History 1025: History of the United States since 1865

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2-4 PM and by appointment
Office Location: Hellems 351

Course Description and Objectives
This course will address the social, political, cultural, and economic changes in America from the Civil War through the present. The course will consider prominent people, issues, events, and debates that have transformed American society, informed national identity, and propelled it to become a world power. While attention will be paid to well known individuals and events, we will also look to more obscure forces which have influenced American history. Such an extensive scope will provide a more complete sense of how the United States has changed over the last 150 years and how its history is relevant to contemporary life. The lectures, readings, writings, and discussions are meant to sharpen your ability to: think, read, and write critically; analyze and evaluate data to form opinions; engage in discussion and debate; and understand modern America.

Key Themes
-Wars change things in dramatic ways
-The relationship between liberalism and conservatism defines modern American political history
-The idea of “America”—what it means, the nature of citizenship, and who belongs—is constantly debated
-Contingency and context help explain historical events

Required Books
These books are available through the CU Book Store or through alternative sites. Copies of the textbook and reader will be on reserve at Norlin Library. Please be sure to purchase the correct edition and volume.

Michael P. Johnson, ed., Reading the American Past, fourth edition, Volume II: From 1865 (Boston, 2009)
Anne Moody, Coming of Age in Mississippi (New York, 1992)

Evaluation
There will be two in-class essay exams over the course of the semester, each will account for 20% of your final grade. The final exam will actually consist of two exams: one exam corresponding to the third part of the course and one comprehensive exam that will deal with the entire semester. These exams will each constitute 15% of your final grade. A five-page paper on Anne Moody’s book will account for 20% of your grade.
This class is rather small, which means that we will devote a number of class periods to discuss pertinent topics, primary documents, and other issues. Your participation in these sessions, coupled with additional short papers, quizzes, and other assignments, as well as overall attendance, will represent 10% of your final grade. The shorter assignments will be announced via your CU email account and/or our CU Learn website, so please check those regularly for course updates and assignments. This course will not have a formal attendance policy but frequent absences will affect your participation grade. This is particularly true if you happen to miss discussion days but be conscious of your attendance record.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Late papers and assignments will be penalized one letter grade per 24 hour period so be conscious of due dates and stay on top of your work. Obviously, exceptions will be made for legitimate reasons but you need to inform me of these in a timely fashion. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

**Schedule and Assignments**

**Week One**
- M, 01/10: Course Introduction
- W, 01/12: Reconstruction I: Opportunities Abound
- F, 01/14: Reconstruction II: Dashed Hopes?

*The American Promise (AP): Chapter 16*
*Reading the American Past (RAP): 16-1, 16-2, 16-4, 16-5*

**Week Two**
- M, 01/17: No Class-Campus Closed
- W, 01/19: Winning the West
- F, 01/21: Class Discussion

AP: 411-421, 425-431
RAP: 17-1, 17-4, 17-5

**Week Three**
- M, 01/24: Capital during the Gilded Age
- W, 01/26: Labor during the Gilded Age
- F, 01/28: Immigration and Urbanization

AP: 435-447, Chapter 19
RAP: 18-4, 18-5, 19-1, 19-3, 19-4, 20-4

**Week Four**
- M, 01/31: Politics during the Gilded Age
- W, 02/02: Review
- F, 02/04: **EXAM 1**

AP: 450-457, 487-501
RAP: 19-5, 20-1

**Week Five**
M, 02/07
Social Progressives
W, 02/09
Political Progressives
F, 02/11
Class Discussion
AP: Chapter 21
RAP: Chapter 21

Week Six
M, 02/14
Empire and US Imperialism, 1898-1914
W, 02/16
The Great War
F, 02/18
Recovering From War
AP: 501-509, Chapter 22
RAP: 20-5, 22-1, 22-4, 22-5

Week Seven
M, 02/21
The 1920s: A New Era?
W, 02/23
1920s Culture and Conflict
F, 02/25
Class Discussion
AP: 569-588

Week Eight
M, 02/28
The Great Depression
W, 03/02
FDR’s New Deal
F, 03/04
Surviving the 1930s
AP: 588-591, Chapter 24
RAP: Chapter 24

Week Nine
M, 03/07
The Second World War, 1939-1945
W, 03/09
WW II at Home
F, 03/11
Class Discussion
AP: Chapter 25
RAP: Chapter 25

Week Ten
M, 03/14
Review
W, 03/16
EXAM 2
F, 03/18
No Class
AP:
RAP:

Week Eleven
M, 03/21
Spring Break
W, 03/23
No Class
F, 03/25
No Class
AP:
RAP:

**Week Twelve**
M, 03/28  Containment as Foreign Policy
W, 03/30  Containment at Home
F, 04/01  1950s Prosperity
AP: Chapter 26, 673-690
RAP: 26-2, 26-3, 26-4, 27-1, 27-2

**Week Thirteen**
M, 04/04  The Civil Rights Movement I: Early Years
W, 04/06  The Civil Rights Movement II: Into the 1960s
F, 04/08  Class Discussion/Moody Paper Due
AP: 690-694, 704-709
RAP: Recommended—27-3, 28-3, 28-4

**Week Fourteen**
M, 04/11  Rights Consciousness
W, 04/13  Vietnam
F, 04/15  Kennedy and Johnson
AP: 699-703, 709-715, Chapter 29
RAP: 28-1, 28-2, 28-5, 29-1, 29-2, 29-4

**Week Fifteen**
M, 04/18  The Rise of Conservatism
W, 04/20  Nixon and the Crisis of Confidence
F, 04/22  The Reagan Revolution
AP: 715-719, Chapter 30
RAP: 30-1, 30-2, 30-3, 30-4

**Week Sixteen**
M, 04/25  The ‘90s
W, 04/27  What Next?
F, 04/29  Review
AP: Chapter 31
RAP: 31-1, 31-2, 31-3

**Final: TBA**

*The instructor reserves the right to change this schedule as needed, so please be mindful of such adjustments. Also, notice that this outline does not include short papers and other assignments which will be assigned over the course of the term.*

**Additional Information**

*Disability Statement:* If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to me from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may
be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented
disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or
http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/

*Decorum Statement:* Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an
appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards
may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students
with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set
reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. Additional
information may be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html

*Honor Code:* All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for
knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of
this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication,
lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be
reported to the Honor Code Council honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who
are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both
academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but
not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information on
the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html

*Religious Observance:* Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that
faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of
religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or
required attendance. If you have a potential class conflict because of religious observance then
please inform me in advance. See policy details at
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

*Sexual Harassment:* The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies
to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It
can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is
hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite
gender and between any combination of members in the campus community: students,
faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including
the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member
who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Sexual
Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550.
Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who
believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at
http://www.colorado.edu/odh/