History 1025: History of the United States since 1865

Instructor: Chris Baker
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Office Hours: MWF 10:00-10:50 or by appointment
Office Location: Hellams 351

1025: Section 001 (11AM MWF)

Course Description and Objectives

This course will address the social, cultural, political, legal, and economic changes in the United States from the Civil War through the present. We will discuss individuals, issues, events, and debates that have helped to shape United States history. While attention will be paid to well known individuals and events, we will also look to more obscure historical events and trends to 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 course has two overarching objectives: 1) You will develop a more coherent understanding of the history of the United States over the past 150 years 2) You will sharpen your ability to: think, read, and write critically; analyze and evaluate data to form defensible opinions; engage in discussion and debate.

Key Themes

The course will focus two overarching, often interrelated, themes throughout the semester. These are the tension between social and political inclusion and exclusion and the role of the state (Government) in American society. Other themes, such as the rise and fall of organized labor and the role of leisure and consumption in American society, will be incorporated as appropriate.

Required Books

These books are available through the CU Book Store or through alternative sites.


I will also provide readings for class discussion via CANVAS. I will let you know when I post documents.

**Evaluation**
There will be three exams in-class essay exams over the course of the semester, Two midterms and a final exam. Each midterm will account for 20% of your final grade. The final exam will also constitute 20% of your final grade. The final exam will not be cumulative.

You will be required to write two four-page papers, one on *Crossing the Rio Grande* and one on *If I Die in a Combat Zone*. Each paper will each account for 15% of your grade. I will provide specific writing prompts at least two weeks before the papers are due.

Papers will be graded for both content and format and must follow the History department standards for citing and writing papers at [https://www.colorado.edu/history/undergraduates/paper-guidelines/referencing](https://www.colorado.edu/history/undergraduates/paper-guidelines/referencing)

I will dedicate part of one class to discuss paper topics and my expectations in greater detail.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Late papers and assignments will **NOT** be accepted. Exceptions will be made for legitimate reasons but you need to inform me of these in a timely fashion (ideally before the date that the assignment is due). Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

There is also a participation component that makes up 10% of your final grade. This component of your score will be determined through the accretion of several components. We will devote a number of class periods to the discussion pertinent topics and readings. Typically, I will give you a short written assignment that will be due on the day that discussions are scheduled. This will be the first component of your participation grade. The second component will reflect your participation in class (especially the discussion sessions), as well as overall attendance.

**Schedule and Assignments**

**Week One**
- W, 01/17
  - Course Introduction
- F, 01/19
  - Reconstruction I: “To Bind a Nation”

**FONER Chapter 15, Gómez, Crossing the Rio Grande**

**Week Two**
- M, 01/22
  - Reconstruction II: Depression and Redemption
- W, 01/24
  - Reconstruction III: Post Civil War Social Order
- F, 01/26
  - Review/Class Discussion
**FONER Chapter 15, Readings 1 on CANVAS, Gómez, Crossing the Rio Grande**

**Week Three**
- M, 01/29: The West: Culture and Conflict
- W, 01/31: America Moves West
- F, 02/02: Developing the West

**Readings on CANVAS, Gómez, Crossing the Rio Grande**

**Week Four**
- M, 02/05: Crossing the Rio Grande Paper Due/ Class Discussion
- W, 02/07: Industry during the Gilded Age
- F, 02/09: Labor and Race during the Gilded Age

**FONER Chapter 16**

**Week Five**
- M, 02/12: Immigration and Urbanization
- W, 02/14: Populism
- F, 02/16: Discussion/Test Review

**FONER Chapter 17**

**Week Six**
- M, 02/19: EXAM I
- W, 02/21: US Imperialism, 1898-1914
- F, 02/23: Progressive Era Reform

**FONER Chapter 18**

**Week Seven**
- M, 02/26: Progressive Era Presidencies and Politics
- W, 02/28: World War I
- F, 03/02: 1919 and the Uneasy Peace

**FONER Chapter 19**

**Week Eight**
- M, 03/05: 1920s
- W, 03/07: The Great Depression
- F, 03/09: The First New Deal

**FONER Chapter 20**
Week Nine
M, 03/12       The Second New Deal
W, 03/14       World War II
F, 03/16       The Home Front

FONER Chapter 21

Week Ten
M, 03/19       Discussion/Exam Review: From World War to Cold War
W, 03/21       EXAM II
F, 03/23       From World War to Cold War

FONER Chapter 22 and 23, O'Brien, If I Die in a Combat Zone

Week Eleven
M, 03/26       NO CLASS
W, 03/28       NO CLASS
F, 03/30       NO CLASS

O'Brien, If I Die in a Combat Zone

Week Twelve
M, 04/02       The Second Red Scare
W, 04/04       1950s America
F, 04/06       John F Kennedy

FONER Chapter 24, O'Brien, If I Die in a Combat Zone

Week Thirteen
M, 04/09       Vietnam
W, 04/11       If I Die in a Combat Zone Paper Due/Discussion
F, 04/13       Entanglements in Latin America

O'Brien, If I Die in a Combat Zone

Week Fourteen
M, 04/16       Hispanics in the 20th Century
W, 04/18       The Civil Rights Movement
F, 04/20       The 1960s Youth Movement

FONER Chapter 25

Week Fifteen
M, 04/23       Other Postwar Movements
W, 04/25       From Liberalism to Conservatism
F, 04/27       Deindustrialization and The End of the Cold War


*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 may be assigned over the course of the term.

Additional Information

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the Disability Services website (www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions under the Students tab on the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly 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 the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.

Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Class rosters are provided to
the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU’s Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU Boulder’s Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the OIEC website.

Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at the Honor Code Office website.