

History 204-004: History of the U.S., 1865-present
Fall 2007

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Office hours: MWF 12:00- 12:50

This course will survey the major political, economic, and social currents that have characterized American history since the Civil War. Lectures will cover a wide range of topics relative to three, broadly conceived periods of postbellum American history: Reconstruction, the Age of Excess and the Stirrings of Imperialism (1865-1900), Progressivism, Economic Disaster and Two World Wars (1901-1945), and Cold War, Civil Rights and the Rise of a New World Order(1945-present).Through a combination of these lectures and in-class discussions we will explore such intriguing questions as: Could Reconstruction have given African-Americans full equality? Did the Womens' Movement Die in the 1920s? Was the New Deal an effective remedy for the Great Depression? And, was it necessary to drop the atomic bomb to end World War II?

The following books are required for this course and are available for purchase at the University Bookstore:

- * Mary Beth Norton, et. al., *A People and a Nation*, vol. 2., 7th edition.
- * Zinn, Howard, *A People's History of the United States*.
- * Eastman, Charles A. (Ohiyesa), *From the Deep Woods to Civilization*.
- * Sitkoff, Harvard. *The Struggle for Black Equality*.

There will be two mid-term exams and a final. The mid-terms will count for 50% of your final grade (25% each). The final exam will count for 40%. Attendance and participation in class will be the basis for assessing the final 10% of your grade. **Make-up exams will be granted for documented emergencies only and will be administered on Reading Day at the end of the semester.** In addition, a grade enhancement opportunity, consisting of a short research paper, will also be offered. The details will be provided on a separate sheet.

*****Special Notice*****

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the student's responsibility to contact his or her instructor concerning any special accommodations necessary for completion of class requirements.

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc., are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438.

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Fall 2007

The following is a schedule of lecture topics and reading assignments. The relevant chapters in the text and book assignments are listed with each lecture. Assignments are to be read before the class meeting they are listed with.

- Week 1 (8/21-23) : Introduction./ Political, Economic and Social Reconstruction. Read chapter 16 in text.
- Week 2 (8/28-30) : Reconstruction (cont.). Read Zinn, chapter 10.
- Week 3 (9/4-6) : Indian Relations./ The Status of Women. Read chapter 17 in text. Read Eastman, *From the Backwoods to Civilization*.
- Week 4 (9/11-13) : Immigration, Urbanization and Industrialization. Read chapters 18 and 19 in text.
- Week 5 (9/18-20) : Gilded Age politics, Agrarian Revolt and the Quest for Empire. Read chapters 20 and 22 in text. Read Zinn, chapter 11.
- Week 6 (9/25-27) : Quest for Empire (cont.)./ The “Open Door” and the “Big Stick.”/ Review for first Mid-term Exam. Read Zinn, chapters 12 and 13.
- Week 7 (10/2-4) : **First Mid-term Exam, 10/2.**/ Progressivism: The Politics of Social Reform. Read chapter 21 in text.
- Week 8 (10/9-11) : The Great War at Home and Abroad. Read Zinn, Chapter 14. Read chapter 23 in text.
- Week 9 (10/16-18) : A New Era: the 1920s; Depression and a New Deal. Read Zinn, Chapter 15. Read chapters 24 and 25 in text.
- Week 10 (10/23-25) : **Fall break, 10/23. No class today.**/ The Second World War and Its Consequences./ Review for 2nd Mid-term Exam. Read Zinn, Chapter 16. Read chapters 26 and 27 in text.
- Week 11 (10/30-11/1): **Second Mid-term Exam, 10/30.** / The Cold War and its Legacy. Read chapters 28 and 29 in text.
- Week 12 (11/6-8) : Second Reconstruction: The Civil Rights Movement/ The rebirth of Feminism/ The New Left, the Counterculture, and the War in Vietnam. Read Zinn, Chapters 17 and 19. Read Chapters 30 and 31 in text. Read Sitkoff, *The Struggle for Black Equality*.
- Week 13 (11/13-15) : Richard Nixon: Detente, Watergate, and Resignation. Jimmy Carter. Read Zinn, Chapters 18 and 20. Read chapter 31 in text.

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Fall 2007

Week 14 (11/20-22) : Right Turn: Reagan and the Resurgence of Conservatism. **Thanksgiving Holiday, 11/22. No class today.** Read Zinn, chapter 21. Read chapter 32 in text.

Week 15 (11/27-29) : The Birth of Al Queda/ The Iran-Contra Scandal. Review for final exam. Read Zinn, Chapter 22. Read Chapter 33 in text.

The date of the final exam is: Tuesday, 12/11 @ 8:00AM