

**Framingham State University
Summer 2018**

HIST 152: The United States Since 1865

Course Syllabus

General Information

Session: Summer 2018(July 2nd, 2018-August 3rd, 2018)

Credit: 4

Teaching Hours: 50 hours

Class meeting times: 2 hours/day, Mon-Fri

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Barlow

Home Institution: Framingham State University

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Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The development of social, political, economic, and intellectual life in the United States from 1876 to the 1980s. Topics include late 19th-century industrialization, the farm crisis, urbanization; emergence as a world power; the Progressive Era; the 1920s, the Depression, World War II; domestic problems and foreign relations since 1945. Several sections, some emphasizing films.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In studying topics in world history, the primary goal is NOT for you to cram dizzying amount of facts into your head that you would quickly forget after the course is over. Ultimately, the idea is for you to become a stronger thinker about the American history, while hopefully also enjoying the process of learning and discovering things you did not know before. More specifically, it is hoped that by the end of the course you will be able to:

- Gain an introductory knowledge of major developments in the history of the American experience
- Think more critically, knowledgably, and independently about the past and about the origins of the current state of affairs in the US
- Deepen your capability to understand perspectives different from yours, thereby enriching your own perspective and your ability to articulate it
- Improve your capacity to efficiently comprehend, synthesize, and interpret large volumes of complex textual information
- Gain a clearer understanding of what it means to study history, and specifically how historians advance knowledge of the past through the critical examination of historical documents and by framing and debating broader questions of interpretation

READINGS:

Required Texts, available for purchase at the University Bookstore and elsewhere online

1. Michael Schaller, et al., *American Horizons, Vol. II* (Oxford University Press, 2016).
2. Richard Beeman, *The Penguin Guide to the United States Constitution* (Penguin, 2010).

Other required readings will be available on the course's Blackboard site or otherwise online.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class participation	20%
Quizzes	20%
Online reading responses	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	20%

Letter grades correspond to percentage value ranges as follows:

$0\% \leq F < 60\% \leq D- < 62\% \leq D < 68\% \leq D+ < 70\% \leq C- < 72\% \leq C < 78\% \leq C+ < 80\% \leq B- < 82\% \leq B < 88\% \leq B+ < 90\% \leq A- < 92\% \leq A \leq 100\%$.

Policy on late and missed assignments: Assignments are due to me by the time indicated on the syllabus, unless you hear otherwise from me. If, for some reason, you encounter trouble uploading an assignment to Blackboard, you may email it to me as a backup to make sure I have it in time.

- Every day that an essay is late, it will be marked down by 5%. After 15 days past the due date, the deductions for lateness will stop, but at that point you can earn no more than 50% credit on the assignment (and that is assuming a perfect assignment). It is therefore always in your interest to complete these assignments. However, even if you submit the assignment so late that you are guaranteed a failing grade on it, you still have the chance to earn a grade that is substantially higher than a zero (which is what you will get if you do not submit an assignment at all), and this can make a big difference in your final course grade.

- There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes, exams, and no credit for late online reading responses unless there is a valid excuse about which you inform me in a timely manner (see directly below on that.)

There may be exceptional cases in which, due to illness or other unforeseen circumstance beyond your control, you are unable to take a quiz or submit an assignment by the deadline. In such cases, provided that you are in contact with me in a timely manner when the situation comes up and have a reasonable explanation and documentation of the cause of lateness, we will work out a plan for you to have more time to complete and submit the given assignment, with no grade penalty.

Attendance and Class Participation: Most class meetings will include a significant discussion component, in which you are expected to actively participate. You will be graded on your class participation for each class meeting. In simple words, this means that you should be contributing to the conversation in class-wide and small group discussions. Your attendance in class is of course expected and crucial to keeping up with the course, but merely showing up will not get you anything in the way of participation credit. Asking questions about something you don't understand is a great way to participate. Another great way to participate is to offer your thoughts and ideas, however tentative and even at times inaccurate or controversial. You will not be penalized in your grade for erroneous statements – in fact you will be rewarded for them just like you will be rewarded for accurate statements. That is simply part of the process of learning, which is the whole reason you are here.

If you do miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to ensure that you stay up to date with assignments and to learn about any material you may have missed in class either by getting notes from a classmate or visiting me in office hours.

Policy on cell phones and other distracting devices: Any use of cell phones – for texting, messaging, game playing, Web surfing, or any other activity – must occur outside of the classroom. If you want to use your cell phone at any point in time during class, you must leave the class room and come back only once you are finished using the device. The same policy applies to other devices such as tablets and laptops, the only exception being that use of such devices may be allowed in class solely for the purposes of taking notes or reading documents pertinent to the class activity being undertaken at that time.

Policy on Academic Honesty: I take Framingham State University's Policy Regarding Academic Honesty very seriously and expect students enrolled in this course to uphold it in all of their work. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with this policy, which can be found on page 31 of the following link:
<https://www.framingham.edu/Assets/uploads/academics/catalogs/documents/undergraduate-catalogs/2014-2015-undergraduate-catalog/undergraduate-catalog-2014-2015.pdf>.

With regard to essay assignments and online reading responses in this course, at a minimum you are expected to provide attribution to any sources of information or ideas that are not your own (whether textual or otherwise) whenever you make use of such sources. I quote here for easy reference important sections from the University's Policy Regarding Academic Honesty found in the Academic Regulations in the 2014-2015 FSU Undergraduate Catalog:

"Academic honesty requires but is not limited to the following practices: appropriately citing all published and unpublished sources, whether quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise expressed, in all of the student's oral and written, technical, and artistic work; observing the policies regarding the use of technical facilities.

Infractions of the Policy on Academic Honesty include, but are not limited to:

1. Plagiarism: claiming as one's own work the published or unpublished literal or paraphrased work of another. It should be recognized that plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal.
2. Cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, and papers, including the giving or acceptance of these materials and other sources of information without the permission of the instructor(s).
3. Unauthorized collaboration with other individuals in the preparation of course assignments.
4. Submitting without authorization the same assignment for credit in more than one course."

The following website from FSU's Center for Academic Success and Advising provides additional helpful information about avoiding plagiarism:

[http://www.fscmedia.com/web-external/writing-](http://www.fscmedia.com/web-external/writing-guide/plagiarism_home.html)

[guide/plagiarism_home.html](http://www.fscmedia.com/web-external/writing-guide/plagiarism_home.html). If you have any questions about how to make sure you are complying with the policy while completing assignments in this course, ask me. I will be glad to help.

OTHER POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Work outside of class: Federal regulations dictate that students be required to engage in two hours of work outside of class for each credit hour. This course (as with most courses at FSU) is a 4-credit course, which means that it has been designed with the expectation that you engage in roughly 8 hours of work outside of class for each full week (four credit- hours in class) of the class. Of course, this is an approximation and it might vary from week to week. This work outside of class would include reading; work on your assignments, studying for quizzes and exams, meeting with classmates to plan class activities, attending the mandatory workshops, and anything else related to your work in this course.

Emergency Procedures: In the event of a University-wide emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading schemes are subject to changes that may include alternative delivery methods, alternative methods of interaction with the instructor, class materials, and/or classmates, a revised attendance policy, and a revised semester.

TENTATIVE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week 1:

7/2 Introduction

Reading: None

The Civil War

Reading: *American Horizons*, 506-12

7/3-4 Reconstruction

Reading: *American Horizons*, 512-38

7/5-6 Transcontinentalism

Reading: *American Horizons*, 545-53; 560-75

Week 2:

7/9 Immigration

Reading: *American Horizons*, 613-18; 626-35

7/10-11 Industrialization

Reading: *American Horizons*, 586-603

7/12-13 Progressivism

Reading: *American Horizons*, 636-50

Week 3:

7/16 World War I

Reading: *American Horizons*, 719-53

7/17 MID-TERM EXAMINATION

7/18 The Roarin' 20s

Reading: *American Horizons*, 755-75

7/19-20 The Crash

Reading: *American Horizons*, 782-808

Week 4:

7/23-24 World War II

Reading: *American Horizons*, 825-53

7/25 The Cold War

Reading: *American Horizons*, 863-78

7/26-27 The 1950s

Reading: *American Horizons*, 898-906; 919-25

Week 5:

7/30-31 Civil Rights

Reading: *American Horizons*, 926-9; 945-51

8/1-2 Vietnam

Reading: *American Horizons*, 979-90

8/3 FINAL EXAMINATION