

HIST 1302: US History from 1877 to the Present

T Th 9:30-10:50
Arts and Sciences 00257

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Course Overview:

This course covers United States history since the end of Reconstruction. It focuses on all aspects of American life during that period, with special emphasis on social conflicts, America's role in the world, economic and technological changes, and recurring debates over who is an American.

Books to Buy:

- Kristin Hoganson, *Fighting for American Manhood: How Gender Politics Provoked the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars*, 2000.
- Jack McLean, *Loon: A Marine Story*, 2010.

Grading:

- In-Class Exams: 40% (20% each)
- Final Exam: 30%
- In-Class Papers: 30% (15% each)

Exams: There will be three total exams. These written Blue Book exams will contain multiple-choice questions, identifications, and essays. Exams will only cover material learned in class. All exams are closed-book.

Papers: There is no assigned textbook for this course. But you will read 2 rather short books. During 2 class periods – October 29 and December 5 – you will write in-class essays in a Blue Book about each book. The prompt you will be responding to is of my choosing, and not available to you beforehand. But it will be simple and straightforward, so that anyone who reads the book and remembers what they read should do well.

Attendance: Because of the size of this class, I will not be taking attendance. But since exams are based only on what I teach in the classroom, and since I will not be posting my lectures online, it is very much in your interest to attend class, and to take notes while in class. If you have to miss a class, be sure to get a classmates' notes, or meet with me to find out what you missed.

Course Schedule:

08/27: Big Business and Small Innovations

08/29: Labor Against Capital in the Gilded Age

09/03: Old Legacies in the New South

09/05: Winning and Losing the American West

09/10: Urbanization, Immigration, and Populism

09/12: A Republic Gets an Empire

09/17: The Progressive Movement

09/19: The Creation of the Modern Presidency

09/24: War “Over There” and Conflicts Over Here

09/26: **EXAM ONE**

10/01: Political Reaction the Jazz Age

10.03: Creating a Consumer Economy and a Mass Culture

10/08: Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal

10/10: Surviving the Great Depression

10/15: From Isolation to Total War

10/17: Fighting a Global War

10/22: From Victory to Cold War

10/24: The Fragile 1950s Consensus

10/29: **ESSAY ONE: Fighting for American Manhood**

10/31: **EXAM TWO**

11/05: The Civil Rights Movement and the Great Society

11/07: The Vietnam War and the Breakdown of Consensus

11/12: Richard Nixon and the Counterculture

11/14: The 1970s: Postwar American in Crisis

11/19: The Conservative Revival and the Reagan Revolution

11/21: The 1990s: Post-Cold War Peace and Prosperity

11/26: The Twenty Years' War on Terror

12/03: American in the 21st Century

12/05: **ESSAY TWO: Loon: A Marine Story**

FINAL EXAM: Date and Time TBD

- **Student Learning Outcomes:**

By taking this course, students should develop a strong understanding of recent United States history and become able to use critical thinking to assess historical events. They should also gain a better understanding of contemporary United States society through learning about developments in America's past.

- **Late Work and Make-Up Expectations:**

All graded assignments should be completed in-class, including exams and essays. Students unable to attend class on a day when an exam or essay is being given need to make up that assignment in the presence of the professor at the earliest possible time.

- **Artificial Intelligence Statement:**

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.