

# Syllabus

HIS212-04 The United States Since 1865

Spring 2006

Day & Time: Thursday 6:00 to 8:50pm Location: STONE 215

Instructor: Mark Moser (Office—MCVR 223)

email: mamoser@uncg.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4:00 to 5:00pm and by appointment

## Required Texts:

*The American Promise: A History of the United States Volume II: From 1865* 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition  
(James L. Roark, et al.)

*Voices of the American Past, Volume II* 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Raymond M. Hyser and J. Chris Arndt)

## Additional Required Readings:

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* (Dee Brown)

*The Jungle* (Upton Sinclair)

*The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It* (Jo Ann Gibson Robinson)

*All the President's Men* (Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein)

## Grading:

Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
<i>Voices</i> Notebook	25%
Book Tests (4)	30%
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Course Total	100%

## Attendance:

Punctuality and regular attendance are necessary in order for you to do your best in any college level class because you are still responsible for all material covered in class whether or not you are there. You will be allowed two (2) absences during the semester with no academic penalty. A third absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one whole letter grade. I reserve the right to fail any student once they have missed four (4) classes. Any student who wishes to receive a grade of "W" must drop the class on or before the last day to drop without academic penalty. Habitual tardiness, either alone or in combination with absences, will also affect your final grade. I will notify any student whenever he/she has incurred a second absence, but please **DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON ME TO KEEP YOU INFORMED!!!** It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences. It is also your responsibility to see me after class if you come in after attendance has been taken, as failure to do so may result in your being marked absent for that class session.

Students should contact me ASAP after missing a test/exam in order to request a makeup. All requests to take a missed test/exam will be considered on an individual basis. Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to make up more than two (2) tests during the semester! Makeup tests will be allowed solely at my discretion and must be taken prior to the next class the student attends. Remember, it is your responsibility to contact me and request to take a missed test. Absolutely NO makeup tests will be given more than one week after the scheduled test date. (Be aware that certain portions of makeup tests may prove to be more difficult than those originally scheduled.) Written assignments turned in late will be penalized one letter grade for each day late! Also please note that I do not make any distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. In other words, an absence is an absence. You are either here.....or you aren’t.

### Course Objectives:

While enrolled in this course, students will be expected to:

- Understand and retain the basic facts and framework of US History since the Civil War.
- Analyze and synthesize relevant information; i.e., interpret historical facts.
- Develop a personal and historical sense of time and space.
- Think critically and make informed judgments!

### Procedures/Assignments:

As you have already seen, this course will require you to do a significant amount of reading. While I will admit that the reading load is somewhat demanding, it is very manageable provided that you follow my recommendations and don’t allow yourselves to fall behind. In addition to the readings you will also be required to keep a hard-backed spiral notebook exclusively for responding to the “Questions to Consider” which accompany each selection in your reader, *Voices of the American Past, Volume II\**. There are two reasons you must bring this notebook to every class session: 1) during each class we will discuss selected questions as a class and I will typically solicit responses from several students each week, and 2) I will collect your notebooks (unannounced) at least once during the semester in order to see that you are completing your assignments in a thorough and timely manner. This will impact the final grade you receive on your notebook, which, as indicated above, is worth 25% of your final grade. Class discussion will take up a significant portion of each session, but because this is a survey course which requires that we cover a great deal of information, approximately half of each class will be devoted to lecture.

My lectures primarily organize themselves around key points from the assigned chapters, but may include relevant information not included or emphasized in your readings. It will be to your advantage to have completed each class’s reading in advance for the following reasons: 1) it will make the lectures easier to follow because you will be at least somewhat familiar with the subject matter and 2) from time to time throughout the semester you may be asked to work together in small groups to discuss specific aspects of the assigned readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings, attend class, and, whenever appropriate, to contribute to the class in a meaningful manner. Please bring your textbook (*The American Promise*) the reader (*Voices of the American Past*) and your *Voices* notebooks with you to class each session!

Course Outline:

Week One—(January 12)

Course intro, lecture on the impact of the Civil War and overview of reconstruction

Readings: *The American Promise*: Chapter 16 “Reconstruction, 1863-1877” and *Voices* Ch.16, “Reconstruction.” Begin/continue reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Two—(January 19)

Readings: *The American Promise*: Chapter 16 “Reconstruction, 1863-1877” and *Voices* Ch. 16, “Reconstruction” Continue reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Three—(January 26)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Chapter 17 “Business and Politics in the Gilded Age, 1870-1895” and *Voices* Ch. 18 “The Expansion of Big Business” Continue reading *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Week Four—(February 2)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Chapter 18 “The West in the Gilded Age, 1870-1900” and *Voices* Ch. 17 “The West”

\*Test on *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Begin reading *The Jungle*

Week Five—(February 9)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 19 “The City and Its Workers, 1870-1900” *The American Promise*: Ch. 20 “Dissent, Depression, and War, 1890-1900” and *Voices* Ch. 19 “How the Other Half Lives” *Voices* Ch. 20 “Imperialism” Continue reading *The Jungle*

Week Six—(February 16)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 21 “Progressivism from the Grass Roots to the White House, 1890-1916” and *Voices* Ch. 21 “The Progressive Movement”

Continue reading *The Jungle*

Week Seven—(February 23)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 22 “World War I: The Progressive Crusade at Home and Abroad” and *Voices* Ch. 22 “Making the World Safe for Democracy”

\*Test on *The Jungle*

Week Eight—(March 2)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 23 “From New Era to Great Depression, 1920-1932” and *Voices* Ch. 23 “The Return to Normalcy”

\*Mid-term Exam You will need a Blue Book

SPRING BREAK (No Class Thursday, March 9)

Week Nine—(March 16)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 23 “From New Era to Great Depression, 1920-1932” and *Voices* Ch. 23 “The Return to Normalcy” (continued)

Begin reading *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Week Ten—(March 23)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 24 “The New Deal Experiment, 1932-1939” and *Voices* Ch. 24 “FDR and the New Deal”

Continue reading *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Week Eleven—(March 30)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 25 “The United States and the Second World War, 1939-1945” and *Voices* Ch. 25 “Isolationism and World War II”

Continue reading *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Week Twelve—(April 6)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 26 “Cold War Politics in the Truman Years, 1945-1953” and *Voices* Ch. 26\* “Postwar America”

\*Test on *The Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Women Who Started It*

Begin reading *All the President’s Men*

Week Thirteen—(April 13)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 27 “The Politics and Culture of Abundance, 1952-1960” and *Voices* Ch. 26\* “Postwar America”

Continue reading *All the President’s Men*

Week Fourteen—(April 20)

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 28 “Reform, Rebellion, and Reaction, 1960-1974” and *Voices* Ch. 27 “The Turbulent Sixties”

Continue reading *All the President’s Men*

\**Voices* notebooks due at the beginning of class

Week Fifteen—(April 27)—Last day of class Thursday, April 27

Reading: *The American Promise*: Ch. 29 “Vietnam and the Limits of Power, 1961-1975” and *Voices* Ch. 28\* “The Rising Conservative Tide”

\*Test on *All the President’s Men*

Final Exam—Thursday, May 4 6:00-8:50pm (STONE 215) You will need a Bluebook!

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NOTE: From time to time I will post announcements and reminders on Blackboard. Please check your UNCG email accounts and Blackboard on a regular basis. I will respond to your emails as quickly as possible throughout the semester, but please be patient as there are many of you and only one of me!

