

History 152.3
MWF, 11:30-12:30
Palmer 205

Dee Garceau
Ofc Hrs: MWF 2-4pm
Clough 301, X-3290

AMERICAN SOCIETY SINCE 1877

This course explores the modern legacy of the Civil War; the effects of industrialization on social, economic, and political life; and the repercussions of westward expansion in both Euro-American and Native American culture. We also examine the meanings of Progressivism, the effects of world war and economic depression on society, and the United States' changing role in the global community. Within these contexts, race, gender, ethnicity, and class will be addressed as variables in a people's historical experience.

Course Structure

Class time will include lecture, discussion, and small group workshops. Periodically, guest speakers and films will add further dimension.

Purpose

- 1) To familiarize you with key developments in recent American history.
- 2) To encourage critical thought, by asking you to develop your own interpretations, and to support them with evidence and explanation.
- 3) To introduce you to how historians work, through analysis and contextualization of primary sources.

Required Texts

James Henretta et al., America's History; Volume II Since 1865 (Worth Publishers, 1997).
Robert Marcus & David Burner, America Firsthand; Volume II (St. Martin's Press, 1995).
James Welch, Fools Crow (Penguin Books, 1987).
Ann Banks, Ed., First Person America (W.W. Norton, 1991).
Bruce Schulman, Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism (St. Martin's Press, 1995).

The Henretta text provides a clear chronological narrative of events. Think of it as a reference, to orient yourself in place and time. The Marcus & Burner collection features original documents, including letters, diaries, oral histories, editorials, and transcripts of Congressional testimony. These lend immediacy to the past, bringing us the voices and experience of individual Americans.

The supplemental readings allow you to explore certain topics in more depth. Fools Crow portrays life among the Blackfeet people before the disappearance of the bison from the northern plains. First Person America is a collection of personal narratives from the Great Depression. Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism serves up a critical evaluation of President Johnson's political career, as well as documents which offer insight into his character and motivation.

Readings and Participation

On the average we will read 80-90 pages per week, so it is wise not to fall behind. When reading, viewing films, or listening to lectures, **take notes**. You will create a valuable record of ideas, evidence, and questions to which you can refer during discussion, or when studying for exams.

_____ Once a week, we will spend the entire class period in discussion or workshop. **On days marked Discussion or Workshop, come to class prepared; that is, having done the required reading or seen the required film.** Participation in discussions and workshops will require your full attention, and amount to **25% of your final grade.**

Course Requirements

- 1) Consistent attendance and participation. Over three absences will lower your average by _____
- 2) Completion of assigned work, on time. Late papers will be averaged a grade lower than _____
- 3) All work, unless otherwise indicated, is assumed to be pledged under the Honor Code. Use _____ of materials written by another student during a previous semester of this course (such as _____)

Assignments

Below is a complete list of assignments for this course:

- 1) Full participation in scheduled discussions. Short quizzes at the beginnings of discussions will be factored into this grade. (25%)
- 2) A summary of findings from two in-class workshops, to be factored into your class
- 3) An in-class essay exam on the period from 1877 through World War I. (25%)
- 4) An in-class essay exam on the period from the close of World War I to the close of World War II. (25%)
- 5) A take-home final exam on post-World War II American society. (25%).

COURSE OUTLINE

W Jan 13 Introduction to the Course

RACE RELATIONS IN THE POST-RECONSTRUCTION SOUTH

F Jan 15 The "Redeemed" South

Reading: The Grimes Family & Swindell Brothers Contracts, America Firsthand, pp.50-53.

Caleb Forshey et al., "White Southerners Reactions to Reconstruction," America Firsthand, pp.35-42.

Ida B. Wells, "Anti-Lynching Campaign in Tennessee," America Firsthand, pp.54-59.

Henretta, pp.604-12, 662.

M Jan 18 **Martin Luther King Day Observance**

W Jan 20 Discussion: African-American Strategies for Advancement

Reading: Booker T. Washington, "Atlanta Exposition

W.E.B. DuBois, "The Niagara Movement: Declaration of

W.E.B. DuBois, "The Talented Tenth," pp.21-24.
(Handout)

"A Sharecrop Contract," pp.7-8. (Handout)

"Plessy v. Ferguson," pp.9-13. (Handout)

Ida B. Wells, "United States Atrocities," pp.14-17.
(Handout)

Henry McNeal Turner, "The American Negro and His

THE GILDED AGE

F Jan 22 Industrial Expansion and Corporate Consolidation

Reading: Andrew Carnegie, "Lecture to Young Men,"
America Firsthand, pp.118-24.

"George Rice Loses Out to Standard Oil,"
America Firsthand, pp.125-31.

Henretta, pp.551-62.

M Jan 25 Census Workshop: Mining and Steel Industry in the South

Reading: Henretta, pp.563-66.

W Jan 27 Immigration, the Factory Workday, and Organized Labor

Reading: Pauline Newman, "Conditions at the Triangle

Shirtw

William Shepard, "A Fire Trap," America Firsthand,
pp.111-16.

Henretta, pp.566-67, 569-81.

F Jan 29 Individualism, Social Darwinism, and the Rise of Fraternal Organizations

Reading: Henretta, pp.616-22, 636-44.

M Feb 1 The New Woman: Reform, College, Wages, and Dance Halls

Reading: Margaret Sanger, "My Fight for Birth Control," America Firsthand, pp.188-94.

Henretta, pp.568-70, 594-95, 653-61.

W Feb 3 Discussion: Industrial Growth and American Identity

Reading: Abraham Cahan, "A Bintel Brief," America Firsthand, pp.139-45.

Upton Sinclair, "Conditions at the Slaughterhouse," America Firsthand, pp.146-53.

Rose Pastor Stokes, "Part of the Working Class," America Firsthand, pp.132-38.

Henretta, pp.623-26, 630-36.

_____ ****Begin reading Fools Crow.** **

IRON HORSES, BLUE COATS, & BUFFALO DREAMS

F Feb 5 The Mining Frontier & Native American Resistance

Reading: She Walks With Her Shawl, et al., "Vengeance Against Long H

Holmes Paulding, "So Preposterous an Idea," America Firsthand, pp.67-73.

Henretta, pp.519, 535-42.

M Feb 8 Cattlemen and Homesteaders

Reading: James Welch, Fools Crow.

Henretta, pp.521-34, 543-48.

W Feb 10 Discussion: When Worlds Collide

Reading: James Welch, Fools Crow.

F Feb 12 Populism & Pow-Wows: Grassroots Politics in Two Cultures

Reading: Luna Kellie, "A Prairie Populist,"
America Firsthand, pp.97-103.

Zitkala-Sa, "The School Days of an Indian Girl,"
America Firsthand, pp.90-96.

Henretta, pp.596-603.

****FIRST ESSAY EXAM QUESTIONS HANDED OUT****

THE PROGRESSIVE ERA

M Feb 15 Muckraking and Local Progressivism

Reading: Henretta, pp.627-29, 648-52, 659.

W Feb 17 National Progressivism: Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson

Reading: Henretta, pp.663-74.

F Feb 19 ****FIRST ESSAY EXAM****

M Feb 22 Discussion: The Benefits and Costs of Imperialism

Reading: Henretta, pp.677-701.

THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA

W Feb 24 The First World War

Reading: Lewis Ranlett, "Life in the Trenches," America Firsthand, pp.173-79.

Henretta, pp.702-20.

F Feb 26 Wartime Changes at Home/The Treaty of Versailles

Reading: Henretta, 721-30.

M March 1 Discussion: The Great Migration

Reading: Emmet J. Scott, "Letters From the Great Migration"
America Firsthand, pp.169-72.

Zora Neale Hurston, "Memories of College Days," America
Firsthand, pp.180-87.

W March 3 1920s Culture: Backing into the Future

Reading: William Jennings Bryan et al., "In Defense of the
Bible," America Firsthand, pp.156-63.

H.L. Mencken, "To Expose a Fool," America Firsthand,
Henretta, pp.731-43, 747-61.

F March 5 Film: "A Job at Ford's." (Burrow Library Viewing Room)

Reading: Henretta, pp.744-45.

March 6-14 **SPRING BREAK**

Begin reading Banks, First Person America, pp.51-92,
123-35, 139-59, 163-80, 183-213, 237-60.

DEPRESSION AND WAR

M March 15 From Black Thursday to the First Hundred Days

Reading: Henretta, pp.774-80, 781-85, 787-96.

W March 17 The Great Depression and the New Deal

Reading: Anonymous, "Down and Out in the Great
Depression," America Firsthand, pp.195-203.

Henretta, pp.797-801, 803-06, 807-18.

F March 19 Discussion: Brother Can You Spare a Dime?

Reading: Banks, First Person America, pp.51-92, 123-35,

M March 22 World War II

Reading: Blair Robinet et al., "The Bataan Death March," America Firsthand, pp.237-44.

Henretta, pp.827-32, 833-40.

****QUESTIONS FOR 2ND ESSAY EXAM HANDED OUT****

W March 24 Film: "Rosie the Riveter." (Burrow Library Viewing Room)

F March 26 Discussion: Gender, Ethnicity and Race in Wartime

Reading: Fanny Christina Hill, "Rosie the Riveter," America Firsthand, pp.222-29.

Ben Yorita et al., "Memories of the Internment

M March 29 ****2ND ESSAY EXAM****

POST-WORLD WAR II AMERICAN SOCIETY

W March 31 The Cold War

Reading: "Mr. X and the Soviet Menace," (Handout), pp.220-31.

J. Robert Oppenheimer, "To Build a Bomb," America Firsthand, pp.212-19.

Henretta, pp.862-77.

April 1-4 **EASTER BREAK**

M April 5 The Red Scare

Reading: Mark Goodson, "Post-World War II Red Scare," America Firsthand, pp.245-50.

Henretta, pp.878-89.

W April 7 Checked Aprons and Gray Flannel Suits: Gender in the Fifties

Reading: Sloan Wilson, "Life in Gray Flannel,"

America Firsthand, pp.251-59.

Henretta, pp.893-901, 902-05, 912-22.

F April 9 Grassroots Movement for Civil Rights: The Montgomery Bus Boycott

Reading: JoAnn Gibson Robinson, "Launching the
pp.260-67.

Henretta, pp. 909-11, 934-39.

M April 12 JFK as Cold Warrior: Vietnam on the Horizon

Reading: Henretta, pp.926-31, 960-62.

****Begin reading Schulman, LBJ and American Liberalism.**

W April 14 Discussion: LBJ and the Great Society

Reading: Bruce Schulman, Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism, pp.1-55, 81-124.

Henretta, pp.939-40, 941-46.

F April 16 Vietnam: LBJ's Nemesis

Reading: Bruce Schulman, Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism, pp.125-65.

Henretta, pp.963-67, 973-78.

M April 19 Film: "LBJ and the American Presidency."
(Meet at Burrow Viewing Room)

W April 21 Discussion: Vietnam and the Meanings of War

Reading: Jim Pitzen, "The Village," pp. 13-17. (Handout)

Ronald Ridenhour, "Disbelief and Corroboration,"
America Firsthand, pp.270-77.

General Westmoreland et al., "Cover-Up and Outcome,"
America Firsthand, pp.278-86.

Schulman, Lyndon B. Johnson and American
Liberalism, pp.213-45.

F April 23 Cultural Rebellion

Reading: Students for a Democratic Society, "Agenda for a Generation," America Firsthand, pp.287-91.

Mississippi Summer Freedom Project, "Letters Home" America Firsthand, pp.296-304.

Henretta, pp. 946-52, 969-71.

Film: "Berkeley in the Sixties," (On Reserve)

M April 26 The Women's Movement: Behind the Stereotypes

Reading: Anonymous, "Letters to Betty Friedan," America Firsthand, pp.292-95.

Henretta, pp.952-56, 1004-06, 1039.

W April 28 Nixon, China, and Watergate: A Mixed Legacy

Reading: Henretta, pp.979-81, 989-97.

F April 30 Environmental Politics: The Love Canal Controversy

Reading: Lois Gibbs, "A Toxic Neighborhood," pp.304-12.

Henretta, pp.999-1003.

****TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM HANDED OUT****

F May 7

TAKE-HOME FINAL DUE

Please bring to my office (301 Clough) by Noon.