History 232
United States in the Nineteenth Century – Fall 2005

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Course Description and Objectives:
This course is a survey of the political, social, economic, cultural, and constitutional development of the United States from the 1780s to the turn of the twentieth century. We will pay particular attention to how nineteenth-century Americans gave meaning to their new constitution, how sectional loyalties competed with national allegiances, and how the nation’s economy evolved and expanded over the course of the century.

The basic format is that of a lecture course, but discussion will also play an important role. We will discuss documents, as well as the supplementary books, at great length. You should leave this class not only with a broad understanding of American history during the nineteenth century, but also with improved oral, written, and critical thinking skills.

Common Readings:


Alan Trachtenberg, The Incorporation of America: Culture and Society in the Gilded Age, 1982.

Assignments and Grading Policies:
Your final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

- Writing assignments (two essays) - 25%
- Class participation - 10%
- Map quiz – 5%
- Mid-term examinations - 40%
- Final examination - 20%

Attendance is mandatory at all class meetings. More than three absences will adversely affect your grade in this course.

Make up exams will not be given without a verifiable medical excuse, and all excuses are subject to the approval of the instructor. There will be no make-ups of the map quiz. Late essays will be
accepted one day after the due date (not one class period), with a one letter-grade penalty. Essays will not be accepted more than one day after the due date. All work, unless otherwise indicated, is pledged under the Rhodes College Honor Code.

**Class Assignments**

**Part One: The New Republic**

**1. Creating a Nation**  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 5-8)

Aug. 24 – Introduction to course

Aug. 26 – Revolutionary Ideology and Constitution-making

Aug. 29 – Constitutional Ratification  
(Slavery and the Constitution - handout)

Aug. 31 - Hamilton and Jefferson  
(Jefferson, “Opinion on the Constitutionality of a National Bank”)  
http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?documentprint=441

Sept. 2 - Parties, Politics, and Foreign Policy  
(Sedition Act)  
http://www.law.ou.edu/hist/sedact.html

**Sept. 5 – Labor Day Holiday**

Sept. 7 - Marshall and the Supreme Court  
(McCulloch v. Maryland - handout)

**2. Democracy, Expansion and Reform**  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 9-12)

Sept. 9 - Social Change and the Market Revolution  
(Watson, 3-41)

Sept. 12 - Second Great Awakening and Reform  
(Garrison, “To the Public”)  

Sept. 14 - Jackson and the Transformation of Politics  
(Watson, 42-95)

Sept. 16 – Nullification and Indian Removal  
(Watson, 96-131; State v. Foreman - handout)
Sept. 19 - The Bank War and the Rise of the Whigs  
(Watson, 132-253; Jackson’s Bank Veto Message)  
http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?documentprint=64

Sept. 21 - Domesticity and Women’s Rights  
(Beecher, “Treatise on Domestic Economy”; video: “Women’s Suffrage”)  
http://www.iath.virginia.edu/ute/sentimnt/snesceba1t.html

Sept. 23 - Manifest Destiny/Summary and Review  
(Benton, “Destiny of the Race”)  
http://history.smsu.edu/FTMiller/LocalHistory/Docs/Benton/destinoftherace.htm

Sept. 26 – Examination #1

**Part Two: The Nation Divided and Reunited**

3. Slavery and the Sectional Crisis  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 12-14)

Sept. 28 – North and South

Sept. 30 – Slavery and Slave Life  
(Blight, *Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglass*, 1-75)

Oct. 3 - Slave Culture and Community  
(Blight, *Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglass*, 75-125)

Oct. 5 – The Territorial Issue and Sectional Politics  
(Fugitive Slave Act of 1850)  
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1850fugitive.html

Oct. 7 – No class

Oct. 10 – Dred Scott, John Brown, and Secession – Essay #1 Due  
(Mississippi Secession Resolutions – handout)

4. Civil War and Reconstruction  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 15-16)

Oct. 12 - Lincoln and the Union  
(Lincoln, “First Inaugural” – handout)

Oct. 14 – No class

Oct. 17 – Fall recess
Oct. 19 – The Confederacy – **Map quiz**  
(Stephens, “Cornerstone Speech”)  

Oct. 21 - Why They Fought, I  
(McPherson, xi-103)

Oct. 24 – Why They Fought, II  
(McPherson, 104-178)

Oct. 26 - Victory, Defeat, Emancipation  
(Pollard, *The Lost Cause* – handout)

Oct. 28 – Reconstruction and Rights  
(Reconstruction Amendments – handout)

Oct. 31 - Redemption and Reunion/Summary and Review

**Nov. 2 – Examination #2**

**Part Three: The World the War Made**

*5. The Incorporation of America*  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 17-19)

Nov. 4 - The West  
(Trachtenberg, 3-37)

Nov. 7 - The North: Capital  
(Trachtenberg, 38-100)

Nov. 9 – The North: Labor  
(“Purposes and Program of the Knights of Labor”- handout)

**Nov. 11 – No class**

Nov. 14 – The North: Urbanization and Immigration  
(Trachtenberg, 100-139)

Nov. 16 – The New South  
(Grady, “New South Speech”)

Nov. 18 – The South and the Lost Cause - **Essay #2 Due**
6. Crisis, Reunion, Expansion  
(Garraty and Carnes, chapters 20-22)

Nov. 21 – Agrarianism  
(Ocala Platform – handout)

Nov. 23-25 – Thanksgiving holidays

Nov. 28 - Crisis: 1893-1895  
(Trachtenberg, 208-234)

Nov. 30 – Politics and the Election of 1896  
(Bryan, “Cross of Gold Speech”)  
http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5354/

Dec. 2 – Racism and Reunion  
(Plessy v. Ferguson - handout)

Dec. 5 – War, Expansion, and Reunion  
(McKinley statement on the Philippines - handout)  
http://historymatters.gmu.edu/blackboard/mckinley.html

Dec. 7 - Summary and Review

FINAL EXAMINATION: Saturday, December 10, 5:30 p.m.