

Syllabus for History 12: United States History 1865 to Present

Reedley College

Spring 2018

Course #: 76249

Instructor: Carl Geissert

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Meeting Days: M, T, Th

Meeting Time: 08:15-09:10

Room: Fowler High School, Rm 414

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 contributions and changing roles of gender and ethnic groups in American history 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.

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:

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

You will also be required to print out a number of primary source documents from Canvas to bring with you on discussion days. These readings can be found on Canvas in the "Discussion Readings" folder of the "Files" tab for the course.

Course Organization:

The course will be broken up into two main activities: lecture, and discussion.

Most class meetings will include a lecture. The assigned textbook reading for each day will help you follow these lectures more easily. This textbook reading, from *The American Yawp*, appears on the course schedule corresponding to each week of the course. 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.

we will also have weekly 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 in the “Discussion Readings” folder in the “Files” tab for the course. Careful reading of the assigned material before arriving in class is essential to discussion sections. **Print out and bring the assigned readings to class on discussion days. If you do not, you will not be allowed to stay for the discussion.**

Assignments, Requirements, and Expectations:

- 1) **Attendance.** Roll will be checked on discussion days. If you miss more than one discussion, 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 (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.** Roughly once a week, you will be required to take a short quiz covering the previous week’s lectures and reading. These will generally be online, open-note, timed quizzes that will be completed outside of class. These will be found in the Quizzes section of the Canvas page for the course, and will feature a mix of multiple choice, fill in the blank, and true/false questions. Occasionally, quizzes will take the form of short, in-class writing assignments. In total, you will take 12 quizzes for this course, only the 10 best scores of which will be applied to your grade.
- 4) **Pub-Quizzes:** You will also take two oral, group quizzes this semester that will draw from all the material presented in lectures, reading, and discussions. Each of these “pub-quizzes” will account for 5% of your final grade in the course.
- 5) **Exams.** There will be a total of two essay exams in this 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 midterm exam will occur on Tuesday, March 6 during our regular class meeting, and the final exam for this course will be held on Tuesday, May 15.**

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.*

- 6) **Paper.** You are required to write one 5-7-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, April 10th** 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 Tuesday, May 1st.** The topic for the paper 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.

- 7) **Academic Dishonesty.** Students at California State University, Fresno 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.

- 8) **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.*

- 9) **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.*
- 10) **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.*
- 11) **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.
- 12) **Email.** Please check your campus email account regularly. If you do not, you may miss an important announcement about class.

Grading:

Quizzes: 15%
 Discussion Participation: 10%
 Pub-Quizzes: 10%
 Mid-Term Exam: 20%
 Final Exam: 20%
 Final Paper: 25%

Grading Scale:

This Course follows a fairly typical grading scale.

89.5-100%	A
79.5-89.4%	B
69.5-79.4%	C
59.5-69.4%	D
59.4% and Below	F

Office Hours: Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free 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.

Important Dates:

Last day to drop a full-term class and qualify for a full refund: Friday, January 19

Last day to drop without receiving a “W” in the Course: Friday, January 26

Last Day to Drop: Friday, March 9

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

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
1	Tuesday, January 9	Course Overview and Expectations	1. Course Syllabus 2. Pre-Quiz: Student Learning Outcomes
2	Thursday, January 11	Reconstruction Part I	American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 400-419
3	Monday, January 15	No Class- Martin Luther King Day	
4	Tuesday, January 16	Reconstruction Part II	
5	Thursday, January 18	Discussion: Louisiana Black Codes	1. Quiz #1: Reconstruction 2. Louisiana Black Code [Canvas Reading #1]
6	Monday, January 22	The Closing of the West	American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 431-456
7	Tuesday, January 23	Final Paper: Tips and Helpful Hints Discussion: Winnemucca, Life Among the Piutes	Winnemucca, Life Among the Piutes [canvas reading #2]

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
8	Thursday, January 25	The Rise of Industrial Capitalism Part I	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 459-484
9	Monday, January 29	The Rise of Industrial Capitalism Part II	
10	Tuesday, January 30	Discussion: Industrial Capitalism	Quiz # 2: The West and Industrial Capitalism [Canvas] Carnegie, "Gospel of Wealth" [Canvas Reading #3] "Trade Unionists Protest the Gift of a Carnegie Library" [Canvas Reading #4]
11	Thursday, February 1	The New South and Jim Crow Part I	<i>American History: Connecting With The Past</i> , pp. 419-429
12	Monday, February 5	The New South and Jim Crow Part II	
13	Tuesday, February 6	Discussion: Jim Crow	Quiz #3: Using Evidence in an Essay [in-class writing assignment] Booker T. Washington, "The Atlanta Compromise" [Canvas Reading #5] W.E.B. Du Bois, "On Booker T. Washington and Others" [Canvas Reading # 6]

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
14	Thursday, February 8	Pub Quiz #1	Review readings and all course notes
15	Monday, February 12	No Class-	
16	Tuesday, February 13	James Garfield and the Gilded Age	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 485-512
17	Thursday, February 15	American Manhood, American Imperialism: The United States at the Turn of the Century Part I	American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 514-549
18	Monday, February 19	No Class- President's Day	
A 19	Tuesday, February 20	American Manhood, American Imperialism: The United States at the Turn of the Century Part II	
20	Thursday, February 22	Discussion: Roosevelt, "The Strenuous Life"	Theodore Roosevelt, The Strenuous Life [Canvas Reading #7]
21	Monday, February 26	The Progressive Era Part I	Quiz #4: The Gilded Age and American Imperialism <i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 552-581
22	Tuesday, February 27	The Progressive Era Part II	
23	Thursday, March 1	Discussion: Women in the Progressive Era	Vest, "More Logic, Less Feeling" [Canvas Reading #8] Catt, "Class vs Gender" [Canvas Reading #9]

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
24	Monday, March 5	Discussion: Midterm Review	Quiz #5: Writing IDs: In-Class Writing Assignment Review class notes and bring them with you to discussion
25	Tuesday, March 6	Midterm Exam	Bring Bluebook to Class
26	Thursday, March 8	World War I Part I	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 583-612
27	Monday, March 12	World War I Part II	
28	Tuesday, March 13	A Tale of Two Twenties Part I	Quiz #6: World War I <i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 615-638
29	Thursday, March 15	A Tale of Two Twenties Part II	
30	Monday, March 19	Discussion: Scopes Monkey Trial	Scopes Monkey Trial Transcripts [Canvas Reading #10]
31	Tuesday, March 20	The Great Depression and the New Deal Part I	Quiz #7: The 1920s <i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 640-685
32	Thursday, March 22	The Great Depression and the New Deal Part II	Quiz #8: The Great Depression and the New Deal
33	Monday, March 26	No Class- Spring Recess	
34	Tuesday, March 27	No Class- Spring Recess	
35	Thursday, March 29	No Class- Spring Recess	
36	Monday, April 2	No Class- Spring Recess	
37	Tuesday, April 3	Pub Quiz #2	Review readings and all course notes

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
38	Thursday, April 5	World War II Part I	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 705-741
39	Monday, April 9	World War II Part II	
40	Tuesday, April 10	Rough Draft Workshop	Bring two copies of your rough draft to class
41	Thursday, April 12	The Cold War In Europe Discussion: Kennan's Long Telegram	Kennan, "The Long Telegram [Canvas Reading #11]
42	Monday, April 16	The Cold War in Latin America	
43	Tuesday, April 17	The Cold War at Home: America in the 1950s	Quiz #9: The Cold War in Europe and Latin America <i>American History: Connecting With The Past</i> , pp. 747-779; 792-793
44	Thursday, April 19	The Civil Rights Movement Part I	<i>American History: Connecting With The Past</i> , pp. 786-791
45	Monday, April 23	Discussion: The Southern Manifesto	The Southern Manifesto [Canvas Reading #12]
46	Tuesday, April 24	The Civil Rights Movement Part II	Quiz # 10: The 1950s and the Early Civil Rights Movement
47	Thursday, April 26	The Civil Rights Movement Part III	
48	Monday, April 30	The Vietnam War	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past</i> , pp. 793-805; 824-826

Meeting	Date	Topic	Reading and Other Assignments
49	Tuesday, May 1	Lyndon B. Johnson and the Great Society	Final Paper Due at Beginning of Class Quiz #11: Late Civil Rights and Vietnam <i>American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 782- 785</i>
50	Thursday, May 3	The Liberal Consensus Crumbles Part I	<i>American History: Connecting With The Past, pp. 828-835</i>
51	Monday, May 7	The Liberal Consensus Crumbles Part II	
52	Tuesday, May 8	The Reagan Revolution	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 838-854</i>
53	Thursday, May 10	Neoliberalism	<i>American History: Connecting with the Past, pp. 856-862</i>
54	Monday, May 14	Discussion: Final Exam Review	Quiz # 12: Writing an Identification Essay [In-Class Writing Assignment]
55	Tuesday, May 15	Final Exam	

The final exam for this course will be held on Tuesday, May 15 from 08:15 to 09:10 am.