

Fall 2006

History 1378, section 13709, U.S. from 1877 to the Present

M, W 2:30-3:45

Bob Buzzanco

AH 557, 743.3093

Office Hours: by appointment

<http://vi.uh.edu/pages/buzzmat/buzzanco.htm>

Teaching Assistants for Monday, Wednesday class

Office: AH 662, 743.3125

Natalie Garza, nmgarza@mail.uh.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday, 11-2

Maria Corsi, mariacorsi@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Wednesday, 10-1

Mike Phifer, mjphifer@uh.edu

Office Hours: Monday, 11-2

Required Books:

Book package including, text *Out of Many* and reader *Reelin' in the Years*

Bruce Watson, *Bread and Roses*

Stepher Kinzer, *Overthrow*

These books should be available at Rother's; if not, please let me know.

Grading:

Your grade in this course will be based on your scores on three exams [which may include essays and IDs], two during the semester, in weeks 6 and 11, and a final exam. Practice questions will be given out before the tests and review sessions with TAs will be scheduled.

If you miss an exam due to verifiable emergency conditions, with proper documentation, there will be makeup tests given on a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of the professor/TAs. On the day of your scheduled make-up, you will be required to make up all missing tests. The only excuses for missing that day will also be medical or other emergencies [not travel plans], for which you must provide written documentation. If you miss the makeup test, you will receive zeroes for those tests. Additionally, it is your responsibility to notify your TA that you have missed an exam and to schedule a make up as soon as possible.

Make sure you attend class regularly and keep up with the assigned readings. If at any time you are unsure of the material we are covering,

please ask the T.A. or me.

Read this carefully, because it is an issue every semester.

Deadlines and important dates:

Dates for drops, graduation, etc, can be found at:
http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/general/Cal_event_f05s06.html

If you want to drop the class, that's your responsibility. To drop, get a drop form and bring it to me to sign. It's not my responsibility to drop the class for you. If you want to drop, check the deadlines and meet them. Don't come to me at the end of the semester and ask me to drop the class for you. Also, don't ask me for an "incomplete" unless you have serious mitigating circumstances--incompletes are allowed only for "emergency" situations and not simply because you've fallen behind in class or aren't doing well. If you sense that you're not going to perform at the level you want to and do not want to complete the class, withdraw from it rather than asking me for an incomplete.

The key to success in this class is simple: attend class regularly, and do all the readings.

Faculty Handbook: Incomplete (I) Grade Policy

The grade of "I" (Incomplete) is a conditional and temporary grade given when a student is passing a course but for reasons beyond his or her control has not completed a relatively small part of all requirements. The student is responsible for informing the instructor immediately of the reason for not submitting an assignment on time or not taking an examination. The grade of "I" must be changed by fulfillment of course requirements within one year of the date awarded or it will be changed automatically to an "F" or a "U" (Unsatisfactory). The grade of "I" may not be changed to a grade of "W" (Withdrawn), but may only be changed to another letter grade. Once the student has completed the remaining work for the course, the instructor should submit an Academic Record Adjustment form to change the "I" grade to the grade the student has earned. Some colleges require the student to sign an agreement with the instructor indicating when the requirements will be met.

NOTE: Students should be instructed not to re-register for the same course in a following semester in order to complete the incomplete requirements.

Procedure for questioning grades:

If, after we have turned back your exams, you have any questions or complaints, this is the procedure to follow:

First, we will not discuss your tests right after we turn them back to you; please look over your exams upon return and wait a day before contacting us.

Next, make an appointment with your TA and come to that meeting with specific questions or concerns, in writing. If you believe you deserved a higher grade, be prepared to explain specifically why you believe that. Do not simply say "I studied and thought I should have done better."

Then, if the TA and you do not reach an agreement, the TA will re-grade the entire test and your final grade may be raised, stay the same, or lowered.

If, at that point, you are still not satisfied, bring your exam to me, again with specific questions or concerns in writing, and I will go over it with you.

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to do your own work in this class. The tests will consist of in-class essays and you will be expected to write your answers on your own. If you have any questions about the University of Houston plagiarism policy, please consult the University Handbook.

Also, there are now many websites covering various aspects of U.S. history. Feel free to peruse them—many are quite useful—but do not turn in work from the web as your own. We are all familiar with the various resources on the web and will be able to notice any cases of turning in information from the web as your own.

Classroom Decorum:

It goes without saying that you are expected to arrive in the classroom on time, remain seated and quiet, and remain until the class ends.

Please turn off all pagers and cell phones before entering the auditorium.

Remember, this is a college course; you have decided to enrol and attend. Therefore, if you are in class it is imperative that you remain silent for the full time that class is in session. If you decide to move about or make noise, or otherwise disrupt your fellow students, university regulations allow us to remove your name from the roster. The TAs and I will be vigilant in enforcing procedures on behavior.

Should problems arise, the class will be given a single warning. If disruptions persist after that, the professor reserves the right to take appropriate measures.

E-Mail and Discussions:

We will be using WebCT for this class. To get started go to <http://www.uh.edu/webct> I'll also give more information in class.

Lecture materials and notes:

I consider the lectures I deliver to be my intellectual property and no one should post them on a web site or otherwise make them available publicly without my permission.

TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1

Background: Capitalism, Labor Wars, Empire

Text, chapters 17-18

Week 2

Imperialism, Markets and the Great War

Text, chapters 19-21

Kinzer, *Overthrow*, chapters 1-4

Week 3

The Aftermath of War, Abroad and At Home

Text, chapter 22

Begin Watson, *Bread and Roses*

Week 4

The 1920s

Text, chapter 23

Complete Watson, *Bread and Roses*

Week 5

FDR and the New Deal

Text, chapter 24

Week 6--*Test #1 this Week!*

The Onset of War

Text, chapter 25

Week 7

War, the Bomb, and Cold War

Text, chapter 26
Reelin' in the Years, Intro and chapter 1

Week 8

The War at Home: Domestic Containment
Beaver, Beatniks, and Conformity

Text, chapter 27
Reelin' in the Years, chapters 2 and 4

Week 9

Taking the Third World

Reelin' in the Years, chapter 3
Kinzer, *Overthrow*, chapters 5-9

Week 10

Questioning Authority in the 1960s

Text, chapter 29
Reelin' in the Years, chapters 5 and 8

Optional Reading: Buzzanco, *Vietnam and the Transformation of American Life*,
at <http://vi.uh.edu/pages/buzzmat/vntalpdf/vntalpdf.html>

Week 11— *Test #2 this Week!*

The Modern Civil Rights Era

Text, chapter 28
Reelin' in the Years, chapter 6

Week 12

Vietnam and the Limits of Power

Reelin' in the Years, chapter 7
Kinzer, *Overthrow*, chapters 10-14

Week 13

Backlash and H2Ogate

Text, chapter 30

Reelin' in the Years, chapter 9

Week 14

Reagan's America

Clinton and the Republicrats

Text, chapter 31

Reelin' in the Years, chapters 10 and 11

Week 15

Reelin' in the Years, chapter 12

Final Exam, consult http://www.uh.edu/enroll/rar/final_exam_schedule.html