

GENERAL INFORMATION

The United States, 1961-1976
HIST 4313-05504, Fall 2006

1. WHO/WHAT/WHEN/WHERE: This senior-level open honors course on the history of the United States from 1961 through 1976 will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30 until 3:45 o'clock in room 201 of Agnes Arnold Hall (AH). The first class day is Monday, 21 August; the last or twenty-ninth class meeting (except for the final exam) is on Wednesday, 29 November. The final exam is on Monday, 11 December. Students will receive honors credit for this course.

Instructor: Lawrence Curry, Professor Emeritus
Office Location: 643-AH
Office Hours: 1-2 MW by appointment and at other times by appointment if necessary
Telephone Numbers: 713-743-3117 (office); 713-743-3216 (FAX); 713-923-8424 (home)
E-mail: lcurry@uh.edu

- 2. LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students successfully completing this course should be able to
- attain through reading and classroom activities and demonstrate through essay examinations a better understanding of some of the broad themes of American history during the fifteen-year period 1961 – 1976.
 - develop and improve their reading, critical thinking, and writing skills in relation to historical knowledge, issues, and the analysis of primary and secondary sources.
 - reinforce in a written term paper the use of skills and methodologies employed by professional historians.
- 3. PREREQUISITES:** To enroll in this class, you should **either** (a) have at least junior standing **or** (b) be a student in The Honors College **or** (c) have the instructor's consent.
- 4. ASSIGNED READINGS:** As befits its senior-level status, this course has a considerable amount of assigned reading. You will be expected to read the following books. You may purchase paperback editions at the university bookstore on campus and at many other locations including several on-line vendors. At least one copy of each book will also be on reserve at the M.D. Anderson Library on campus. The books are listed in order of assignment.

William T. Patterson, *Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945-1974* [text]
* Robert Dallek, *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917 – 1963*
* Robert Dallek, *Lyndon B. Johnson: Portrait of a President*
* Marshall Frady, *Martin Luther King, Jr.*
* Loren Baritz, *Backfire: A History of How American Culture Led Us Into Vietnam and Made Us Fight the Way We Did*
* Melvin Small, *The Presidency of Richard Nixon*

Selections from the following special collection of documents, which is available for purchase only at the UH bookstore, will be **recommended**, but not required. Copies will also be available on reserve in the UH library.

Primis: History: The United States, 1961-1976, HIST 4313. Lawrence Curry (comp)

- 5. ATTENDANCE:** Sign the attendance sheet each class meeting to record your presence in class that day. Perfect attendance is not required, but is encouraged and will be rewarded. If you are absent **for any reason** from **more than seven** of the 27 lecture class periods, your semester average will be lowered by one point for each absence over seven and after 12 absences (excused and/or unexcused), you will be dropped from the course. A separate handout provides more details

COURSE SYLLABUS
Topics, Exams, and
Reading Assignments

The United States, 1961-1976
HIST 4313-05504, Fall 2006
Dr. Lawrence Curry

I. Introduction: Background and Overview

[Scheduled to begin on Monday, 21 August]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, Preface and chs. 12-14

II. The Torch Is Passed: The Presidential Election of 1960--A Preview of Coming Events

[Scheduled to begin on Monday, 28 August]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, ch. 15

Primis document [recommended]

- September 12, 1960: John F. Kennedy, Campaign Speech [in Houston], pp. 1-3

III. John F. Kennedy and Foreign Affairs, 1961-1963

[Scheduled to begin on Wednesday, 6 September]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, ch. 17

Primis documents [recommended]

- January 1961: John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address, pp. 14-16
- April 20, 1961: John F. Kennedy, Speech After the Failure at the Bay of Pigs, pp. 17-18

IV. Camelot? The Kennedy Years at Home, 1961-1963

[Scheduled to begin on Wednesday, 20 September]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, ch. 16

Primis documents [recommended]

- May 21, 1961: Stuart Loory, "Reporter Tails 'Freedom' Bus, Caught in Riot," *New York Herald Tribune*, pp. 7-9
- *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), pp. 59-64
- Martin Luther King, Jr., "I Have a Dream," pp. 106-109
- Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from Birmingham Jail," pp. 110-122

V. The Triumph of Liberalism I: LBJ and The Great Society, 1963-1964

[Scheduled to begin on Monday, 2 October]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, ch. 18

IX. Another New Look in Foreign Affairs: The Nixon/Kissinger Years, 1969-1974

[Scheduled to begin on Wednesday, 15 November]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, chs. 23-24

Primis documents [recommended]

- November 24, 1969: Richard Nixon, Address to the Nation, pp. 32-34
- 1970: Richard Nixon, Address on the Decision to Send Troops to Cambodia, pp. 35-36
- Erwin N. Griswold, How Sensitive Were the "Pentagon Papers"? pp. 70-71
- February 1972: The United States-China Communiqué, pp. 37-39
- War Powers Resolution of 1973, pp. 72-75

A REMINDER:

**FINAL COPY OF BOOK REPORT IS DUE NO LATER THAN
BEGINNING OF CLASS ON MONDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2006.**

X. Bringing Us Together? The Turbulent Years II and Post-Watergate Disillusionment, 1969-1976

[Scheduled to begin on Monday, 27 November]

Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, ch. 25

Primis documents [recommended]

- ERA Amendment & Gloria Steinem's Senate Testimony, pp. 29-31
- *Roe v. Wade*, 140 U.S. 113 (1973), pp. 96-102
- *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bd. of Ed.*, 402 U.S. 1 (1971), pp. 54-58
- *United States v. Nixon*, 418 U.S. 683 (1974), pp. 44-48
- July 15, 1976: Jimmy Carter, Acceptance Speech at the Democratic Convention, pp. 40-41
- October 7, 1976: Jimmy Carter, Televised Campaign "Debate" with President Ford, pp. 42-43

FINAL EXAM: Monday, 11 December, 2 – 4:50 p.m.

Comprehensive examination with emphasis on material covered in class since the mid-term exam and on the following additional required reading assignments:

- Patterson, *Grand Expectations*, as assigned.
- Dallek, *Lyndon B. Johnson*, chs. 7 – 15.
- Frady, *Martin Luther King, Jr.*, pp. 99 – 214.
- Baritz, *Backfire*, entire book.
- Small, *Presidency of Richard Nixon*, entire book.

PLANNED SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND EXAMS
HISTORY 4313-05504, FALL 2006

DATE	CLASS	TOPIC	TITLE/ACTIVITY
21 Aug	1	I	Introduction: Background and Overview
23 Aug	2		"
28 Aug	3	II	The Torch Is Passed: Presidential Election of 1960
30 Aug	4		"
4 Sep	X		LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
6 Sep	5	III	John F. Kennedy and Foreign Affairs, 1961 – 63
11 Sep	6		"
13 Sep	7		"
18 Sep	8		"
20 Sep	9	IV	Camelot? Kennedy Years at Home, 1961 – 63
25 Sep	10		"
27 Sep	11		"
2 Oct	12	V	Triumph of Liberalism I: LBJ and Great Society: 1963 – 64
4 Oct	13		"
9 Oct	14		"
11 Oct	15		"
16 Oct	16		MID-TERM EXAMINATION
18 Oct	17	VI	Triumph of Liberalism II: LBJ and Great Society: 1965 – 66
23 Oct	18		"
25 Oct	19		"
30 Oct	20	VII	Waist Deep in the Big Muddy: U.S. and Vietnam, 1964 – 68
1 Nov	21		"
6 Nov	22		"
8 Nov	23	VIII	Coming Apart: Turbulent Years I, 1965 – 68
13 Nov	24		"
15 Nov	25	IX	Another New Look in Foreign Affairs: Nixon/Kissinger Years, 1969 – 74
20 Nov	26		"
22 Nov	X		THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
27 Nov	27	X	Bringing Us Together? Turbulent Years II, 1969 – 74
29 Nov	28		"
11 Dec			FINAL EXAMINATION [2 until 4:50 p.m.]

Policy Concerning Points/Penalties for Attendance/Absences HIST 4313-05504, Fall 2006

1. Attendance accounts for 5 percent of the final semester grade. The score students receives for this part of their grade will be determined by the number of excused and unexcused absences they have from the 27 lecture class sessions.
2. Students who have excused absences from class (e.g.: official university activities, personal or family illness, transportation problems, severe weather) should notify the instructor as soon as they return to class by annotating the sign-in sheet or submitting a written excuse.
3. There is no loss of points for the first **excused** absence. After that, however, **two excused** absences are treated as if they were **one unexcused** absence.
4. The number of points each student receives for attendance will be as follows:

Number of <u>UN</u> excused Absences	Number of Points Awarded
0	5.0
1	4.5
2	4.0
3	3.5
4	3.0
5	2.0
6	1.0
7	0.0

5. **The maximum number of absences without penalty is seven.**
Students who are absent *for whatever reason* from more than seven lecture classes will receive no points for attendance and will lose one point from their final semester score for each absence – unexcused or excused – beyond seven.
6. Any student who loses **more than five points** because of absences (i.e., misses more than 12 lecture class periods) will not receive credit for the course and will receive a semester grade of either *W* or *F*, as appropriate.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA INFORMATION SHEET

HIST 4313-05504, Fall 2006. Complete and turn in on Monday, 28 August.

Your seat location in 201-AH: Row letter: _____ Seat number: _____

Information in items 1 through 7 required; in items 8 through 16 optional.
Use back of sheet if you need additional space.

1. Your last name: _____ Your first name: _____
Your middle/maiden name or initial: _____ Titles (e.g., Mrs., Dr.): _____
The name (or nickname) by which you want to be called: _____
Your signature: _____
2. The last four digits of your HA number: _____ Your gender: _____
3. Your local mailing address (including ZIP) this semester: _____
Your preferred telephone number this semester, including area code: _____
Any alternate telephone number(s): _____
Your e-mail address [**PRINT CLEARLY**]: _____
4. Your classification at UH (e.g., junior, senior, postbaccalaureate): _____
How many semesters/summer sessions have you completed at UH *prior to this one*? _____
How many semester hours are you taking for credit *this semester* including this class? _____
5. Your major(s): _____ What degree(s) are you seeking? _____
When do you expect (or hope) to receive your degree(s)? _____
6. Are you in The Honors College? _____ The Scholars' Community? _____
7. What, if anything, should your instructor know about you that is special as far as your participation in this class is concerned? For example, if you have a disability or require special arrangements for exams, note and explain that here.

8. Your age: _____ Your first language: _____ Any others languages? _____
9. Where were you born and how long did you live there? _____
Where did you grow up and how long did you live there? _____
What is your hometown now and how long have you lived there? _____
10. What other college(s) have you attended besides UH? When? What degree(s) earned?

11. What history course(s) have you already taken in college? Where? When? From whom?

12. What other history course(s) are you taking at UH this semester? From whom?

13. What is your current employment/activity other than being a student? _____
About how many hours a week do you devote to that employment/activity? _____
14. What are your vocational intentions? _____
15. What military service experience have you had? When? Where? Your highest grade/rank?

16. In what *official* UH extra-curricular activities are you involved this semester (e.g., musical ensemble student government, debate team, football, *Daily Cougar*, fraternity or sorority, ROTC)? _____

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WHY HISTORY 4313-05504: THE UNITED STATES, 1961-1976.

Name [print]: _____ UH Number [last four]: _____

Date: _____ Desk Location [letter-number]: _____

Fill in the blanks above.

In the space below, write a paragraph or two in which you explain as precisely and as concisely as you can (1) why you decided to take this course and (2) what your goals and objectives are for the class--what you hope to get out of it. (If you need more space, continue on the back of this sheet.) Be frank!

You will receive no grade for this assignment, but it is required of all students who are enrolled for credit in the class.

Turn this in at the beginning of class on **MONDAY, 28 AUGUST 2006.**
