

HISTORY 212–The United States Since 1865

Fall 2008

Charles Bolton

Office: 2135 MHRA

Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., or by appointment

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Readings

Available at the University Bookstore (and many other locations):

Wheeler/Becker, Discovering the American Past: A Look at the Evidence. Vol.II, 6th edition. (WB)

Other readings noted on the syllabus are available on blackboard.

There is also a textbook on reserve at Jackson Library: Nash, Jeffrey et al., The American People, 6th ed., for anyone who would like to consult a textbook.

Discussion Sections

Attendance at discussion sections is mandatory. You are expected to do all assigned readings and be prepared to discuss them during the discussion section meetings. Quizzes may be given periodically to test you on the readings. Your class participation grade will be based on your participation in the discussion sections and the grades for any reading quizzes you are given.

Schedule

August 27	Discussion Sections
August 29	Reconstruction
September 3	Discussion Sections Readings: Foner, "The Odds Against the Success of Reconstruction Were Great"; Reconstruction Documents
September 5	Reconstruction
September 8	The New South

September 10	Discussion Sections Readings, WB, chapter 2; New South Documents Assignment # 1 due
September 12	Economic Revolution
September 15	Urbanization and Immigration
September 17	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 3; "The Mirror With a Memory"
September 19	The West
September 22	Challenges to the Industrial Order: Farmers
September 24	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 1; The West Documents Assignment # 2 due
September 26	Challenges to the Industrial Order: Workers
September 29	The Progressive Era
October 1	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 4; Rosenzweig, "Ethnic Enclaves and the Workers' Saloon"; Spargo, The Bitter Cry of Children
October 3	The Progressive Era
October 6	American Imperialism
October 8	Discussion Sections Readings: "USDA Government Inspected"; Rosenberg, "Spreading the American Dream"
October 10	Mid-term Exam
October 13	World War I
October 15	Discussions Sections Readings: WB, chapter 5 Assignment # 3 due
October 17	1920s

October 22	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 6; Barton, "Jesus Christ as Businessman"; Wembridge, "Petting and Necking"; "Sacco and Vanzetti" Assignment # 4 due
October 24	1930s
October 27	1930s
October 29	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 7; "Hard Times"; "The Harvest Gypsies"
October 31	World War II
November 3	World War II
November 5	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 8; Adams, "Overseas"
November 7	Cold War America
November 10	Cold War America
November 12	Discussion Sections Readings: Cold War America Documents; Kennan, "Containment"; Coontz, "Families in the Fifties" Assignment # 5 due
November 14	Civil Rights Movement
November 17	Civil Rights Movement
November 19	Discussion Sections Readings: WB, chapter 9; "Southern Manifesto on Integration"; "Coming of Age in Mississippi"; "Prime Time"; "An Interview with Malcolm X"
November 21	Vietnam
November 24	Lyndon Johnson and Domestic Politics
December 1	Nixon and Watergate
December 3	Discussion Sections

Readings: Vietnam and Watergate Documents;
Crouch, "When Watts Burned"; Wheeldin, "The
Situation in Watts Today"

December 5	The Recent Past
December 8	The Recent Past
December 12 (8-11 a.m.)	Final Exam

Grading

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Class Participation20%
Mid-Term Exam.25%
Final Exam25%
Writing Assignments30%

Grading Scale:

A+: 99-100	
A: 93-98	A-: 90-92
B+: 87-89	B: 83-86
B-: 80-82	C+: 77-79
C: 73-76	C-: 70-72
D+: 67-69	D: 63-66
D-: 60-62	F: 59 and lower

Exams

Your mid-term and final exams will be a combination of identification and essay questions.

Make-up exams

If you cannot take an exam on the scheduled dates, you must, if at all possible, contact me within forty-eight hours of the exam to schedule a makeup. You will also need to document your illness or emergency.

Class attendance

Regular attendance at all lectures and discussion sections is expected. You are allowed three unexcused absences in this class. Excused absences, such as for illness or emergency, require documentation. Every unexcused absence after three will lower the student's final grade by one letter grade. More than five unexcused absences may result in the student being dropped from the course. Frequent tardiness is not allowed. Two tardies will count as one unexcused absence.

Other things you should know about this class

1. Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, beepers, or any other items that make noise before entering the classroom.
2. You can use a laptop in class to take notes or to access a website if directed by the instructor or TA. Other uses of your laptop are not approved. Anyone caught violating this policy will have the privilege of bringing a laptop to class revoked for the remainder of the semester.
3. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an "F" for the course. The out-of-class writing assignments do not require that you consult any outside materials beyond those suggested in the assignment instructions. If you do consult other outside materials, make sure that you use them only for deep background understanding, not as the basis for your essays. Your essays should be based on your own ideas and written in your own words. For more on the University's Academic Integrity Policy, go to the following website:
<http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>
4. No incompletes will be allowed as final grades for this course, except in the most dire, unavoidable, and tragic of circumstances.