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HIST 152-01, United States History Since 1877, Spring 1999

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History 152
United States History Since 1877 - Spring, 1999

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Course Description and Objectives:

This course is a broad survey of the political, constitutional, social, and economic development of the United States from the Reconstruction period to the 1980s. We will devote particular attention to the growth of a corporate capitalist economic order, the emergence of a strong national government, the rise of the United States as a global power, and struggles to achieve justice for all Americans.

The basic format is that of a lecture course, but discussion will play an important role. We will discuss documents, as well as the three supplementary books for the course, at great length. Class participation, in other words, is important.

You should leave this course with not only a broad understanding of United States history since 1877, as well as with improved oral, written, and critical thinking skills.

Readings:

Nash and Jeffrey, The American People: Creating a Nation and a Society, fourth ed., vol. two, 1998.

Paul F. Boller, Jr. and Ronald Story, eds., A More Perfect Union: Documents in U.S. History, vol. II: since 1865, 1996.

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

Nancy Woloch, ed., Muller v. Oregon: A Brief History with Documents, 1996.

Bruce J. Schulman, Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism: A Brief History with Documents, 1995.

Assignments and Grading:

Attendance is mandatory; if you must miss class because of illness, please notify me immediately, either by phone or by e-mail. Final grades will reflect attendance. You may assume that your final grade in this class will be no higher than the percentage of classes you attend. Grades will be determined as follows:

20% Class Participation/Map Quiz

20% Class Debate

40% Mid-term Examinations

20% Final Examination

Details on all of these assignments will follow. Copies of this syllabus, as well as all handouts and assignments sheets will be available on the Academic Volume in the file marked "Huebner."

Make up examinations will not be given without a verifiable medical excuse. All excuses are subject to the approval of the instructor. There will be no make-ups of the map quiz. Late papers

will be accepted one **day** (not one class period) after the due date, with a one letter-grade penalty. Papers 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 I. The World the War Made, 1877-1900

1. Incorporation

(Nash, 540-572, 616-655)

Jan. 13 - Introduction to course

Jan. 15 - The Reconstructed Union

(Jan. 18 - King Holiday)

Jan. 20 - The West

(Trachtenberg, 3-37; Boller, 32-37)

Jan. 22 - Labor and Capital

(Trachtenberg, 38-100; Boller, 82-88)

Jan. 25 - Urbanization and Immigration

(Trachtenberg, 101-139)

2. Crisis and Reunion

(Nash, 578-612, 658-686, 690-720)

Jan. 27 - Agrarianism

(Boller, 99-102)

Feb. 1 - Crisis: 1893-1896

(Trachtenberg, 208-234)

Feb. 3 - Racism

(Boller, 48-61)

Feb. 5 - **DEBATE ONE: DuBois v. Washington**

Feb. 8 - Expansionism
(Boller, 118-122)

Feb. 10 - EXAMINATION ONE

Part II. The Emergence of Modern America, 1900-1945

3. Progressivism and War

(Nash, 712-762, 766-795)

Feb. 12 - Regulation and Reform
(Woloch, 3-40, 108-150)

Feb. 15 - Women's Rights and Women's Suffrage
(Woloch, 41-57, 170-174; video)

Feb. 17 - The Progressive Presidency
(Boller, 103-108)

Feb. 19 - No class.

Feb. 22 - The Great War and American Society
(Boller, 135-138)

Feb. 24 - Victory and Versailles
(video)

Feb. 26 - **DEBATE TWO: The League of Nations**

Mar. 1 - Return to Normalcy
(Boller, 75-78)

4. The Age of Roosevelt

(Nash, 798-833, -872, 876-908)

Mar. 3 - Prosperity and Depression
(Boller, 109-114)

Mar. 5 - The New Deal
(Boller, 166-170)

Mar. 8-12 Spring Break

Mar. 15 - New Deal Critics and Controversy

Mar. 17 - **DEBATE THREE: The New Deal**

Mar. 19 - The Homefront
(Boller, 182-184)

Mar. 22 - EXAMINATION TWO

Part III. Modern America, 1945-1990s

5. Cold War

(Nash, 914-944, 948-988)

Mar. 24 - Truman and the Post-War World
(Boller, 194-202)

Mar. 26 - **DEBATE FOUR: The Atomic Bomb**

Mar. 29 - Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Containment
(Boller, 216-224)

Mar. 31 - Cold War Culture
(Boller, 203-210)

Apr. 2 - Easter Break

6. Age of Liberalism

(Nash, 992-1024, 1028-1066)

Apr. 5 - Warren and Judicial Activism - **Map Quiz**
(Boller, 240-243)

Apr. 7 - King and the Civil Rights Movement
(Boller, 244-251)

Apr. 9 - LBJ and the Great Society
(Schulman, 5-124, 173-189)

Apr. 12 - LBJ and Vietnam
(Schulman, 125-154, 213-220)

Apr. 14 - Social Protests and Changing Values

(Boller, 258-270)

Apr. 16 - **DEBATE FIVE: The 1960s**

7. Rise of Conservatism

(Nash, 1070-1110)

Apr. 19 - Wallace, Nixon, and the Backlash
(Schulman, 155-166)

Apr. 21 - The Early 1970s
(Boller, 271-283)

Apr. 23 - **DEBATE SIX: The Nixon Presidency**

Apr. 26 - Carter, Reagan, and Beyond
(Boller, 286-289)

Apr. 28 - **DEBATE SEVEN: The Clinton Presidency**

Apr. 30 - Summary and Review

FINAL EXAMINATION: MONDAY, MAY 3, 1:00-3:30 P.M.