

History of Technology and Innovation in Modern America

HIST 1303.001

MW 2:30-3:55

Instructor Name: Dr. James L. Newsom

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Best way to contact: email or zoom office hours

Office Hours: 11:30-1:30 MW; 5-6 M. Other times by appointment. Office hours will be virtual or in-person.

Office Hours Zoom Meeting Room ID: 974 581 2321 (Passcode: 2022Fall)

Class Meeting Zoom: 819 7160 6165 (Passcode: 2022 Fall)

Course Information:

Textbook:

McGerr, Michael, et al. *Of the People: A History of the United States*. (5th Ed., Vol. 2). ISBN: 9780197586150. [You may use digital or print versions of the textbook].

Method of Instruction:

Lecture is the primary teaching method. I will hold face-to-face lectures in the assigned classroom on the assigned days unless the Administration changes their current policies. Face-to-Face is THE designated method of delivery for this class. I understand your concerns in these trying times and I will, however, make accommodations for those either not vaccinated and/or fearful of being around other people and will make Zoom sessions available. The lectures will also be recorded and posted to Canvas. By necessity these recordings will be posted a few hours after the class ends--the recordings are not a substitute for attending either in person or virtually--they are for your note taking convenience and review. I may well contact each of you via zoom for one-on-one conferences and/or discussions. My personal belief--and I hope I am wrong--is that within the first month or so of the semester, we will have an outbreak of COVID on campus and/or around the state and once again, all classes will be forced to transition to a totally online model. IF this should happen, I will continue with the Zoom sessions; however, since I live in a rural area, my internet connection is not always the best for live Zoom. I may record the videos at home and post them for you to watch and/or I may post lecture videos from past classes that cover the topic. You will be advised as to the mode of delivery if this should become necessary.

Methods of Evaluation:

The student's mastery of the subject material will be determined through exams. An exam will be given online on each scheduled test day. Do not login late—it will reduce the amount of time you have to complete the exam. The Class Participation grade I determine based upon online participation or in-class participation, my evaluation of your participation in class discussions and behavior. For those attending Face-to-Face an attendance sheet will be passed; for those watching on Zoom, I will inform you of when to text the word of the day. Your texted response will be your attendance. Each exam will be based upon the content of lectures, discussions, and your readings. Test format will be online. I will send a link via Canvas/Email giving you test access. For exams 1-3, you will have from 2:30-4:00 PM to complete and return the exam. I will send the link and the essay question at 2:25 PM and I will close the link at 4:00 PM. The exception is the Final Exam which will be two hours in length on the designated final exam day, Wed. Dec. 07 from 2:30 to 4:30.

Graded Assignments:

Exam #1:	20%
Exam #2:	20%
Exam #3:	25%
Final Exam:	25%
Class Participation:	10%

Grade Standard:

A = 90-100
B = 80 - 89
C = 70 - 79
D= 60 - 69
F = 0 - 59

Attendance:

All students are expected to attend and/or watch every class meeting. Failure to do so will be counted as an absence. Make-up exams will be given only to students with, in the opinion of the instructor, a valid reason for missing the exam. Each student is only allowed one make-up exam; all other missed exams will receive a zero. Make-up exams will not receive the in-class benefits of bonus questions and/or a grade curve (if given). Failure to take the make-up will result in a zero for that exam.

Behavior:

Whether face-to-face or via live video, all students will maintain respect and courtesy for their classmates and for the instructor. Frequent violations of this rule will result in a lowered class participation grade and egregious violations may result in the instructor lowering the student's semester grade. Remember, although the United States practices democracy in the form of a representative constitutional republic, this class is a benevolent dictatorship. If student conduct becomes unacceptable, the instructor will ask the student to leave and not return.

Course Calendar:

Aug. 22	Introduction, Syllabus Discussion	
Aug. 24	The Railroads and New Frontiers	(OTP Ch. 15 pgs. 494-520)
Aug. 29	MLK Day Holiday--NO CLASS	
Aug. 31	Rise of Big Business	(OTP Ch. 16)
Sept. 05	Gilded-Age Politics and Agrarian Revolt	[Census Day] (OTP Ch. 17)
Sept. 07	Gilded-Age Politics and Agrarian Revolt	(OTP Ch. 18 to pg. 607)
Sept. 12	Exam #1 ONLINE (Covers OTP Chapters 15 from pg. 494, 16, 17, & 18 to pg. 607)	
Sept. 14	The Course of Empire	(OTP Ch. 18 start at pg. 607)
Sept. 19	The Course of Empire	(OTP Ch. 18)
Sept. 21	The Progressive Era	(OTP Ch. 19)
Sept. 26	The Progressive Era	(OTP Ch. 19-20)
Sept. 28	America and the Great War	(OTP Ch. 20)
Oct. 03	Exam #2 ONLINE (Covers OTP Chapters 18 from pg. 608, 19, & 20)	
Oct. 05	The Roaring Twenties	(OTP Ch. 21)
Oct. 10	The Great Depression	(OTP Ch. 22)
Oct. 12	New Deal	(OTP Ch. 22)
Oct. 17	World War II	(OTP Ch. 23)
Oct. 19	World War II	(OTP Ch. 23)
Oct. 24	World War II	(OTP Ch. 23)
Oct. 26	World War II	(OTP Ch. 23)
Oct. 31	Exam #3 ONLINE (Covers OTP Chapters 21, 22, & 23)	
Nov. 02	Origins of the Cold War	(OTP Ch. 24)
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW is Friday, Nov. 04		
Nov. 07	Origins of the Cold War	(OTP Ch. 24)
Nov. 09	Korean Conflict	(OTP Ch. 24)
Nov. 14	Ike and the Affluent Society of the 1950s	(OTP Ch. 25)
Nov. 16	Ike and the Affluent Society of the 1950s	(OTP Ch. 25)
Nov. 21	Thanksgiving Holiday--NO CLASS	
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Holiday--NO CLASS	
Nov. 28	JFK and LBJ Vietnam / The Great Society	(OTP Ch. 26)
Nov. 30	Vietnam and Nixon / Watergate	(OTP Ch. 27)
Dec. 07	Final Exam ONLINE (2:45 -4:45 PM) (Covers OTP Chapters 26, 27, & 28)	