

Fall 2009 University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
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## **HISTORY 212: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865**

This course provides a historical perspective on major themes in U.S. history since 1865. It does not offer a comprehensive survey but will provide historical background on many important topics: foreign policy, race relations, labor, immigration, social policy, women's rights, religion, and social movements. Students will learn how to use and evaluate a wide range of primary historical sources including memoirs, novels, letters, speeches, and oral interviews. They will learn to identify different methods of historical inquiry and gain an appreciation for how history structures our daily lives.

**Required Texts:** (available at UNCG bookstore, Addams bookstore on Tate Street, and on reserve at Jackson library)

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty: An American History, Volume 2*. Seagull edition. New York: W.W. Norton, 2009.

Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*. Bedford Cultural Edition. Nancy Bentley and Sandra Gunning, eds. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2002.

Yoshiko Uchida. *Desert Exile: The Uprooting of a Japanese American Family*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1984.

### **Lecture and Discussion Sections:**

On Monday and Wednesday, the class will meet as a large group in lecture. Each Friday, smaller discussion sections will meet, facilitated by teaching assistants. Attendance is mandatory for both lectures and discussions. Absences will hurt your grade. Before each section, you must read and print all of the assigned primary sources for the week and highlight the important passages. Bring the readings to section and come prepared to participate in the discussion. You will be graded on your preparation and on the quality and frequency of your contributions.

**Textbook:** The textbook for the course, *Give Me Liberty*, provides historical context for the lectures. It will also be useful as you prepare for your exams. You will not be quizzed on the textbook reading in sections.

### **Course Requirements (all percentages are approximate):**

Attendance, participation, and class citizenship in lecture and discussion: 25%

Midterm Essay and Exam: 20%

Final Essay and Exam: 25%

Primary Source Assignments: 3 x 10% = 30%

We will use the following grading scale: 99 and above A+, 93 and above A, 90-92 A-, 88-89 B+, 83-87 B, 80-82 B-, 78-79 C+, 73-77 C, 70-72 C-, 68-69 D+, 63-67 D, 60-62 D-, 59 and below F.

**Technology: E-mail Policy, Blackboard, Power Point, Laptops, and Cell Phones**

E-mail is the best way to reach us. We will always confirm receipt of messages and try to respond quickly. If you do not receive a response from us within 48 hours, you should assume that we did not receive your message and try again. If you do not receive confirmation of your message, it means that we did not receive it and you will not be credited for any information that you communicated.

We will use e-mail to contact you, so you must check your UNCG email account regularly. All messages will be sent to UNCG accounts.

You must hand in hard copies of all papers and assignments. We will not accept e-mailed written work.

The course will have a blackboard website, which will have a copy of the syllabus and links to additional readings.

I will use power point in lecture. The slides are intended to help guide your note taking. They will not provide a complete set of notes. It is imperative that you take notes to supplement the power point in order to succeed in the course.

This is an interactive class that requires your engaged attention. You may *not* use laptops in the classroom. Cell phones and any other electronic equipment must also be turned off at all times

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of others without giving them credit. Any source that you use in your work (i.e. books, documents, articles, internet sites) must be properly cited. If you use someone else's exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and be followed by a citation. If you put someone else's ideas into your own words, you must also use a citation.

NOTE: Plagiarism includes copying and pasting any text from the internet without using quotation marks and a citation.

Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized severely. For more information, see UNCG's academic integrity policy: <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/>

I report all cases of plagiarism to the Dean of Students.

**Course Schedule:**

Documents can be found on e-reserve.

All of the reading for the week will be covered in discussion sections and must be read by Friday when you meet with your teaching assistant.

**Week 1****Monday August 24 Introduction to the Course**

Read over syllabus

### **Wednesday August 27 Reconstruction**

Doc: Mississippi Black Code (1865)

Text: *Marrow of Tradition* Docs:

Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments, pp. 338-40

Suffrage and Eligibility to Office. Article VI, The North Carolina State Constitution, pp. 362-64

Textbook: pp. 520-55

### **Friday August 29 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 2**

#### **Monday August 31 The Wilmington Riot**

*Primary Source Assignment #1 Distributed*

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 1-10

*Marrow of Tradition* Docs:

Turn of the Century Newspaper Reports on Lynching, pp. 377-80, 383-83

Alexander Manly editorial, pp. 405-408

Rebecca Latimer Felton Letter to the *Atlanta Constitution*, pp. 409-11

Doc: North Carolina City Confronts Its Past (2005)

Textbook: pp. 608-16

#### **Wednesday September 2 Industrial Capitalism**

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 11-24

Doc: Carnegie, "The Gospel of Wealth" (1889)

Textbook: pp. 556-68

### **Friday September 4 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 3**

#### **Monday September 7 NO CLASS - Labor Day**

#### **Wednesday September 9 Industrial Labor**

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 25-37

Docs: Finnerty, "The Decline of the Independent Craftsman" (1883)

Shall Married Women Work? (1879)

Textbook: pp. 584-96

### **Friday September 11 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 4**

#### **Monday September 14 Native Americans and the West**

Docs: Report of the Commission on Indian Affairs (1869)

Rules for Indian Boarding Schools (1890)

The Buffalo Destroyed (1876-1877)

Textbook: pp. 568-79

### **Wednesday September 16 Immigration**

Docs: On the “Evils” of Chinese Immigration (1878)  
Chew, *Life of a Chinese Immigrant* (1903)  
Antin, *The Promised Land* (1912)  
In Georgia, Immigrants Unsettle Old Sense of Place (2006)  
Textbook: pp. 617-22, 643-46

### **Friday September 18 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 4**

#### **Monday September 21 Social Reform**

*Primary Source Assignment #1 Due*

Docs: The People’s Party Platform (1892)  
Roosevelt, *The New Nationalism* (1910)  
Conditions at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company (1911)  
An Insider’s View of Hull House (c.1900)  
Textbook: pp. 637-43, 650-69

#### **Wednesday September 23 Imperialism and World War I**

Docs: Beveridge, “The March of the Flag” (1898)  
Cartoons on American Imperialism (1920s)  
German-American Loyalty (1917)  
Selected Letters: Paul Eliot Green (1917-1918)  
Textbook: pp. 624-36, 678-718

### **Friday September 25 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 5**

#### **Monday September 28 Women’s Suffrage**

Docs: Alice Paul Inspires Her Fellow Suffragists (1917-1918)  
The Remonstrance (1909)  
Election Day! (1909)  
Todd, “Getting Out the Vote” (1911)

#### **Wednesday September 30 The “Modern” 1920s**

*Midterm Take Home Essay and ID list distributed*

Docs: Advertisements of the 1920s  
Changes in Housework (1929)  
Happiness in Marriage (1926)  
Textbook: pp. 719-38

### **Friday October 2 Discussion Sections**

## **Week 6**

### **Monday October 5 The Conservative 1920s**

Doc: The Ku Klux Klan (1924, 1921)

The Scopes Trial (1925)

Textbook: pp. 739-48

### **Wednesday October 7 Midterm Exam**

### **Friday October 9 No Discussion Sections**

## **Week 7**

### **Monday October 12 Fall Break - No class**

### **Wednesday October 14 Depression and New Deal**

*Primary Source Assignment #2 Distributed*

Docs: The New Deal and the 'Common Man' (1934, 1936)

Hoover, "The New Deal and Liberty" (1936)

Family Life (1939)

Text: *Desert Exile*, chapter 1

Textbook: pp. 748-95

### **Friday October 16 Discussion Sections**

Please bring reading from October 5 and October 14 to discuss in section

## **Week 8**

### **Monday October 19 World War II**

Text: *Desert Exile*, chapters 2-6

Textbook: pp. 796-837

### **Wednesday October 21 The Cold War**

Docs: Truman Doctrine excerpts (1947)

Marshall Plan excerpts (1947)

Text: *Desert Exile*, chapter 7 - end

Textbook: pp. 838-70

### **Friday October 23 Discussion Sections**

## **Week 9**

### **Monday October 26 Cities and Suburbs in the 1950s**

Docs: A Journalist Describes Levittown (1948)

A Real Estate Agent Explains the Fine Art of Blockbusting (1962)

A Veteran on the GI Bill

Textbook: pp. 871-99

**Wednesday October 28 The Black Freedom Movement Part I**

*Primary Source Assignment #2 Due*

Essay: Doyle, "Crisis in Little Rock"

Docs: King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (1963)

Baker, "Bigger Than a Hamburger" (1960)

Textbook: pp. 899-911

**Friday October 30 Discussion Sections**

**Week 10**

**Monday November 2 The Black Freedom Movement Part II**

Doc: Carmichael and Hamilton, *Black Power* (1967)

Textbook: 912-33

**Wednesday November 4 Vietnam**

Docs: Johnson, "The Tonkin Gulf Incident" (1964)

Potter, "The Incredible War" (1965)

Textbook: 933-43

**Friday November 6 Discussion Sections**

**Week 11**

**Monday November 9 Native Americans**

Doc: A Native American Protest (1969)

Vine Deloria, Jr., "The Red and the Black" (1969)

Textbook: pp. 947-948

**Wednesday November 11 Postwar Feminism**

Docs: Bread and Roses, "Declaration of Women's Independence" (1970)

Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique* (excerpt) (1963)

Colonized Woman: The Chicana (1970)

The Politics of Housework (1970)

Textbook: pp. 943-47

**Friday November 13 Discussion Sections**

**Week 12**

**Monday November 16 1968**

*Primary Source Assignment #3 Distributed*

Docs: Defenders (1964) (Johnson, "The Great Society")

The Attack From The Right (1964) (Goldwater, "Conscience of a Conservative")

Robert F. Kennedy in Cape Town (1966)

Textbook: pp. 948-56

**Wednesday November 18 NO CLASS**

**Friday November 20 Discussion Sections**

**Week 13**

**Monday November 23 The New Right**

Doc: Falwell, "The Moral Majority" (1981)

Textbook: pp. 957-82

**Wednesday November 25 No Class - Thanksgiving**

**Friday November 27 No Discussion Sections - Thanksgiving**

**Week 14**

**Monday November 30 Ronald Reagan**

*Primary Source Assignment #3 Due*

Doc: Reagan, "Farewell Address" (1989)

Textbook: pp. 982-95

**Wednesday December 2 The War in Iraq**

*Final Exam Essay Question Distributed*

Doc: State of the Union Address (2002)

Textbook: pp. 1001-3, 1038-57

**Friday December 4 Discussion Sections**

Please bring reading from November 23, November 30, and December 2

**Week 15**

**Monday December 7 Wrap-Up**

*Final Exam IDs distributed*

**\*\*\* FINAL EXAM Friday December 11 at noon \*\*\***