

AMH 2020

U.S. History since 1877

Instructor

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Availability: T/Th 12:00-1:30
or by appointment (email correspondence)
Lecture: Online

Course Description

This course will survey the social, political, and cultural history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. This particular section is a six-week online summer course. Because of the format and the timeframe, you can expect to work intensely over the next few weeks. This course has fifteen modules, which means you can expect to complete one module every two to three days. It is your responsibility to keep up with all readings and assignments in order to be prepared for the tests and exams.

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Explain why Reconstruction set up all of American history from that point on.
2. Explain how and why American society industrialized during the late 19th
3. Explain the causes & consequences of urbanization.
4. Explain why racial, ethnic, & gender divisions arose in American society from 1877 to the start of World War I.
5. Explain how & why the federal government increased its authority & power in the years following World War I.
6. Show when & why a mass national culture emerged.
7. Explain how World War II fundamentally changed America.
8. Show how the Cold War started & why it lasted so long.
9. Explain why the Civil Rights movement occurred & how it reshaped American society.
10. Show how and why the United States got involved in Vietnam and how that war shaped domestic events.
11. Explain the rise of conservatism in the last quarter of the 20th century.
12. Show how the Cold War ended and the effects of this on both the United States and the rest of the world.

Required Texts

The American Yawp (This textbook is free online at <http://www.americanyawp.com/>)

Other required readings are available at no cost on Canvas.

Grading Scale and Assignment Summary

Responses	15%
Quizzes	15%
Tests (2)	25%
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	25%

Grade Proportion	Grade Scale	Grade Value
Responses: 15%	935-1,000 = A	A = 4.0
Quizzes: 15%	900-934 = A-	A- = 3.67
2 Tests: 25%	870-899 = B+	B+ = 3.33
Midterm Exam: 20%	835-869 = B	B = 3.00
Final Exam: 25%	800-834 = B-	B- = 2.67
	770-799 = C+	C+ = 2.33
Total: 100%	735-769 = C	C = 2.00
	700-734 = C-	C- = 1.67
	670-699 = D+	D+ = 1.33
	635-669 = D	D = 1.00
	600-634 = D-	D- = 0.67
	0-599 = E	E = 0.00

Only course grades of C or better will satisfy Gordon Rule, general education, and college basic distribution credit.

Social and Behavioral Sciences and Diversity

This course satisfies the Social and Behavioral Science Gen-Ed Credit at the University of Florida. Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe and explain social institutions, structures and processes. This course emphasizes the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes and human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions.

This course also satisfies the Diversity Gen-Ed Credit at the University of Florida. Diversity courses provide instruction in the values, attitudes and norms that create cultural differences within the United States. This course will encourage you to recognize how social roles and status affect different groups and impact U.S. society. This course will guide you to analyze and to evaluate your own cultural norms and values in relation to those of other cultures, and to distinguish opportunities and constraints faced by other persons and groups.

For every module:

There will be a **quiz** on the readings. They will be short in duration (5-10 minutes) and consist of multiple-choice questions. These quizzes are given to ensure that you are keeping up on the reading and have a working knowledge of the subject matter from the video lectures. They are also guidelines about what some of the key facts, actors, events are for each module.

You will also complete a **response** to the primary source documents. Detailed guidelines for this assignment can be found under the Assignment Instructions tab on the home page or the class introduction page.

There will be **two tests**, due July 15 and August 5. These will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answers.

The **midterm exam** must be completed by end of day on July 24 (the midpoint in the semester). It will consist of five IDs and one essay. It will be open book, but you will only have 60 minutes to complete it. The **final exam** must be completed by August 14 (the end of the semester). It will have a similar format. It will have five IDs and two essays. One essay will cover the entire semester while the second essay will only consider material since midterm. You will only have 120 minutes to complete the final exam.

The goal is for all these assignments to build on each other. The readings form the basis, which the quizzes and responses help you unpack. The test material will draw heavily on these assignments, while the midterm and final will ask you to take the analysis further.

Because of this, there will **NOT** be study guides for any of the tests: the objectives of the course and modules, and the smaller assignments constitute the study guide. The objectives in particular are the guiding thread through which you should be seeking to understand the material.

Course Policies

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Academic honesty:

Plagiarism constitutes intellectual theft and academic dishonesty. It is the failure to properly cite and give credit when you use the ideas, words, phrases, or arguments of other people in your writing assignments. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." For more information regarding the Honor Code, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <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.

Course Schedule

This is a work at your own pace course. You are responsible for keeping up with the readings and assignments and completing the tests and exams on time. To stay on task, you should aim to complete one module every two to three days (this includes weekends).

Due Date

- July 6-15 Complete all assignments for **modules 1-4**
- July 15 Complete **Test 1** by 11:59pm—This will cover **modules 1-4**
- July 16-24 Complete all assignments for **modules 5-8**
- July 24 **Midterm Exam** due by 11:59pm—This will cover **modules 1-8**
- July 27-Aug 5 Complete all assignments for **modules 9-12**
- Aug 5 Complete **Test 2** by 11:59pm—This will cover **modules 1-12**
- Aug 6-14 Complete all assignments for **modules 13-15**
- August 14 Complete **Final Exam** by 11:59pm—This will cover **modules 1-15**