HISTORY 232-01
THE UNITED STATES IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY
FALL SEMESTER 2008

Instructor: Matthew Hild
Office: Buckman Hall room 206
Office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1:55-2:55 PM; Tuesday, 2:00-3:00 PM; or by appointment
Telephone: (901) 843-3654 (office/voice mail)  (901) 843-4662 (History Department)
e-mail: hildm@rhodes.edu

Required books:
Robert C. McMath, Jr., American Populism: A Social History, 1877-1898
Hugh Tulloch, The Routledge Companion to the American Civil War Era
Sean Wilentz, Andrew Jackson

Course description: This course will examine major social, political, economic, and cultural changes in the United States during the nineteenth century, including U.S. relations with Native North Americans, antebellum reform, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and industrialization and urbanization. Other major themes covered will include the growth of political parties and the changing role of the presidency, the rise and decline of sectionalism, immigration, and American imperialism.

Course objectives: In addition to gaining an understanding of the major themes and developments in the history of the United States during the nineteenth century, students should also develop their critical reading and listening skills, analytical skills, writing skills, and speaking skills.

Examinations, assignments, and grading:

There will be three examinations in this course (including a non-cumulative final exam), each of which will consist of short answer identification questions and an essay question. There will also be three written assignments of about two-to-three double-spaced typed pages each (see the schedule of assignments below for details).

Class participation (participating in class discussions or asking questions) will also be factored into your course grade. More than three absences will adversely affect this component of your grade unless you have a documented excuse for your absences (illness, death in your family, or jury duty or subpoena). You must also have a documented excuse in order to take a makeup for a missed exam. Student athletes who will miss an exam due to an athletic event must inform the instructor of this at least one week before the exam.

Grading scale: Exams 20% each (60% total)
Written assignments 10% each (30% total)
Class participation 10%
A=92.50 or above; A-=89.50-92.49; B+=86.50-89.49; B=82.50-86.49; B-=79.50-82.49; C+=76.50-79.49; C=72.50-76.49; C-=69.50-72.49; D+=66.50-69.49; D=62.50-66.49; D-=59.50-62.49; F=59.49 or below

Classroom etiquette: All participants in this class (students and instructor alike) will be expected to refrain from rude or disruptive behavior in class, to keep their cell phones turned off in class, and to stay awake in class.

Academic honesty: All assignments and examinations in this course must be done in compliance with the Rhodes College Honor Code.

Disability services: Any student needing accommodations in this course for a disability should consult with the Office of Student Disability Services (901-843-3994, located in the modular building behind McCoy Theater).

This syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. If any deviations are necessary, they will be announced in class.

Schedule of topics, reading assignments, exams, and assignment due dates:

Week 1 (August 29): Course introduction
   Reading assignment: Begin reading Andrew Jackson.

Week 2 (September 3 and 5) Major topics: Federalists and Antifederalists; the presidential election of 1800; Marbury v. Madison; the Louisiana Purchase
   Reading assignment: Handout (Marbury v. Madison); continue reading Andrew Jackson.

Week 3 (September 8, 10, and 12)
   Documentary film on September 8: The Louisiana Purchase
   Major topics for September 10 and 12: the War of 1812; the Bank of the United States and economic expansion; the demise of the first party system; the “Era of Good Feelings”; the Panic of 1819
   Reading assignment: Finish reading Andrew Jackson.
   **First written assignment due at the beginning of class on September 12** (paper on Louisiana Purchase film or book review of Andrew Jackson).

Week 4 (September 15, 17, and 19) Major topics: the Missouri Compromise; the Monroe Doctrine; the “corrupt bargain” of 1824; the rise of Jackson and Jacksonian Democracy; the nullification crisis; slave revolts and abolitionists
   Reading assignment: American Civil War Era: Introduction (pp. 1-5), Chronological Table (pp. 9-15), Politics (“American Parties,” pp. 37-39), Primary Documents (“Slavery” and “Abolitionism,” pp. 63-72), “Abolitionism” entry in glossary (pp. 139-140); consult maps, biographies, and glossary as needed.
Week 5 (September 22, 24, and 26) Major topics for September 22 and 24: The Whig Party and the second party system; Indian removal/the “Trail of Tears”; the Panic of 1837; Manifest Destiny and westward expansion; the Seneca Falls Convention

Reading assignments: Handouts (Pres. Jackson’s State of the Union Address (1830) and Memorial of Protest of the Cherokee Nation (1836)); American Civil War Era: Elections, 1832-1848 (pp. 39-42); Seneca Falls Declaration (pp. 72-74); Seneca Falls Convention glossary entry (p. 159); biographical entries for Susan Brownell Anthony (p. 112) and Elizabeth Cady Stanton (pp. 131-132)

Exam # 1, September 26 (covers material from weeks 1-5)

Week 6 (September 29 and October 1 and 3) Major topics: the Mexican War; the intensification of the sectional crisis; the Civil War

Reading assignment: American Civil War Era: Elections, 1852-1864 (pp. 42-45); maps on pp. 47-48; Social and Economic Factors (pp. 50-57); Military Strategy (pp. 58-62); Primary Documents, pp. 74 (Ralph Waldo Emerson) – 97 (Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address); consult biographies and glossary as needed.

Week 7 (October 6 and 8)
October 6: Civil War documentary film
Topic for October 8: Reconstruction, part 1

Reading assignment: American Civil War Era: Elections, 1868-1876 (pp. 45-46); maps on p. 49; primary documents on Reconstruction (pp. 97-102) and literature (pp. 103-107); glossary entries on: Black Codes (1865-66); Carpetbaggers; Civil Rights Act of 1875; Civil Rights Cases, 1883; “40 acres and a mule”; Freedmen’s Bureau; Ku Klux Klan; Mississippi Plan, 1875; Plessy v. Ferguson, 1896; Radical Republicans; Reconstruction; Reconstruction Act, March 1867; “scalawags”; sharecropping; Slaughterhouse Case, 1873; Wade-Davis Bill

October 10: No class but second written assignment due in instructor’s e-mail inbox by 4:00 PM (paper on the Civil War documentary film shown on Oct. 6 or on any primary document or pair of related primary documents in American Civil War Era)

Week 8 (October 13, 15, and 17) Major topics: Reconstruction, part 2; The New West; the New South

Reading assignment: American Populism, Introduction and chapter one

Week 9 (October 22 and 24) Major topics: the Rise of Big Business; the Knights of Labor and the Great Upheaval

Reading assignment: American Populism, chapter two plus handout (The Purposes and Program of the Knights of Labor, 1878)

Week 10 (October 27, 29, and 31) Major topics: The American Federation of Labor and the Homestead and Pullman Strikes

Documentary film on the Homestead Strike on October 29

Exam # 2 on October 31 (covers material from weeks 6-10)
Week 11 (November 3, 5, and 7) Major topics: Gilded Age Politics; Immigration; Urbanization
Reading assignment: Continue reading *American Populism*; handout (“The Political Culture” by Charles Calhoun)

Week 12 (November 10, 12, and 14) Major topics: New South race relations; the farmers’ revolt and Populism
Reading assignments: Handouts (*Plessy v. Ferguson*; Booker T. Washington; W.E.B. Du Bois); continue reading *American Populism*

Week 13 (November 17, 19, and 21) Major topics: Election of 1896; pre-Progressive reform movements; American imperialism
Reading assignment: Finish reading *American Populism*.

Week 14 (November 24) Topic: Spanish-American War

Week 15 (December 1, 3, and 5)
Documentary film on the Spanish-American War on Dec. 1 and 3
Class discussion of primary source handouts on American imperialism and the Spanish-American War on Dec. 5
**Third written assignment due at the beginning of class on December 5** (paper on Spanish-American War documentary or book review of *American Populism*)

Week 16 (December 8 and 10)
December 8: William McKinley and the changing role of the American Presidency
December 10: Review for final exam

**Final exam: December 15, 5:30 PM (covers material from weeks 11-16)**