

Fall 2012
History 121 (10678)
Tues, 6:30-9:40
Room 204

Professor Monica Ketchum
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Course Outline: United States History since 1877

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a survey of American history from 1865 to the present. The course will examine the major political, economic, social and cultural developments in the United States since the Civil War, beginning with the Reconstruction era. Topics explored will include the U.S. involvement in both World Wars, the Civil Rights movement and America's rise to global power. At the conclusion of the course, students will have a broad understanding of the most important movements, events and ideas of the modern period and their impact on our society today.

COURSE GOALS: The goal of this course is to illustrate the specific needs of learning about the past. I will demonstrate the predominant thoughts, major concepts and theories which have, and still do influence people and relate these facts and theories to our everyday lives. During the course you will learn that if we prepare well enough, history does not repeat itself. You will have the opportunity to observe the development of philosophies, theories and major concepts, investigate and analyze specific events and evaluate their subsequent impact on the past, present and future.

COMPETENCIES: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of past events, define how the past effects current times and identify key people, terms and events which impact history.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will be able to (1) identify and recall key information from a historical text and/or a documentary film; (2) describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event; and (3) explain the significance of a historical text by the end of the course.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of presentation and teaching methods will be used throughout the course of this class, including lectures, student/class discussions, visual aids, internet research, computer assignments and exams. Lectures will draw from the assigned text as well as outside sources.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES: Students are expected to complete a variety of activities designed to assist students in learning concepts and reinforcing the subject matter. These activities may include reading assignments, discussions, writing assignments, group activities, computer assignments and exams. Students should complete assigned reading before attending class and take lecture notes to receive the most benefit from the class time and achieve the most success in the course.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Course Materials: Students are required to obtain and access the class materials for the course. Students must purchase or rent the required textbook *and* access the internet to view and complete assignments in Blackboard.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Keene, Jennifer D., et. al. *Visions of America: A History of the United States, Volume 2.* 2nd Ed. Pearson. 2012. ISBN-13: 978-0-205-09268-0

BLACKBOARD: <https://blackboard.azwestern.edu/>

Assignments: *This is a writing intensive course.* The assignments are designed to develop critical thinking and writing skills that will transfer beyond the scope of this history class into other areas of your life. All exams contain a writing component in the form of short answer questions and essays. Over 50% of your grade is based on written work; therefore, if you choose **not** to complete the essay questions and writing assignments, you will not pass the class.

Attendance: Attendance is strongly encouraged, especially since History courses usually take a chronological approach. Absences can leave gaps that cannot easily be filled. Attendance will be taken each class period. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to verify that your attendance has been recorded or you may be counted as absent. Students are responsible for all materials, assignments and information given in class regardless of whether you were in class.

Withdrawals: If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. After the census, the instructor will not drop him or her from the course. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade. ***Do not assume that your instructor will drop you from the class because of poor attendance and or poor test scores. If you decide to drop the course, take the responsibility of notifying the Admissions and Records Office.*** The deadline to withdraw from the class and receive a "W" is **November 11.**

Accommodations for Students: I am happy to work with all students so that each can achieve his/her educational objectives. Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify me and the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. (DSP&S, Room 2117, Health Sciences Bldg., 355-6312)

Classroom Etiquette: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. This includes inappropriate, offensive or disrespectful posts to the discussion board. While I encourage open and candid discussions of topics, please be mindful of others and do so in a respectful manner. Cell phones, iPods and other electronic equipment must not be used during class. Arriving late, leaving early, eating, sleeping, talking, whispering, etc. disrupt the learning environment and can result in your removal from the class.

Academic Integrity: A college education is supposed to be challenging and requires hard work. Students must do their own work. Cheating, plagiarism and turning in work that you did not write will not be tolerated. Students suspected of cheating will be counseled and disciplinary action will be taken. Penalties for acts of academic dishonesty and student misconduct are severe and may include dismissal from the college. For a complete discussion of disciplinary procedures for academic dishonesty or other student misconduct, please refer to the current IVC General School Catalog.

OFFICE HOURS: I am available to meet individually with any student to discuss problems, questions or concerns about the course. You are free to meet with me in the classroom before class, after class or during the break or you can make an appointment by calling or emailing me. ***Please note: if your matter is urgent, it is best to reach me by phone.***

EVALUATION: Grades will be earned by completing an assortment of learning activities, exams, assignments and participation.

1. 35% Exams
Four exams will be given. They will each cover material from the readings and lectures and will include a variety of questions, including multiple choice, true/false, identification and short answers. The final exam will also include essay questions. The exams are scheduled on Sep 25, Oct 23, Nov 13 and Dec 5.
2. 20% Term Paper
Students will be assigned a research paper relating to the historical period under study. Students will complete tasks relating to their topic throughout the semester. Details on format, specific tasks and due dates will be outlined in a separate handout. The final draft is due at the beginning of class on Nov. 20.
3. 20% Assignments
Several short writing assignments (1-3 paragraphs) based on primary and secondary sources, the readings, lectures and videos will be assigned to be completed through Blackboard. See the class schedule for due dates.
4. 20% Attendance & Participation
Students are expected to come to class prepared and actively participate in class discussions and group activities. Points will be deducted for absences and awarded for participation in graded class discussions and activities.

GRADING: The course grade is based on total points accumulated during the semester. It is possible to earn a total of up to 650 points for the class. Grades are calculated as follows:

A = 585-650 points
B = 520-584 points
C = 425-519 points
D = 325-424 points
F = 0-324 points

LATE ASSIGNMENTS & MAKE-UP EXAMS: Late assignments will not be accepted. Make up exams are only available to students who have a serious illness or valid excuse that makes it impossible to take the regularly scheduled exam.

INCOMPLETES: If you are unable to complete the course due to a serious illness or personal problem, you have the option to request an "Incomplete" for the course and make up the coursework within a specified time period. Failure to complete the coursework results in a grade being assigned based on the points you accumulated in the class, usually resulting in an "F." Students are responsible for initiating paperwork for Incompletes. ***Your instructor will not assign an Incomplete if you simply fail to complete coursework.***

Class Lecture, Reading and Assignment Schedule

*Reading assignments should be completed prior to each class meeting

WEEK/DATE	LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS	v
Week 1 Aug 21	<i>Review of Syllabus and Course Requirements</i> <i>Blackboard 101</i> <i>Introduction to the Course: The United States in 1877</i> Map Exercise Assigned	
Week 1 Blackboard (BB)Tasks	<i>Familiarize yourself with Blackboard</i> <i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 1 folder</i> Acknowledgement due 9/4	
Week 2 Aug 28	<i>Conflict and Conquest: The Transformation of the West, 1860-1900</i> <i>American Indian Policy</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 15, pp438-467</i> Map Exercise Due 8/28 Class Discussion #1	
Week 2 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 2 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #1 due 9/4	
Week 3 Sept 4	<i>Wonder and Woe: The Rise of Industrial America, 1865-1900</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 16, pp468-497</i> Term Paper Assigned Class Discussion #2	
Week 3 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 3 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #2 due 9/11	
Week 4 Sept 11	<i>Becoming A Modern Society: America in the Gilded Age, 1877-1900</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 17, pp498-529</i> Class Discussion #3	
Week 4 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 4 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #3 due 9/18	
Week 5 Sept 18	<i>Creating a Democratic Paradise: The Progressive Era, 1895-1915</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 18, pp530-559</i> Term Paper Topic Proposals Due 9/18 Review for Exam #1 (Chapters 15-18 and Intro)	
Week 5 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 5 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #4 due 9/25	
Week 6 Sept 25	Exam #1 (Chapters 15-18) 6:30-7:15 <i>Imperial America: The United States and the World, 1890-1914</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 19, pp560-591</i>	
Week 6 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 6 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #5 due 10/2	
Week 7 Oct 2	<i>The Great War: World War I, 1914-1918</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 20, pp592-623</i> Class Discussion #4	
Week 7 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 7 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #6 due 10/9	
Week 8 Oct 9	<i>A Turbulent Decade: The Twenties</i> <i>Immigration and Immigration Policy</i> <i>Read <u>Visions of America</u>, Chapter 21, pp623-653</i> Term Paper Outline and Bibliography due 10/9 Class Discussion #5	
Week 8 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 8 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #7 due 10/16	

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Week 9 Oct 16	<i>A New Deal for America: The Great Depression, 1929-1940</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 22, pp654-683 Class Discussion #6 Review for Exam #2 (Chapters 19-22)	
Week 9 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 9 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #8 due 10/23	
Week 10 Oct 23	Exam #2 (Chapters 19-22) 6:30-7:15 <i>World War II: Fighting the Good War, 1939-1945</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 23, pp684-717	
Week 10 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 10 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #9 due 10/30	
Week 11 Oct 30	<i>A Divided World: The Early Cold War, 1945-1963</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 24, pp718-749 Class Discussion #8	
Week 11 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 11 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #10 due 11/6	
Week 12 Nov 6	<i>In a Land of Plenty: Contentment and Discord, 1945-1975</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 25, pp750-777 Review for Exam #3 (chapters 23-25) LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH A 'W' IS NOV 11	
Week 12 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 12 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #11 due 11/13	
Week 13 Nov 13	Exam #3 (Chapters 23-25) 6:30-7:15 <i>A Nation Divided: The Vietnam War, 1945-1975</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 26, pp778-809 Class Discussion #9	
Week 13 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 13 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #12 Due 11/20	
Week 14 Nov 20	<i>A Decade of Discord: The Challenge of the Sixties</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 27, pp810-841 Class Discussion #10 Term Paper Due 11/20	
Week 14 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 14 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #13 Due 11/27	
Week 15 Nov 27	<i>The US since 1975 and Wrap Up</i> Read <u>Visions of America</u> , Chapter 28 & 29, pp842-905 Review for Final Exam (Chapters 26-29)	
Week 15 BB Tasks	<i>View presentation, videos and assignments in Week 15 folder</i> Blackboard Assignment #14 due 12/4	
Week 16 Dec 4	FINAL EXAM 6:30-8:00pm	