

Syllabus

AMH2020: United States History Since 1877

Spring 2023

I. Course Information

Course Title: U.S. History Since 1877

Meeting Day & Time: T/Th 12:30 - 145

Course No. and Section: AMH2020 - 75

Course Location: C3 - 206

Credit Hours: 3

Meeting Dates: January 9 – May 4

Instructor Name: Dr. Chelsea Watts

Telephone No.: (352)746-6721

Office Location: C-208F

Email: wattsc@cf.edu (Please use Canvas inbox for fastest response)

Office Hours: See Canvas Course for updated campus and online office hours.

Extended Emergency Closure

For emergency campus closings (natural disasters, etc.) call 352-291-4499 or 800-831-9244 or check our [website](http://www.cf.edu) (CF.edu).

II. Course Description

This course offers an introduction to United States history from the end of the Civil War (Reconstruction) to the present (or as close as we can get!). Students will be introduced to major trends, movements, and figures in the history of the United States. Significant events and themes include: the legacies of the Civil War; African American emancipation and civil rights; the conquest of the West; industrialization and urbanization in the Gilded Age; the rise of a U.S. overseas empire; immigration from Europe, Asia, and Latin America; the Progressive Era and World War I; the women's rights movement; the Great Depression; World War II; the Cold War; the Civil Rights movement and the 1960s; the conservative ascendancy; globalization; the U.S. in the 21st century world.

The course utilizes the framework of "freedom" as an overarching thematic approach. Throughout the course we will be thinking about what freedom means to different people in different historical moments and situations. We will be considering how things like race, class, gender, and ethnicity affect the way people understand freedom – both their own and the freedom of others around them. Cultivating your understanding of the past – the way people lived, thought, and acted – is an important step in gaining insight and perspective into the present and what it means to be an American.

Required Text: *Give Me Liberty!* Vol. 2

Author of Text: Eric Foner

Edition: Seagull 6th Ed.

ISBN: 9780393418262

You may obtain this text in any format that works for you (digital ebook or paperback). Older editions are permitted but may not have the exact same page numbers and material as the 5th edition. There are no other required materials or access codes – everything will be delivered directly through Canvas.

*****Due to unforeseen circumstances content may change and a revised syllabus will be sent out to students; however, please know the book and materials for the course will remain the same.*****

III. Student Learning Outcomes/Course Objectives

You should: (1) acquire an understanding of the main events of American history since Reconstruction and an appreciation of the role history plays in our society; (2) cultivate objective and critical thinking skills concerning past events and their significance today; (3) become familiar with the techniques of analyzing evidence (historical or otherwise) in order to reconstruct events and assess their significance; and (4) develop a heightened interest in engaging as an active, educated citizen in order to help improve our community, our nation, and the world.

IV. Assessment

In this course your final grade will be calculated according to the following (each category is discussed in detail below):

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Class Activities | 20% |
| Video Quizzes | 15% |
| Midterm (Exam and Activity) | 20% |
| Final (Exam and Activity) | 20% |
| Project | 25% |

****PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING OF ANY SORT ON ANY ASSIGNMENT IN THIS COURSE WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC F ON THE ASSIGNMENT AND MAY RESULT IN FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION (See “Academic Integrity” under section IV. College Policies below)****

Grading Scale:

CF Grading Scale

| | | | |
|----|--------|----|-------|
| A | 90-100 | C | 76-70 |
| B+ | 87-89 | D+ | 67-69 |
| B | 80-86 | D | 60-66 |
| C+ | 77-79 | F | 0-59 |

Please note that I do “round up” if you are at .5 or higher and it will change your grade. Other requests for extra points or alternate grading to earn a higher grade will not be considered.

V. Tentative Course Schedule

| Tentative Schedule | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Week of: | Module | Topic Covered |
| Jan 9 | | Introductory Module |
| Jan 16 | Module 1 | Reconstruction |
| Jan 23 | Module 1 | Westward Expansion |
| Jan 30 | Module 1 | The Gilded Age |
| Feb 6 | Module 2 | Freedom’s Boundaries |
| Feb 13 | Module 2 | Progressive Era |
| Feb 20 | Module 3 | World War I |
| Feb 27 | Module 3 | The 1920s |
| Mar 6 | Module 3 | Great Depression/New Deal |
| Mar 20 | Module 4 | World War 2 |
| Mar 27 | Module 4 | The Cold War |
| Apr 3 | Module 4 | Affluent Society |
| Apr 10 | Module 5 | Strife and Possibility in the 1960s |
| Apr 17 | Module 5 | The Triumph of Conservatism |
| Apr 24 | Module 5 | Reagan Revolution |

****Due to unforeseen happenings, it may be necessary for the course assignment schedule to be altered. I will always strive to be fair about any changes. ****