

**United States History Since 1877**  
History 152, Spring 1999

Russell Wigginton

Office: 401 Clough

Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:30-12:00; by appointment

Phone: (office) 843-3997, (home) 272-0885; please do not call after 10:00 p.m.

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to provide a general knowledge of the social, political, and economical developments in the United States from the post-Reconstruction era to recent times. In doing so, we will look closely at major events, ideas, institutions, and people over approximately 100 years. Hopefully, investigating such aspects of nineteenth and twentieth century America will provide the student with a historical context for more specific components of the American experience(s).

**Readings**

Tindall and Shi, America: A Narrative History

Supplementary readings packet available through the History Department (110 Clough)

**Grading**

Grades will be determined from the following course requirements:

1. **45% (15% each)** - Three 2-4 page “reaction” papers. Throughout the semester, students will w
2. **20%** - Exam I. The examinations will consist of a few short answers as well as at least one more
3. **25%** - Final Exam. Same format and expectations as Exams I and II, however this exam will cover
5. **10%** - Attendance/Participation. Although lectures will take up much of class time, student discuss

**\*Late Policy** - There will be no extensions given on any written assignments without penalty (1 letter grade per day). The only exceptions will be those that the College deems as “acceptable” in the Student Handbook.

**Class Assignments**

**Postwar 19th century America**

1/14 Introduction

- 1/19 The New South--Tindall and Shi, chapter 19; pages 796-811; Woodward, "Forgotten Alternatives," pg. 31-65
- 1/21 The West--Tindall and Shi, chapter 19; pg. 812-834
- 1/26 Business and Labor--Tindall and Shi, chapter 20
- 1/28 Immigration and Urbanization--Tindall and Shi, chapter 21
- 2/02 Gilded Age Politics--Tindall and Shi, chapter 22; pg. 926-947
- 2/04 Populism--Tindall and Shi, chapter 22; pages 947-963; "The Ocala Platform, 1890," pg. 133-134; "Tom Watson's Strategy," pg. 134-139
- 2/09 Racial Conditions--Washington, "Atlanta Exposition Address," pg. 145-151;" Dubois, "The Niagara Movement," pg. 236-253
- 2/11 Imperialism--Tindall and Shi, chapter 23
- 2/16 **Paper 1 Due (15%); no reading**

### **20th century America (Progressive Era)**

- 2/18 Progressive Politics--Tindall and Shi, chapter 24
- 2/23 Progressive Race Relations/Women/Education--Crowe, "Racial Violence and Social Reform in North Carolina," pg. 260-275 Reform-Origin
- 2/25 World War I--Tindall and Shi, chapter 25
- 3/02 **Exam 1 (20%)**

### **Post-WWI Society**

- 3/04 "Red Summer" and "Red Scare"; no reading
- 3/16 1920s--Tindall and Shi, chapter 26; Garvey, "The Future as I See It," pg. 73-78
- 3/18 "Normalcy"--Tindall and Shi, chapter 27
- 3/23 The Depression--Foner, "Black Workers During the Great Depression," pg. 188-203

### **FDR and the New Deal**

- 3/26 FDR and New Deal--Tindall and Shi, chapter 28

3/30 **Paper 2 Due (15%)**; no reading

### **World War II Era**

4/06 Wartime; Black Women and War--Tindall and Shi, chapter 30; Hine, "We Shall Not Be Left Out," pg.

### **Cold War Era**

4/08 Postwar and Truman--Tindall and Shi, chapter 31

4/13 Eisenhower--Tindall and Shi, chapter 32 and 33

### **The Second Reconstruction**

4/15 Kennedy and Johnson--Tindall and Shi, chapter 34; Brown v. Board of Education, pg. 540-541; "South

4/20 Civil Rights Movement--King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," pg. 544-557

4/22 Nixon: Vietnam and Watergate--Tindall and Shi, chapter 35

4/27 The 1980s--Tindall and Shi, chapter 36

4/29 **Paper 3 Due (15%)**; Review

5/04 **Final Exam (25%); 8:30-11:00**