Imperialism

Discussion: Roosevelt “This Strenuous Life”

Reading: Chapter 19: From Crisis to Empire

5. Monday, June 19-

Quiz: Jim Crow and the New South; Spanish American War and American Imperialism

Lecture: Progressivism and Women’s Suffrage

Discussion: Vest, “More Logic, Less Feeling” and Catt, “Class v. Gender”

Reading: Chapter 20: The Progressives

6. Tuesday, June 20-

Quiz: Progressivism and Women’s Suffrage

Lecture: World War I

Discussion- None

Reading- Chapter 21: American And the Great War

7. Wednesday, June 21-

Quiz: World War I

Lecture: A Tale of Two Twenties

Discussion- Scopes Monkey Trial Transcript

Reading- Chapter 22: The New Era

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8. Thursday, June 22-

Quiz: the 1920s

Lecture: The Great Depression and New Deal

Discussion: Review for Exam

Reading: Chapter 23: The Great Depression and Chapter 24: The New Deal

9. Friday, June 23- Mid-term Exam on Chapters 15-24; Last day to drop the course

Lecture: Origins of World War II

Discussion: None

Reading- Chapter 25: The Global Crisis

10. Monday, June 26-

Quiz: Origins of World War II

Lecture: World War II and the Start of the Cold War

Discussion: Final Paper Guidelines and Helpful Hints

Reading- Chapter 26: America in a World at War

11. Tuesday, June 27-

Quiz: World War II and the Start of the Cold War

Lecture: The Cold War at Home and Abroad

Discussion: Kennan, "The Long Telegram"

Reading: Chapter 27: The Cold War

12. Wednesday, June 28-

Quiz: The Cold War at Home and Abroad

Lecture: Culture of Containment and Culture of Rebellion

Discussion: Go over mid-term exam, and success strategies for final

Reading: Chapter 28: The Affluent Society

13. Thursday, June 29-

Quiz: Culture of Containment and Culture of Rebellion

Lecture: The Civil Rights Movement

Discussion: "Southern Manifesto"

Reading: Chapter 29: Civil Rights, Vietnam, and the Ordeal of Liberalism

14. Friday, June 30- Exam #3 on Chapters 25-30

Lecture: Second Wave Feminism

Discussion: SNCC Position Paper on Women in the Movement

Reading: None

15. Monday, July 3- Rough Draft of Paper Due at the Beginning of Class

Quiz: Second Wave Feminism

Lecture: Vietnam and the Great Society

Discussion: Workshop on Rough Draft of Paper

Reading: Chapter 29: Civil Rights, Vietnam, and the Ordeal of Liberalism

16. Tuesday, July 4- NO CLASS

17. Wednesday, July 5- Final Paper Due at the Beginning of Class

Quiz: Vietnam and the Great Society

Lecture: The Crumbling Liberal Consensus and the Reagan Era

Discussion: None

Reading: Chapter 31: From the Age of Limits to the Age of Reagan

18. Thursday, July 6-

Quiz: The Crumbling Liberal Consensus and the Reagan Era

Lecture: The End of the Cold War and the Age of Globalization

Discussion: Review for Final Exam

Reading: Chapter 32: The Age of Globalization

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19. Friday, July 7- Final Exam on Chapters 25-32

Final exam: Chapters 30, 31, and 32

Lecture: America in a Post 9/11 World

FINAL EXAM: Friday, July 7 During Regular Class Time