

HISTORY 2110: UNITED STATES HISTORY
Spring 2008: #14981 Room 603-GCB / 1:30-2:45 MW

Dr. Larry R. Youngs

Office: 816-G Phone: (404) 413-6357 email: hislry@langate.gsu.edu

Office Hours: MW: 10:00-11:00 or by appointment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to help the student better understand the historical development of the country we live in. Attention will be focused on politics, military conflicts, economics, material culture, and social and intellectual trends in United States history, with particular emphasis on the tensions within social and cultural identities and relationships of power. The course will be structured around a series of eras characterized by particular themes.

This course should enhance the student's ability to think historically in terms of context, and continuity and change. Each student will be required to master basic research techniques, analyze and synthesize historical facts, and demonstrate her or his ability to communicate effectively.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Helen Horowitz, ed., *Attitudes toward Sex in Antebellum America*
(Boston: Bedford/ St. Martin's, 2006).

Eric Arnesen, ed., *Black Protest and the Great Migration: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/ St. Martin's, 2003).

Van Gosse, ed., *The Movements of the New Left, 1950-1975: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/ St. Martin's, 2005).

James A. Henretta, et al., *America: A Concise History*, Third Edition.

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading assignments are listed in the schedule below. Students are expected to have read assignments **before** each class. Being prepared will help the student better understand the lectures and enhance her or his class participation. Student's questions and observations are critical to a successful classroom experience. Also, reading the books and other materials will be critical in each student's preparation for quizzes and exams.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Regular attendance is **highly recommended!** On exams, students will be responsible for the contents of lectures, in-class videos, handouts, and class discussions. Because many of the concepts, facts, and interpretations covered in class will be supplemental to the assigned books, each student's success in this course **requires both reading all assignments and attending class.**

may count as one of your quiz scores. The instructor **must approve** appropriate lectures.

EXAMS:

There will be **three exams**. Each exam will cover a specific period in American history. Test format will include matching, multiple choice, identifications (including geography), and short essays (including a critique of the books you read). Each exam may be worth 25% of the student's final grade.

Make-up exams will be given **only** to students with legitimate excuses (for example: supplying a written doctor=s excuse). If you miss a test, please notify the instructor of your reason(s) as soon as possible. Failure to inform the instructor promptly may result in a zero for the exam. **Make-up exams will be given at the instructor=s convenience.**

OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENT:

Each student **may choose to complete one of the following assignments.** The student will write a 3-4 page typewritten (double-spaced) essay **critiquing** her or his chosen subject. A class handout will be provided that explains the structure and format for completing this assignment. Your essay will be evaluated according to the following criteria: 65% content / 35% grammar and composition. Students are encouraged to submit a draft prior to turning in their final essay. The critique **may be used to replace one exam grade**, thus making it worth 25% of the final course grade.

Choices:

- Public History: visiting and critiquing a public history site.
- Newspapers: analyzing a newspaper as a primary document.
- Oral Interview: critiquing an interview that you conduct.
- Book: critiquing a historical monograph, biography, or autobiography.
- Film: critiquing two or more historically-based films.

GRADE CALCULATIONS:

Quizzes (mandatory).....100 points (25%)	372-400 (93%+) = A
Three highest scores of the following	360-371 (90-92%) = A-
Exam #1.....100 points (25%)	348-359 (87-89%) = B+
Exam #2.....100 points (25%)	332-347 (83-86%) = B
Exam #3.....100 points (25%)	320-331 (80-82%) = B-
<u>Optional Assignment.....100 points (25%)</u>	308-319 (77-79%) = C+
Total.....400 points (100%)	280-307 (70-76%) = C
	240-279 (60-69%) = D
	Below 240 (59%-) = F

There Will Be No Extra Credit Given In This Class!!!!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>
Jan 7	Introduction	
Jan 9	Worlds Collide	Henretta: 2-37
Jan 14	New World Colonization	Henretta: 37-67, 112-18
Jan 16	Revolutions	Henretta: 138-172
Jan 21	MLK Holiday = No Class	
Jan 23	A New Nation	Henretta: 184-226, D-9-D19

		*Henretta: 288-320
Jan 28	Peculiar Institution	Henretta: 76-88, 257-76
Jan 30	Antebellum Society	Horowitz: Introduction + *Henretta: 352-380
Feb 4	Manifest Destiny	Henretta: 322-49, 382-410
Feb 6	Civil War	Henretta: 412-40
Feb 11	Exam #1	
Feb 13	Optional Assignment-No Class	
Feb 18	Reconstruction	Henretta: 442-70
Feb 20	Industrial Capitalism	Henretta: 505-33
Feb 25	Resistance & Reform	Henretta: 566-594
Feb 27	Imperialism	Henretta: 628-56
Mar 3	Spring Break = No Class (last day to receive a W)	
Mar 5	Spring Break = No Class	
Mar 10	The Great War	Henretta: 658-73
Mar 12	The Great Migration	Arnesen: Introduction +
Mar 17	The Great War	Henretta: 674-90
Mar 19	Consumer Society	Henretta: 692-720
Mar 24	Exam #2	
Mar 26	Optional Assignment = No Class	
Mar 31	Great Depression/ New Deal	Henretta: 723-78
Apr 2	World War II (Optional Assignment draft due)	Henretta: 780-810

Apr 7	Cold War	Henretta: 812-46
Apr 9	Affluent Society	Henretta: 848-859
Apr 14	Civil Rights	Henretta: 860-878
Apr 16	New Left	Gosse: Introduction +
Apr 21	Vietnam	Henretta: 880-913
	Optional Assignment Due	
Apr 23	Malaise	Henretta: 915-43
Apr 28	Reagan's World	Henretta: 946-965
Apr 30	Exam #3	Wed., 12:30-2:30 pm