

HISTORY 2110
Survey of American History
Spring Semester - 2009
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In case of illness or emergency and you cannot attend please leave word with someone or with me at one of the above telephone numbers.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Murrin, John M., Johnson, Paul E., et. al. *Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People*. Thomson Advantage Books Concise 5th Edition, Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, Belmont, Calif., 2008.

Course Description and Objectives:

The course will survey American history from approximately 1500 to the modern day. Topics that comprise the course include cultural, social, political, and economic development of the United States, first as colonies, then as a nation. Moreover, the course will introduce the fundamental events, forces, and ideas that shaped the American nation and the lives of its people. We will especially seek to connect events of the past with current social, cultural, and political issues to see how these have helped form the fabric of today's society.

Ultimately, success in this course requires more than just remembering specific amounts of information; it is more important to develop an awareness and meaning of the significance of the events and changes that occurred over time in the building of this nation. The active involvement of your mind both in class discussions and in preparing for those discussions through course readings is a key to your success.

As there is considerable reading in this course, and it is very important that you not fall behind. Read the textbook "actively"-i.e., underline, take notes, or outline while you read or when you are finished. It is important at the outset for you to understand that as University students with the ability to read that you will be responsible for material in the text that I shall not cover in lecture.

Requirements

Students are responsible for materials shown or discussed (-i.e., maps, videos, lectures) in class as well as in the texts. ***Please Note: Lectures do not necessarily duplicate material in your text; hence, tests reflect material FROM BOTH lecture and text. Thus, it is imperative for you to attend each class.***

Additionally there will be *three minor tests (each counts 15%)*, during the semester and a **comprehensive** final examination (**counts 30% of final grade**). As tests are announced well in advance, and dates remain unchanged unless the professor, with the consent of the class, modifies the date, absences except for the circumstances described below will result in a "0" for that test. ***I will distribute study guides and outline the chapters covered on each test (including the final), several days prior to the test.***

A. Students who know that they will be absent for an examination, (business trip for example) or **B. Experience an emergency** should contact me by phone or E-Mail as soon as possible before, after or in class; or leave a message with the History Department ***to discuss the possibility of a makeup.***

- ***If you fail to contact me prior to an examination, or your reason for missing an announced examination is deemed unacceptable, your grade for that test will be "0" (Zero).***
- ***If you fail to turn in an assignment on the date due, without permission of the instructor, points will deducted from your grade.***

One written assignment is also required. A five (5) page book review of a biography (***AUTOBIOGRAPHIES UNACCEPTABLE***) of someone in the ***Colonial period*** or a ***citizen (born or naturalized) of the United States.*** (Counts 20%).

Class Participation: I encourage vigorous class discussion and comment from students. Attendance and participation counts 5%.

Extra Credit: Up to 10 points may be awarded on the Final Examination based on a short paper (no more than five [5] pages) that compares and contrasts events portrayed in a film to actual occurrences in **American History**. **Bibliography and endnotes required for this paper. No papers will be accepted late! No exceptions! (See the schedule for the date on which these papers are due.)**

Examples of films which may be used include, but are not limited to: *Black Robe; Northwest Passage; Last of the Mohicans* (most recent version), *The Patriot, Glory, Cobb, Public Enemy, Grapes of Wrath, A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Hiroshima, The Best Years of Our Lives, Gentleman's Agreement, Pork Chop Hill, Black Like Me; Hair, (Malcolm) X; Raisin In The Sun, Wallace; 13 Days, All The President's Men; Nixon, Norma Rae, Platoon, Give 'Em Hell Harry, Will Rogers' U.S.A.*, (the latter two films are both one-man presentations).

Discuss this project with the instructor before undertaking the project.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week of January 6:

Introduction. The Challenge to Spain and the Settlement of North America; England Discovers Its Colonies

Week of January 13:

Provincial America; Reform, Resistance, Revolution; The Revolutionary Republic

Week of January 20:

Complete Provincial America; Reform, Resistance, Revolution; the Revolutionary Republic

Week of January 27:

Market Revolution, Culture and Society of a new nation

Week of February 3:

Jacksonian Democracy; Manifest Destiny

Thursday, February 5: First Examination

Week of February 10:

Jacksonian Democracy; Manifest Destiny; The Gathering Tempest

Week of February 17:

Begin Civil War, Reconstruction; Frontiers of Change; Crises of the 1890s; The Emergence of An Industrial Society

Week of February 24:

Civil War, Reconstruction; Frontiers of Change; Crises of the 1890s; The Emergence of An Industrial Society

Thursday, February 26, Second Examination

Spring Break March 3 – 8 . . . No Class

Week of March 10:

Civil War, Reconstruction; Frontiers of Change; Crises of the 1890s; The Emergence of An Industrial Society

Week of March 17:

Progressivism; A World Power and the First World War; The 1920s, The Great Depression; The Second World War

Week of March 24:

Progressivism; A World Power and the First World War; The 1920s, The Great Depression; The Second World War

Thursday, March 26, Book Reviews Due

Week of March 31:

Progressivism; A World Power and the First World War; The 1920s, The Great Depression; The Second World War

Thursday April 2, Third Examination

Week of April 7:

The Age of Containment; The Society of affluence; America during the Vietnam War; Affluence and Discontent: the Kennedy Years.

Week of April 14:

The Age of Containment; The Society of affluence; America during the Vietnam War; Affluence and Discontent: the Kennedy Years.

Week of April 21:

Fight against Discrimination; the War at Home; the Nixon Years; Watergate

Last Day of Classes, Thursday, April 23, 2009

America in the late 20th Century continues: Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush, Sr., Clinton, "Bush 43".

Class discussion on current affairs.

April 23 -- EXTRA CREDIT PAPERS DUE!

Final Exam, Tuesday, April 28, 5 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

A good attendance record, especially if combined with class participation, can work to a student's advantage. After four consecutive absences, the instructor will assume a student has dropped the course unless otherwise notified. Students are allowed 3 (three) missed classes before your attendance grade will be penalized. Please note the policy concerning attendance:

Students must be present for announced quizzes, laboratory periods, or final examinations unless the reason for the absences are acceptable to the professors concerned . . . Students are responsible for all material covered during their absences and . . . for the academic consequence of their absences.

Please use restrooms prior to class.

ARRIVING LATE FOR CLASS: Please be on time. *Students arriving 15 minutes following the announced start of class will be counted absent.*

LEAVING DURING CLASS. Once class has begun no one, except by permission of the instructor, may leave until the period ends. If you must leave prior to the end of class, check with me before the start of class. Leaving class without authorization or excessive tardiness will result in a penalty in your grade.

WITHDRAWALS

Students should note that ***March 3, 2009*** is the last day on which it is possible to withdraw and possibly receive a W. All undergraduate students are allowed to withdraw with a grade of W a maximum of six (6) times in their entire careers at Georgia State. Students who exceed the limit will automatically receive a grade of WF. (WFs count as Fs for GPA calculation purposes.)

Withdrawals taken before Fall 2006 will not count against the limit and neither will hardship withdrawals, military withdrawals, withdrawals at other institutions, or withdrawals after the midpoint. (Withdrawals after the midpoint are automatically given a grade of WF.)

HARDSHIP WITHDRAWALS

A student seeking hardship status must complete an application form with the Office of the Assistant Dean of Students, where the existence of hardship status is determined . . . a student normally is not eligible to apply for hardship status unless hardship status is sought for all courses in which the student is registered for a given semester.

Changes in Grading:

Starting in Fall 2006, all instructors will have the option to award grades on a plus/minus scale. The following quality points will be used to calculate GPAs.

A 4.00	B- 2.70	D 1.00
A- 3.70	C+ 2.30	F 0.00
B+ 3.30	C 2.00	WF 0.00
B 3.00	C- 1.70	

Unless a Department or College says otherwise, instructors have the choice as to whether or not to use pluses and minuses. Absent departmental or College policy, instructors also decide on the criteria for the awarding of plus and minus grades. If a course requires a prerequisite of passing an earlier course with a "C", a grade of "C-" will not meet that prerequisite.

INCOMPLETE

The grade of "I" may be given to a student who for nonacademic reason beyond his or her control is unable to meet the full requirement of a course. To qualify for an "I" a student must: have completed most of the major assignments and be passing. *It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor in person or in writing when a student wishes to receive an "I".* A student who receives an "I" is expected to consult with the instructor within the prescribed time limit and to complete all necessary work prior to the end of the next semester of residence The university requires that the grade of "I" be removed by the end of the next academic term . . . if the "I" is not satisfactorily removed by the end of the next semester, the symbol "I" will be changed to an "F".

DISABLED STUDENTS

The University provides evaluation of individual needs, advisement, and appropriate support for . . . persons identified with disabilities. Those students have the responsibilities of contacting the office of Disability Services for an interview to assess their needs prior to their first semester of enrollment at Georgia State. Faculty and staff members will reasonably accommodate each identified student. It is the responsibility of the student to consult with the instructor.

CHEATING AND GRIEVANCES

If a teacher believes that a student has acted dishonestly in attempting to satisfy the requirements of the course, i.e., plagiarism etc., the teacher may submit the case to the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Discipline. In the case of plagiarism (appropriating and passing off as one's own work the writings, ideas, etc., of another), the instructor will follow the Department of History policy on term papers. If a student believes that he or she has been treated unfairly, the student may initiate the Student Appeals Procedure. A Statement of this procedure can be obtained from the Chairman of the Department.

DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

In accordance with applicable state, federal and University regulations discrimination and sexual harassment of any student will not be tolerated. Students who feel that they have been subject to such treatment can file a complaint with the applicable government agency or with the GSU Affirmative Action Office, the ombudsman, the Dean of Students and /or the respective administrative unit and college.

MISCELLANEOUS

BEEPERS AND CELL PHONES: Students wearing beepers should have them set to **vibrate** rather than Beep in order not to disrupt the class. **No cell phones will be used, or turned on in class.** Students who need to make or receive a phone call can do so before, or after class.