This survey course examines major themes in the history of the United States from Reconstruction arrival through the Twentieth Century. We will explore the ways in which different people envisioned America, crafted institutions and policies to cultivate those visions, and disputed how to harvest their rewards. More importantly, you will learn how historians have shaped this story. To do this, you will critically examine primary documents and interpretive texts to gain a broader, deeper understanding of past events and how they shaped the world we live in today.

These **required books** are available from the UF Bookstore or other online or local sources:


**It is critical** that you acquire the correct editions of these books; previously published editions may not include the same material, which could negatively impact your weekly quiz grades.**

**COURSE GRADE COMPONENTS:**

1. **Attendance and participation:** (15%)

The foundation for a good-to-excellent grade in this class involves regularly attending class lectures, participating in class and online discussions, and keeping up with weekly reading assignments. Keep in mind that quizzes and exams draw from material covered in lectures AND readings. Requirements for class attendance are consistent with university policies that can be found at [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx). Any events conflicting with class must be cleared with me during drop/add week. Whenever possible, please let me know in advance if you will miss class.

Participation requires not just your physical presence, but your helpful contributions to the exchange of ideas. All of you are encouraged to ask factual and interpretative questions and share your observations during class lectures and discussion. Moreover, please take advantage of my office hours for tips on
preparing for assignments or understanding the material. Out of respect for your instructor and classmates, please silence cell phones and refrain from texting and other non-class-related online activities. Those who consistently have difficulty abiding by this request may be called on directly in class, and/or marked down as absent for the day.

2. **Quizzes** (10 total, 15%)

These will consist of several multiple-choice, true-false and short-answer questions based on readings and lectures for that week. They will usually be given Fridays at the beginning of class; latecomers do not get extra time, and one point will be deducted for tardiness. I will record the best 10 quiz grades (drop the lowest).

3. **Short Paper** (1, 10%)

During the first third of the term you will be assigned one short paper, based on the assigned readings for the week. This assignment (hard-copy, 1-2 pages, typewritten, double-spaced, 12-point type, standard font, 1-inch margins) gives you the opportunity to perfect your skills at crafting a clear, effective argument using evidence from lecture and readings: skills essential to doing well on the essay and exams. This assignment must be turned in by the beginning of class on **Wednesday, 9/16**.

4. **Essay** (1, 20%)

In this 4-5 page (double-spaced, 12-point type, standard font, 1-inch margins) paper, you will address a question about *Freedom Summer*, available shortly after you complete midterms. Your essay will be graded on the strength of its argument, evidence, and clarity (more details on this available later). The paper will be due at the beginning of class on **Wednesday, November 4**. Late essays will be deducted one-third of a letter-grade increment per day. You must hand in this assignment to be eligible for passing the course.

5. **Midterm and final exam** (20% each, for a total of 40% of your grade)

Both exams will consist of at least one essay and several short-answer identifications. You will be provided with a review sheet at least one week in advance for each of these exams. The midterm exam will be given in class **Wednesday, September 30**, and the final exam will be held **Thursday, December 17, from 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.** Please bring blue books for these exams. Please note that I have no control over the date and/or time of the final exam. You must take both exams to be eligible for passing the course.
**Makeup policy:** As a rule, except in cases of dire emergency or illness (with proper documentation), no make-ups or extensions will be given for quizzes, scheduled examinations or other class assignments. Make-up exams will be permitted only at the discretion of the instructor, and will be given only during finals week.

**Please keep in mind there will be no extra-credit projects to either supplement or replace the requirements of this course. You are ultimately responsible for fulfilling these requirements in a timely fashion, according to the timetable and standards provided in this syllabus.**

Grades will be distributed as follows according to the scale shown below:

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Additional information can be found here: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx)

**UF Disability Policy:** Students requesting classroom accommodation for disability issues must first register with the Office of the Dean of Students 352-392-8565, [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/). This office will provide documentation to the student, who then must provide this documentation to me. I cannot help you if I do not know the kind of help you may require, so I strongly suggest that you discuss this with me during the first week of the semester in order that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Academic Honesty** is a serious matter. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as one’s own. Attempting to take credit for the ideas of others is theft, and carries serious penalties. All work is bound by the University Honor Code. UF has clear rules about Academic Honesty: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php). Violators will be reported to the Dean of Student’s Office and will receive an assignment grade penalty and/or a course grade penalty. If you have any questions about how to properly cite sources or about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please check in with me.

**Evaluations:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE** (readings should be completed by Monday of the week in which they appear)

**Week 1, 1/6-1/8:** Welcome

- NO CLASS FRIDAY (1/8)
- 8/28: Last day for add/drop
Week 2, 1/11-1/15: Reconstruction

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 15; *America Firsthand* (Haywood 3, Wells 4, Grimes 7)

Week 3, 1/20-1/22: Western Expansion

- NO CLASS 1/18 (MLK Day)
- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 16; *America Firsthand* (Sa 8, Rice 12)

Week 4, 1/25-1/29: Northern Industrialism

- (Knights 9, IWW 10, Parsons 13)

Week 5, 2/1-2/5: Populism, Jim Crow, Urbanization

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 17; *America Firsthand*, (Wells 4, Omaha 14)

Week 6, 2/8-2/12: Progressive Era

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 18; *America Firsthand* (Newman 15; Bintel 19)

Week 7, 2/15-2/17: Midterm review; Midterm exam

- NO CLASS 2/19

Week 8, 2/22-2/26: Imperialism

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 19; AF (Letters 18, Scott 20, Burns 21)

Week 9, 2/29-3/4: SPRING BREAK

Week 10: 3/7-3/11: WWI

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 19; AF (Sanger 26); *Freedom Summer* through p. 76

Week 11: 3/14-3/18: 1920s, Great Depression

- *Give Me Liberty!* 20; AF (Bryan 23, Hughes 25); *Freedom Summer*, pp. 77-151

Week 12: 3/21-3/25: New Deal
Week 13, 3/28-4/1: WWII

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 21; *AF* (Skaret 29, Dollinger 30); *Freedom Summer*, pp. 152-214

Week 14, 4/4-4/8: Cold War (ESSAY DUE: Monday, 4/4)

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 22; *AF*, Yorita, 34; *Freedom Summer*, pp. 215-300
- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 23; *AF*, (32, Tibbets et al)

Week 15, 4/11-4/15: Civil Rights

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 24 *AF* (Chavez, 45; Amsel, 46)

Week 16, 4/18-4/20: Turbulent Sixties

- *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 25; *AF* (Ridenhour 39; Westmoreland 40)

**FINAL EXAM: Thursday, 4/28, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.**

This schedule is subject to change. I will notify you in writing of any changes. If you have any questions about the course requirements, my expectations, your abilities, citing sources, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or in person. Most issues can be resolved with the proper allocation of time, so do not wait until the last minute to ask for help.