

Revised: Fall 2016

HIS 122 U.S. History II

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

Surveys United States history from its beginning to the present. Part II of II.

Students will demonstrate a satisfactory understanding of major social, economic, military and political events in U.S. history after the Civil War, with an emphasis on critical thinking about causes and consequences (why) more so than recall of who; what, when and where.

Proficiency levels appropriate for freshman/sophomore level college history are defined and determined by professional history instructors for each class.

Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3

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PO Box 14007
Roanoke, VA 24038
(540)-857-7273



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Course Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Explain the Jim Crow era
- Describe Gilded Age politics
- Define Populism
- Explain the causes and consequences of immigration, urbanization, industrialization, and the Progressive Movement
- Explain the Spanish-American War
- Describe late 19th/early 20th century American globalism
- Demonstrate an understanding of the causes and consequences of World War I
- Discuss the Roaring 1920s, the Great Depression and New Deal
- Explain World War II
- Explain foreign and domestic affairs in the early Cold War (1946-59) and the 1960s, focusing on Kennedy's New Frontier and Johnson's Great Society
- Explain the Civil Rights Movement
- Describe the Vietnam War and its domestic implications
- Demonstrate an understanding Watergate
- Describe the presidencies of Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, G. H. W. Bush, Clinton and George W. Bush

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Required Materials:

1. Textbook
2. Internet access
3. Blackboard

Textbook:

Foner, Eric. Give Me Liberty!: An American History (Brief Third Edition). New York: W.W. Norton, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-393-93551-6 or ISBN: 9780393516920

Open Education Resource Sections of HIS 121 will use: OpenStax. U.S. History. Texas: Rice University, 2014. ISBN:1938168364

The following supplementary materials are available: Other reading requirements vary by instructor.

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Topical Description:

Reconstruction, 1865-1877:

Significance of the 14th and 15th Amendments after Reconstruction

Supreme Court Decision – Plessy v. Ferguson

Booker T. Washington and W.E. Du Bois' different approaches for the advancement of African-Americans

The American West, 1870-1900:

Federal Indian Policies and effects of settlement on native populations

Frontier culture and society

Economic implications of mining, ranching and agriculture

Turner Thesis and conservation

Industrial America, 1870-1900:

Energy sources and railroads

The new corporations and the new management class

Mass Marketing

The New South

Unions and industrial conflict – the hardships of immigrants and women

Urban America, 1870-1900:

Slums, ghettos, and suburbs

Promoting social welfare

The emerging urban environment: public spaces and skyscrapers

Daily Life, popular culture and the arts, 1870-1900:

Social classes, families and education

Mass consumption

Cultures in conflict – Victorianism vs. women and popular culture

Politics in the Gilded Age:

Political Parties

The politics of privilege – The interests and ideology of big business

City Machines

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Populism
Jim Crow Politics
Imperialism – Spanish American War

The Progressive Era, 1900-1920:
Reforming an America society in turmoil - urban middle class, racism, and labor
Civil Rights
National Progressivism – Square Deal, New Nationalism, and New Freedom

World War I, 1914-1919:
Neutrality and mobilization
Patriotism and dissent
The home front – the economy, immigration, women and the end to reform
Peace terms

The Roaring Twenties:
Prosperity
Mass society and culture
Nativism, moralism and racism
Herbert Hoover

America's Great Depression and New Deal, 1929-1939:
The economy
The human faces of the economic depression
New Deal and FDR's leadership
Legacy of the New Deal

World War II, 1939-1945:
Events leading up to war – Fascism, Nazism, and national aggressions
American interventions and mobilization
Transforming a peace time economy and society into a war time economy and society
Alliances, D-Day and atomic bombs

Cold War America, 1945-1952:
Soldiers come home
Transforming the war time society into a peace time one
Anticommunism and containment
Truman's "Fair Deal"
McCarthyism – hysteria and government repression

The Affluent Society of the 1950s:
The Warren Supreme Court – the new civil struggle
Society and culture – suburbs, drive-ins, television and rock and roll

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The other America – poverty, blight, and rebels
War in Korea

The Turbulent Sixties:

JFK and the New Frontier

Symbols and fights for the Cold War – Berlin Wall, Cuban Missile Crisis and the Bay of Pigs

LBJ and the Great Society

Struggles for equality – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Vietnam War

Rise of Counter Cultures – Hippies

The 1970s:

End of the Vietnam War

Watergate

Economic Struggles – Stagflation

Iranian Hostage Crisis

Earth Day – environmentalism takes off

Reagan and Bush:

Reagan Election

Reaganomics

U.S. vs. “Evil Empire”

Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars)

“Trickle Down” economic theory

Scandals – Iran Contra scandal

Election of George Bush

End of the Cold War

Demise of the Soviet Union

Persian Gulf War

AIDS

The 1990s and beyond:

The presidencies of Clinton and George H. Bush

NAFTA

Health Care

Don’t ask Don’t Tell Policy – gays in the military

9/11 and terrorism

Iraq and Afghanistan wars

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Notes to Instructors

- None

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