

Spring 2007 University of North Carolina - Greensboro  
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Office: 2145 HHRA Office Hours: M 1-3, and by appt  
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## **HISTORY 212: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1965 COURSE SYLLABUS**

This course is a survey of major themes in United States history from 1865 to the present. It will examine industrialization, immigration, urbanization, social reform, imperialism, race, class and gender relations, and the growth of the federal state. We will explore these topics from the perspective of politicians, social reformers, and civil rights activists as well as ordinary men and women from a variety of backgrounds. Students will examine a wide range of primary historical sources including memoirs, novels, letters, speeches, and oral interviews. They will learn how to evaluate different methods of historical thinking and will 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, 2006.

Charles W. Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*. New York: Penguin Classics, Reprint Edition, 1993.

Timothy B. Tyson, *Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story*. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2005.

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

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

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

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

Midterm Essay and Test: 20%

Final Essay and Test: 25%

Three 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.

EXTRA CREDIT: History sheds new light on current events and vice versa. Choose a newspaper article published during the semester that speaks to themes that we have discussed in the course and write a paragraph explaining why you believe that it is relevant. Hand in both the paragraph and the article. You may submit up to THREE extra credit assignments. The last day we will accept assignments is April 23.

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

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.

The power point slides used in lecture will 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. Cellphones 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. If something you write implies that you are the originator of words or ideas, they must be your own. When you utilize written sources like books, articles, primary documents, or web pages, you must identify the sources to your reader. If you use someone else's exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and followed by a citation. If you put someone else's ideas into your own words, you must give that person credit. Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized and reported to the Dean of Students.

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**Course Schedule:**

Documents can be found on e-reserve.

The reading for the week will be covered in discussion sections.

**Week 1****Monday January 8 Introduction to the Course**

Read over the syllabus

**Wednesday January 10 Reconstruction**

Docs: Mississippi Black Code (1865)

Truth, "When a Woman Gets Her Rights, Man Will be Right" (1867)

African Americans and the Impact of Freedom (1866)

Textbook: pp. 475-509

**Friday January 12 Discussion Sections****Week 2****Monday January 15 NO CLASS (MLK Day)****Wednesday January 17 The Wilmington Riot**

*Primary Source Assignment #1 Distributed*

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 1-12

Docs: Felton, Letter to the Atlanta Constitution (1898)

Manly, Editorial (1898)

"North Carolina City Confronts Its Past" (2005)

Textbook: pp. 549-65

**Friday January 19 Discussion Sections****Week 3****Monday January 22 Industrial Capitalism**

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 13-26

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

Lloyd, "Wealth Against Commonwealth" (1884)

Textbook: pp. 510-38

**Wednesday January 24 Industrial Labor**

Text: *Marrow of Tradition*, chapters 27-37

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

Textbook: pp. 538-45

**Friday January 26 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 4**

##### **Monday January 29 The Indian Wars 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. 520-28

##### **Wednesday January 31 Immigration Then and Now**

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. 566-69, 640-44, 682-84

#### **Friday February 2 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 5**

##### **Monday February 5 The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire**

*Primary Source Assignment #1 Due*

Docs: Newman, et. al., “Conditions at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company” (1911)  
Mitchell, “The Workingman’s Conception of Industrial Liberty” (1910)  
An Insider’s View of Hull House (c.1900)

Textbook: pp. 582-619

##### **Wednesday February 7 Imperialism**

Docs: Beveridge, “The March of the Flag” (1898)  
Cartoons on American Imperialism (1920s)

Textbook: pp. 572-81

#### **Friday February 9 Discussion Sections**

#### **Week 6**

##### **Monday February 12 World War I**

Textbook: pp. 620-59

##### **Wednesday February 14 Women’s Suffrage**

*Primary Source Assignment #2 Distributed*

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

Textbook: pp. 635-36

#### **Friday February 16 Discussion Sections**

**Week 7**

**Monday February 19 The “Modern” 1920s**

Docs: Advertisements of the 1920s  
Changes in Housework (1929)  
Family Planning (1926)

Textbook: 660-78, 685-88

**Wednesday February 21 The Conservative 1920s**

*Midterm Take Home Essay Question Distributed*

Doc: The Ku Klux Klan (1924, 1921)  
Doc: The Scopes Trial (1925)

Textbook: pp. 678-82

**Friday February 23 Discussion Sections**

**Week 8**

**Monday February 26 Depression and New Deal**

Docs: “The New Deal and the ‘Common Man’” (1934, 1936)  
Hoover, “The New Deal and Liberty” (1936)  
Family Life (c. 1939)

Textbook: pp. 688-735

**Wednesday February 28 Midterm Test**

**Friday March 2 NO SECTIONS**

**Week 9**

**Monday March 5 SPRING BREAK**

**Wednesday March 7 SPRING BREAK**

**Friday March 9 SPRING BREAK**

**Week 10**

**Monday March 12 World War II Abroad**

Docs: Tibbets and Weller, “To Use an Atomic Bomb” (1940s)  
Charles Kukuchi on Life in a Japanese Internment Camp (1942)

Textbook: pp. 736-70

**Wednesday March 14 World War II At Home**

Doc: Hill, “Rosie the Riveter” (1940s)

**Friday March 16 Discussion Sections**

## **Week 11**

### **Monday March 19 The Cold War**

Text: *Blood Done Sign My Name*, chapters 1-3, pp. 1-60

Docs: Truman, "The Truman Doctrine" (1947)

Marshall, "The Marshall Plan" (1947)

Textbook: pp. 770-807

### **Wednesday March 21 Cities and Suburbs in the Fifties**

*Primary Source Assignment #2 Due*

Text: *Blood Done Sign My Name*, chapters 4-5, pp. 61-117

Docs: A Journalist Describes Levittown (1948)

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

Textbook: pp. 808-25

### **Friday March 23 Discussion Sections**

## **Week 12**

### **Monday March 26 The Black Freedom Movement Part I**

Text: *Blood Done Sign My Name*, chapters 6-8, pp. 118-196

Docs: Sherrod, "Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Memorandum" (1961)

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

Textbook: pp. 833-42, 845-56

### **Wednesday March 28 The Black Freedom Movement Part II**

*Primary Source Assignment #3 Distributed*

Text: *Blood Done Sign My Name*, chapters 9-11, pp. 197-287

Docs: Carmichael and Hamilton, from *Black Power* (1967)

Textbook: pp. 861-84

### **Friday March 30 Discussion Sections**

## **Week 13**

### **Monday April 2 Vietnam**

Text: *Blood Done Sign My Name*, chapters 12-end, pp. 288-325

Docs: Johnson, The Tonkin Gulf Incident (1964)

Potter, "The Incredible War" (1965)

Textbook: 867-73

### **Wednesday April 4 Postwar Feminisms**

Docs: "Protesting Miss America 1968" (1996)

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

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

Textbook: pp. 873-82

### **Friday April 6 NO SECTIONS (Spring Holiday)**

**Week 14**

**Monday April 9 The American Indian Movement**

Docs: Deloria, "The Red and the Black" (1969)

Indians of All Tribes, "Proclamation to the Great White Father and All His People" (1969)

**Wednesday April 11 NO CLASS**

**Friday April 13 Discussion Sections**

**Week 15**

**Monday April 16 1968**

*Primary Source Assignment #3 Due*

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. 856-84

**Wednesday April 18 The New Right**

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

Textbook: pp. 886-910

**Friday April 20 Discussion Sections**

**Week 16**

**Monday April 23 A Nation Divided**

*Final Test and Take Home Essay Question Distributed*

Docs: Cuomo, "A Tale of Two Cities" (1984)

Reagan, Inaugural Address (1981)

Textbook: pp. 910-26

**Wednesday April 25 Looking Forward**

No reading. Prepare for final.

**Friday April 27 Discussion Sections**

**Week 17**

**Monday April 30 Final Test**