United States History, 1890-Present
History 2112
Tuesday and Thursday
CRN 10165, SS Building Room 2034, 8:00-9:15
CRN 10166, SS Building Room 3029, 9:30–10:45
Friday
CRN 10175, SS Building, Room 1017, 11:00-1:45
Spring, 2012

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Office Hours - The instructor will be available one hour on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:45 to 11:45 and from 1:45 to 2:45 on Friday.

Required Textbooks:

Overview
This course examines the history of the United States from the 1900s to the 1990s with an emphasis on how political, economic, and social developments shaped the conditions, attitudes, and values of present-day America. This course focuses on the central themes and issues in American growth and institutional change as to how Americans faced them.

Course Objectives: The student will understand a broad knowledge of the United States since 1890 based on the knowledge of the major movements, events, and personalities of the American scene.

1. Every student will obtain a basic knowledge of the evolution of American political beliefs and institutions. Through this academic process, a foundation for an educated citizenry will be developed so that global citizenship will be more responsible, sophisticated, and analytical.

2. The student will understand how the American economy developed and how it changes influenced its institutions and society in general.
3. Every student will discover, understand, and appreciate the interplay of forces and personalities that shaped historical change and American life.

4. Every student will acquire an appreciation of the historical methodology. In doing so, each student will learn to think historically, learn to ask questions of the past and develop communicative skills, both in writing and with speaking, primary among these is the skill of shaping, substantiating, and communicating historical arguments.

5. Every student will gain an understanding of a regional perspective of American history including those students from the South, the Southwest and West Coast, the Midwest and Northeast.

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to attend both classes each week. Attendance will be taken. All students are expected to attend classes on time, read the assigned class material, and participate in class discussion in a substantive manner. You should involve yourself in class discussions by asking questions, participating in-group activities, and contributing your thoughts, interpretations, and ideas.

While conflicting commitments and unforeseen and unpreventable developments may occasionally force an absence, this class, like one’s job, is a major commitment. Leaving class early without the instructors prior consent will result in a student’s being counted absent for that day. If appropriate documentation for participation university athletics, severe illness, employment conflict, or other compelling reason for absence is presented, that absence will be “excused” and will not be charged against you. As excuses, car trouble, traffic jams, poor weather conditions, etc will occur but no one should use these conditions as reasons for repeated lateness and absence. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ATTEND CLASS AS SCHEDULED. ACKNOWLEDGE IT!

This policy reflects life in the working world, where employers have strict attendance policies and the penalties for violating them are much greater.

**Academic Integrity:**

There will be zero tolerance for any student who violates university policies regarding cheating or plagiarism with his or her work. The following is the new policy statement on “Cheating and Plagiarism:”

“No student: shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs,
programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duty acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).”

Once established that a student plagiarizes or cheats, as outlined in the above statement, with any assignment in or examination for this class, a grade of F will be automatic.

**Examinations and Grading:**

You will have **two** examinations during the semester. Each will be announced at least one week in advance. The exams will consist of two basic parts: Part I will consist of three questions from which you will select two questions. Each essay question will be worth twenty points each for a total of 40 points. Part II of the exam, worth 20 Points, will require the identification of proper names and events. A review session will be conducted as to the type of questions and appropriate answers. Remember, the examinations will be based upon class lectures and assigned readings as indicated on the course syllabus. **Blue Books** are required for both Examinations. Every student must sign out with the completion of the Examination.

A final examination will be optional. During the last week of the course, each student **MUST** meet with the instructor to review his or her grades. After the review, the student, if satisfied with his/her grade has the option of taking or not taking the final examination. This will be a comprehensive examination. The final examination will replace the lowest grade on the previous examinations. A detailed outline of the examination will be explained at a later date. **THE FINAL EXAMINATION IS NOT REQUIRED. IT IS OPTIONAL.**

**Grading**

**I do all the grading for this course!** Student negotiation for higher grades or seeking changes to assignments will not be tolerated.

Grading for this course is based upon an accumulated point system as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination I</th>
<th>60 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination II</td>
<td>60 points</td>
</tr>
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**120 points**

Percentage is determine by dividing 120 into the total points earned with the two exams.

**Final Examination will replace the**
lower score of one of the two regular examinations.

Extra Credit Policy
Your grade for the course is based solely on the required course work. NO OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTRA CREDIT IS AVAILABLE.

Disability Policy
If any student needs special accommodations to fulfill the academic requirements for this course, consult with the instructor so that the necessary arrangements can be made through the Student Development Center.

Course Schedule
Please read and review this syllabus carefully. You are responsible for knowing the contents and for requesting clarification of the material for which it encompasses.

Lecture Topics:

A. Introduction to the Course
   1. Review of class policies
   2. Explanation of the syllabus

B. Imperialism and Expansionism
   1. The Old Order Passes
   2. American Emergence as a World Imperial Power
   3. The Spanish American War and the Responsibilities of International involvement

   Readings: Text, pp. Chapters 19, 20, 21

C. The Origins and Results of the Progressive Movement
   1. The Reform Agenda and its accomplishments
   2. The American Presidency and the Progressive Movement
Readings: Text, Chapter 22.
Hoffman, et al. Chapter 5

D. The United States and the Great War

1. U.S. Foreign Policy and the Road to War
2. Woodrow Wilson and the League of Nations

Readings: Text, Chapter 23.

E. The 1920’s

1. America’s Return to Normalcy
2. The Search for National Security

Readings: Text, Chapter 24.
Hoffman, et al. Chapter 7

F. The Crash, the Depression, and the New Deal

1. The Great Depression and Herbert Hoover
2. The New Deal of FDR.

Readings: Text, Chapter 25.

G. Isolationism and the Coming of World War II

1. The Road to War.
2. World War II and the ushering of the Cold War

Readings: Text, Chapters 26 and Chapter 27 – pp. 801-808.

H. The 1950’s

1. The Fair Deal and the American People
2. The Eisenhower Era

Readings: Text, Chapter 27 – pp. 808-825; Chapter 28- pp. 827-846
Hoffman, et al. Chapters 11 and 12

I. The Resurgence of liberalism and Vietnam

1. JFK and the New Frontier
2. The Great Society and the War in Vietnam

J. The Imperial Presidency
   1. Nixon’s Presidency
   2. Nixon and Watergate

   Readings: Text: Chapter – pp.894-924.

K. The Rise of American Conservatism
   1. The Reagan Revolution
   2. The End of the Cold War and the Post-Cold War Era in American Politics and Society.

   Readings: Text: Chapters, 31 and 32.
   Hoffman, et.al. Chapter 15.

This instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus when conditions warrant it.