

History 1378
The United States Since 1877
Fall 2007
Class Number 9194
Location: Aud-1
2:30pm – 4:00pm T/Th

Professor Graham Cox
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Office Hours by Appointment

Teaching Assistants	Office	Office Hours	UH Telephone	E-Mail
Tahseen Ali	639-AH	1:30-2:30p TTH	713-743-3108	tali@uh.edu
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Course Description

This course analyzes the history of modern America, from its rise as an industrial and military power in the late nineteenth century to the Presidency of George W. Bush. It charts the revolutions in business, morals, politics, race relations, and everyday living that have transformed American life over the past century and a quarter.

Required Reading

Textbook - *America and Its Peoples* 5th Edition Volume 2
Reader - *Post-1945 U.S. History*
The Jungle - Upton Sinclair (online at <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Literature/Sinclair/TheJungle/>)
A Lynching in the Heartland - James H. Madison
Various Articles on Reserve at the Library (see H. Lectures and Readings)

All of these books are available for purchase at the UH bookstore and on reserve at the UH Library. Additional reading assignments will be provided in class during the semester.

Course Structure

A. Lectures

1. Thirty (30) meetings during the semester: two meetings each week, except when holidays or examinations are scheduled.
2. Perfect attendance is not required, but regular attendance is strongly encouraged.

B. Examinations/Assignments:

1. There will be four written examinations during the semester scheduled as follows:

Exam I	Tuesday, September 18	2:30-4:00p	Aud-1
Exam II	Tuesday, October 23	2:30-4:00p	Aud-1
Make-up/Optional Exam	Thursday, November 29	2:30-4:00p	Aud-1
Final Exam	Thursday, December 13	2:00-5:00p	Aud-1

2. Exam I, Exam II, and the Final Exam will include both multiple-choice and essay problems. The Make-up/optional Exam will contain only multiple-choice problems. On each exam, you will be expected to integrate material from the lectures, the textbook and assigned readings.
3. Bring a pen with blue or black ink and a No.2 pencil. The Department of History will provide blue books and/or multiple-choice answer sheets for each exam, as required.

4. **NOTE THIS WELL:** if you are absent from both Exam I and Exam II, you will be dropped from the course.
5. The teaching assistants will grade all exam papers. Papers from Exam I and Exam II will be returned and discussed in class. Students may pick up their Make-up/optional Exam and/or Final Exam papers from their TAs at the beginning of the next semester. Students with questions about their performance on an exam should speak with the TA who graded their papers.

C. Grades

1. At the end of the semester, you will have five exam scores in the range of 0 - 100+; one for Exam I, one for Exam II, one for the Make-up/optional Exam, and two for the Final Exam.
2. The lowest of these five scores will not be counted. (If you do not take Exam I, or Exam II, or the Make-up/optional Exam, the resulting zero will be your lowest score).
3. The final course grade will be based on the average of your four remaining scores, as follows:

93 and above = A	80 through 82 = B-	67 through 69 = D+
90 through 92 = A-	77 through 79 = C+	63 through 66 = D
87 through 89 = B+	73 through 76 = C	60 through 62 = D-
83 through 86 = B	70 through 72 = C-	59 and below = F

D. Students with Disabilities

Your instructor is committed to ensuring that students with health impairments, learning disabilities, physical disabilities, psychiatric disorders, or other disabilities are able to compete successfully with non-disabled students. Students requesting an accommodation must contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Under UH's policy, only students who are registered with the Center for Students with Disabilities may request academic accommodations. For more information see: <http://www.uh.edu/csd/index.htm>.

E. Academic Honesty

All students are required to exercise academic honesty in completion of all tests and assignments. Penalties for academic dishonesty (cheating on a test, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration on an assignment) may include a grade F for the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the University. For more information, see the University's Academic Honesty Policy: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/general/acade2.html#honesty>.

F. Classroom Decorum

Disruptive students in the academic setting hinder the educational process. Examples include, but are not limited to persistently speaking without being recognized or interrupting other speakers; behavior that distracts the class from the subject matter or discussion; or in extreme cases, physical threats, harassing behavior or personal insults, or refusal to comply with faculty direction. Any behavior that adversely affects the normal educational functioning or the professional standards of the class may result in failure for the course.

Cell phones, beepers, or pagers are a significant distraction and must be turned off or put in silent mode prior to coming to class. Do not answer phones during class. If you are expecting an emergency phone call, you must make arrangements with the instructor or one of the teaching assistants prior to class. Those using a cell phone must leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period. Laptops are permitted for note taking during lecture only. MP3 players and other portable electronic devices are not permitted in class. Students who repeatedly violate this policy may be dropped from the class.

G. Administrative Notes

1. Tuesday, September 4 is the last day to drop without receiving a grade.
NOTE: If you drop after 4 September but before Exam II (i.e., before 2:30pm on 23 October), you will receive a grade of W, no matter what score you received on Exam I. If you drop after Exam II while doing failing work, you will receive a grade of F for the class. If you drop while passing, you will receive a grade of W. TAs may sign drop forms

2. Wednesday, October 31 is the last day to drop the class, except for rare, urgent, substantiated, nonacademic reasons approved by the dean of CLASS.
3. Thanksgiving holiday is November 21-24 (Wed. - Sat.). There will thus be no class Thursday, November 22.
4. After the semester is over you may obtain your final course grade by logging in to your PeopleSoft account.

H. Lectures and Readings

The topics shown below are targets or goals and may not be adhered to exactly. The readings that are listed with each of the lecture topics deal in general with the subject matter to be taken up in the lectures and should be read before each topic is addressed in lecture.

TOPICS	READINGS - Handouts	TEXTBOOK
Course Introduction		
Lecture 1 - The United States in 1877		16 - <i>The Nation Reconstructed</i> , pp.420-441.
Lecture 2 - Populism	Reserve - "The Wizard of Oz: Parable on Populism" - Henry Littlefield	19 - <i>End-of-the-Century Crisis</i>
Lecture 3 - Racism and Life in the South, The Destruction of Native Americans in the West	Reserve - "The Last Stand of Chief Joseph" - Alvin M. Josephy, Jr.	16 - <i>The Nation Reconstructed</i> , pp.441-451.
Lecture 4 - The Dawning of a New Century: "Revolutionary" America		18- <i>The rise of an urban society and city people</i>
Lecture 5 - Becoming a World Power: The Spanish American War	Reserve - "Big Stick Abroad" - John Milton Cooper	20- <i>Imperial America, 1870-1900</i>
Lecture 6 - The Progressive Era	<i>The Jungle</i> - Upton Sinclair	21 - <i>The Progressive Struggle</i>
EXAM I - Tuesday, September 18		

TOPICS	READINGS - Handouts & Post-1945 US	TEXTBOOK
Lecture 7 - The United States and World War I	Reserve - "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" - Meirion and Susie Harries	22 - <i>The United States and World War I</i>
Lecture 8 - The Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression		23 - <i>Modern Times, 1920-1929</i>
Scottsboro: An American Tragedy	Reserve - "The Trials of 'The Scottsboro Boys'" - Douglas O. Linder	
Lecture 9 - FDR and The New Deal	<i>A Lynching in the Heartland</i> - James H. Madison	24 - <i>The Age of Roosevelt</i>
Lecture 10 - World War II, The Holocaust, and Nuremberg War	Reserve - "The Dedication of Anacostia Recreation Camp	25 - <i>The End of Isolation</i>

Crimes Trial	for Negro Soldiers, September 20, 1941" – Graham Cox	
Lecture 11 – The Origins of the Cold War, The Cold War at Home	1 – Big Red Machines: Origins of the Cold War	26 – <i>Waging Peace and War</i>
Lecture 12 – Ike's America	2 – Reds Under Our Beds: "Domestic Containment" in the Early Cold War	27 – <i>Ike's America</i>
EXAM II – Tuesday, October 23 <i>A Lynching in the Heartland</i>		

TOPICS	READINGS – <i>Post-1945 US</i>	TEXTBOOK
Lecture 13 – The Foreign Policy of JFK	3 – Looks Like a Duck: American Interventions and Overthrows (91-101)	28- <i>Vietnam and the Crisis of Authority</i> , pp.785-788.
Lecture 14 – The Modern Civil Rights Movement	6 – A Change is Gonna' Come: The Civil Rights Movement	29- <i>The Struggle for a Just Society</i> , pp.812-828.
Lecture 15 – LBJ, His "Great Society," and Vietnam	7 – "We Gotta' Get Out of This Place": The Vietnam War	28- <i>Vietnam and the Crisis of Authority</i> , read whole chapter.
Lecture 16 – Richard Milhous Nixon, Watergate, and the End of the Vietnam War	9 – Fallout, or How I Learned to Quit Loving the Sixties	28- <i>Vietnam and the Crisis of Authority</i> , pp.799-811. 31- <i>Crises and Resurgence</i> , pp.872-876.
Lecture 17 – The Radicalism of the 1960s	5 – Question Authority! Protest, Politics, and Culture in the Sixties 8 – Sisters Are Doin' It for Themselves: Women's Liberation	29- <i>The Struggle for a Just Society</i> , pp.828-848.
Lecture 18 - Carter, Reagan and the End of the Cold War	10 – The 1980s and the Rise of Darth Reagan	31- <i>Crises and Resurgence</i> , pp.877-891.
Lecture 19 – Clinton, Bush, and the Post-Cold War World	11 – It Ain't Over 'Til It's Over: America at Centuries End 12 – 9/11 Terror and Aftermath	32- <i>America in our time</i>
MAKEUP/OPTIONAL EXAM – Thursday, November 29		
FINAL EXAM – Thursday, December 13		