

SYLLABUS

History 212

United States History since 1865

Fall 2000

Instructor: Dr. Peter S. Carmichael

McIver 241

Lecture

M,W,F

12:00-12:50

Office Hours: W, 3:30-5:00, F, 1:00-2:30 and by
appointment

McIver 241

Email: Pcarmich@aol.com

Phone 334-5645

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Understanding how ideas motivate people of all classes and various backgrounds is one of the most valuable and challenging tasks facing a historian. To see why certain groups of people have a common identity, focus on similarities in class, race, or gender. Once you have identified specific groups such as immigrants, Progressive reformers, capitalists, farmers, industrial workers, etc., ask yourself the following question: What were their **EXPECTATIONS, CONSTRAINTS, CHOICES, and the OUTCOMES** of their struggles? By using this question as an organizing principle, you will be able to incorporate a variety of sources into a coherent narrative for the examinations. Be certain to include specific political events, court cases, and laws when using this approach. If you were examining the struggles of civil rights workers, for example, you should include Brown vs. The Board of Education, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in your discussion

GRADING: A final grade will be based upon written work and examinations.

Midterm.....100 points
Final150 points
Quizzes120 (10 points each)
Book critique50 points

Total course points.....420 point

EXAMS: The tests will be essay exams. Blue books are required. You will receive the possible questions before hand. The final exam will focus on the last half of the class, but there will be one question that covers the material for the entire semester.

QUIZZES: There will be **15 quizzes** during the course of the semester. The lowest three scores will be dropped automatically. This includes quizzes missed due to absences. Most of the quizzes will be based on the terms discussed in class. The rest of the quizzes will focus on the assigned reading. For Edith Wharton’s Age of Innocence, J. D. Salinger’s The Catcher in the Rye and F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby you will be quizzed twice on each book. If you fail both quizzes for any one book, you will have to write a ten page research paper on a topic arranged by the instructor.

BOOK CRITIQUE: Your critique of Philip Caputo’s A Rumor of War will be no longer than three pages. Study questions will be forthcoming. **You will have mandatory test questions covering The Age of Innocence, The Great Gatsby, and The Catcher in the Rye**

PROCEDURES: The lectures organize themselves around discussions of readings. Please come ready to discuss the assigned materials. You will need to come to class prepared every day. Have your thought over the readings? Can you give other students insight into the material? If you are not prepared for class, I reserve the right to ask you to leave. It is to your advantage to keep up with the readings, attend class, and participate in a consistent and meaningful manner.

All material from the course--books, films, lectures, discussion--are fair game for examinations. Names and concepts written on the board during lectures can guide your study for the examinations.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is mandatory. Missing a class will hurt a student's overall performance. You are allowed **three excused absences**. For every absence after three you will

lose **three percentage points from your final grade**. If you miss a class, it is **your** responsibility to get the notes for that day.

BOOKS:

Wharton, The Age of Innocence

Breen, The Power of Words

Fitzgerald, The Great Gatsby

Caputo, A Rumor of War

Salinger, The Catcher in The Rye

Davidson, et. al. Nation of Nations (recommended)

CLASS SESSIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1 (August 19-23) Reconstruction and Industrial America **Begin Age of Innocence**

Read: W Breen 98-99 (Document 6) and Breen 67-72 (Documents 2 and 3)

Week 2 (August 26-August 30) The Progressive Age

Read: M Breen 109-111 (Document 2), and W Breen 114-116 (Document 4), 122-125 (Document 8)

(Age of Innocence Quiz August 28)

Week 3 (September 2-6) The Progressive Age **September 2 Labor Day**

(Age of Innocence Quiz September 6)

Week 4 (September 9-13) World War I

Read: Fitzgerald vii-64, and W Breen 139-140 (Document 6)

(Fitzgerald Quiz September 13)

Week 5 (September 16-20) 1920s

Read: Fitzgerald 65-118, and W D'Emilio and Friedman, "The Sexual Revolution," **On Electronic Reserve**

(Quiz on D'Emilio and Friedman, September 18)

Week 6 (September 23-27) 1920s continued

Read: Fitzgerald 119-189

*(Fitzgerald Quiz September 25) **DISCUSSION OF GREAT GATSBY ON September 25***

Week 7 (September 30-October 4) Depression and New Deal

Read: Salinger 1-80 and M Breen 150-153 (Documents 3 and 4) and 163-165 (Document 8)

(Terms Quiz October 4)

Week 8 (October 7-11) World War II **EXAMINATION: October 9 (TEST ONLY COVERS WEEK 1-7)**

Read: Salinger 81-134

Week 9 (October 14-18) Cold War **October 14 Fall Break**

Read: Salinger 135-174; **W** Breen 191-196 (Documents 1 and 2)

Salinger Quiz October 16

Week 10 (October 21-25) Cold War continued

Read: Salinger 174-214 **F** Samuels, "Science Fiction as Social Commentary" **On Reserve**

Salinger Quiz October 23 and **Quiz on Samuels October 25)**

DISCUSSION OF THE CATCHER IN THE RYE on October 23

Week 11 (October 28-November 1) America at Mid-century

Read: Caputo *xiii*- 150 and **M** Breen 204-206 (Document 6) **W** Breen 209--212 (Documents 8 and 9)

(Terms Quiz October 30)

Week 12 (November 4-8) The Civil Rights Movement

Read: Caputo 151-208 and **M** Nash and Graves, "Elvis Presley," **On Electronic Reserve; W** Breen 216-218 (Document 1)

Quiz on Nash and Gaves, "Elvis Presley," November 4

Week 13 (November 11-15) Black Power and the 1960s

Read: Caputo 209-263 and **M** Breen 219-221 (Document 2) **W** Breen 236-238 (Document 8)

(Caputo Quiz November 11 and Terms Quiz November 15)

Week 14 (November 18-22) Vietnam

Read: Caputo 264-356 and **W** Breen 241-242 (Documents 1)

CRITIQUE OF A RUMOR OF WAR DUE ON November 22

Week 15 (November 25) The 1960s **Thanksgiving Break November 27-29**

Read: **M** Breen 221-225 (Document 3) and **M** Ryan and Kellner, "Films of the Late Sixties and Early Seventies" **On Electronic Reserve**

(Quiz on Ryan and Kellner November 25)

Week 16 (December 2-6) Watergate

(Terms Quiz December 6)

Week 17 (December 9) Last Day of Class

Final December 13 12:00-3:00

NOTE: While attempting to adhere to the outlines within this syllabus, the instructor reserves the right to adjust components with due notice to the class.