History 2112: Survey of United States History

TUES / THURS 8:00-9:15
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Instructor: Lauren Moran
Office Hours: T / TH 9:30-11:00

REQUIRED TEXTS
2. Documents to Accompany America’s History, Volume 2 – 7th edition

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION
History 2112 is a survey of United States History since 1890. Because we only have a short time to cover everything, we will not try to cover everything. Instead, each class period will focus on a specific topic or event. Lectures, films, readings and discussions will allow us to analyze each event in depth. The overarching goal of this class is to help you to have the historical knowledge to think critically about current political, social, and economic developments. The class assignments are designed to strengthen your skills as critical readers and effective writers.

GRADES
Each student will begin the semester with zero points and will have the opportunity to earn a total of 200 points. To calculate your final grade in the class, divide your points by two. The points will be earned as follows:

100 points – exams – midterm and final exams worth 50 points each
40 points – homework – 10 homework assignments worth 4 points each
30 points – in-class assignments worth 1-3 points each
30 points – review packets – completed as a group before each exam

Each day that a reading assignment is due, you must send me an email before class begins. In the body of the email (no attachments) should be the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page of notes on the reading. The page should conclude with a brief paragraph explaining which argument you found most convincing and why. The notes do not have to be complete sentences (“bullet” format is preferable), but the conclusion should consist of a few well constructed sentences. All of the homework assignments will come from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in U.S. History.

Please bring the appropriate volume of Documents to Accompany America’s History on the days indicated on the syllabus. We will read selections from this text in-class, and you will write answers to discussion questions to be turned in at the end of the class session. If you do not bring your book, you will not be able to participate, and your grade will be negatively affected. These document assignments, along with worksheets to accompany films, will comprise your 30 potential points categorized as in-class assignments above.

The review packets will be distributed in class one week before each exam; more details to follow.

The tests will be multiple choice; there will be 50 questions on each test. The tests questions will be drawn primarily from the class lectures, but information from the assigned readings will be included as well. We will discuss examples of test questions regularly as we proceed through the course.

PLEASE NOTE
This syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary

If you wish to use a laptop to take notes in class, I reserve the right to ask you to show me the work that you’ve done on your laptop at the end of class.
SCHEDULES OF TOPICS, READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Thurs 8/18 – intro
Tues 8/23 – post Civil War South
Thurs 8/25 – the West in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} half of the 19\textsuperscript{th} century. **HW 1 due: Issue # 2** - “Was the Wild West...”
Tues 8/30 – industrialization, urbanization, and immigration
Thurs 9/1 – 1890s imperialism
Tues 9/6 – progressivism. **HW 2 due: Issue #8** – “Did the Progressives Fail?”
Thurs 9/8 – World War One; **bring Doc book!!!**
Tues 9/13 – society in the 1920s
Thurs 9/22 – the Great Depression
Thurs 9/29 – World War 2
Tues 10/4 – World War 2 cont’d; **Bring Doc book!!!**
Thurs 10/6 – in-class review day – check assignment sheet for due date!
Tues 10/11 – topic TBA

**Thurs 10/13 – midterm exam**
Tues 10/18 – Cold War into; **HW 6: Issue 13** – “Was President Truman Responsible for the Cold War?”
Thurs 10/20 – **Atomic Café** film
Thurs 10/27 – Early Civil Rights Movement
Tues 11/1 – Civil Rights Movement cont’d; **HW 8 due: Issue # 15** – “Did John F. Kennedy...” / **Bring Doc book!!!**
Thurs 11/3 – Vietnam
Tues 11/8 – **Berkeley in the Sixties** film
Thurs 11/10 – social movements of the 70s and 80s; **HW 9 due: Issue # 17** – “Has the Women’s...” / **Bring Doc book!!!**
Tues 11/15 – Reagan presidency and the end of the Cold War; **bring Doc book!!!**
Thurs 11/17 – globalization in the 1990s and beyond

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**
Tues 11/29 – in-class review day; check assignment sheet for due date! **HW 10 due: Issue # 18** – “Is the United States...”
Thurs 12/1 – topic TBA

**Tues 12/6 – final exam 7am!!!