

Framingham State University

HIST 152-C:US History Since Reconstruction July 2 – August, 2018

General Information

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

Credit:4

Teaching Hours: 50 Hours

Time:2 hours/day, Mon.-Fri.

Professor Name: Z. Liu

Home Institution: Framingham State University

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Course Description: This is a survey of the political, economic, social, cultural, intellectual and diplomatic history of the United States from the Reconstruction to the recent past. We will use a historical perspective to understand the American people and their nation. In the process, we will explore the major trends and changes in the United States since 1865, and examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. We will try to find answers to the question why Americans behave as they do both at home and abroad by examining their main ideas and institutions.

Course Objectives:

1. You will increase your knowledge of events and developments in the U.S. history and the reasons that they occurred.
2. You will develop critical thinking, analytical interpretation and more articulate expression of ideas through class discussion and in and out class written communication.
3. You will gain a deeper understanding of the U.S. history through horizontal comparisons with other nations and vertical comparisons with its own past and present.

Required Reading

1. Eric Foner, Give Me Liberty! 5th Seagull ed., Norton and Company, 2017 Vol. 2
2. Voices of Freedom, 5th ed., Vol. 2. (Accompanying document reader)
3. Articles & essays (Links will be provided on Blackboard/Moodle/E-Learning).

Requirements and Grade Breakdowns

Participation/Attendance (20%): Attendance and regular participation are required. You must come prepared, intellectually present and alert, and contributing productively in class discussions. Multiple unexcused absences (more than 2) will result in a final grade of F for the course.

In-Class Writing in Response to Readings (30%): You will do 2 short in-class writing exercises each week (a paragraph or two), in response to the readings. This requires you to complete the reading assignment in time for classes. **Each short writing is 1%. There are also 5 multiple choice quizzes. The first one doesn't count towards your grade. I just want to see how much you know about the material covered prior to the end of the Civil War. The four remaining quiz is 5% each toward your final grade.**

Papers (20%): You will write two short papers (2-3 pages), in response to the readings, lectures, and discussions. You will be given topics for the first and the second papers on Friday of the first and third week respectively, and you need to submit your papers on the following Wednesdays.

Final Exam (30%): You will take a closed book final exam on the last day of the class.

Grading Policy:

Listed below are the criteria for the various letter grades used in this course:

- A: This is a superior grade and is given to work that has far exceeded the specific requirements of the assignment. Additionally, a student receiving this grade must have shown both insight and initiative in completing the graded task. (A- 90-92; A 93-100)
- B: This is a very good grade and is given to work that has carefully and thoroughly met the specific requirements of the assignment and shows evidence of extra effort. (B- 80-82; B 83-87; B+ 88-89)
- C: This is an average grade and is given to work that has met the specific requirements of the assignment. (C- 70-72; C 73-77; C+ 78-79)
- D: This is a below average grade and is indicative of work not completed. It is given when the specific requirements of an assignment are not met. (D- 60-62; D 63-67; D+ 68-69)
- F: This is a failing grade and is given to work that is wholly an inadequate representation of college level work.
- O: This is a grade given when an assignment is not turned in. Most work will be assigned some points. Try to avoid not doing your assignments.

Papers and other assignments are due on the date established in class. Missing assignments are recorded as 0 and will adversely impact your final grade. Late work will not be accepted except in extreme cases (such as hospitalization). Documentation of illness is required.

Attendance, Cell Phone, and Laptop Policies

The success of a class is particularly dependent on attendance and the contributions of the participants to discussion. You cannot participate in discussion if you are not present. Thus attendance at every class session is expected. If you need to miss class because of illness or some other emergency, please let the instructor know as far in advance of the class meeting time as possible. Excused absences (as for illness, injury, jury duty, military service or a death in the family) require official documentation on the day you return to class. You should obtain official documentation from a professional (such as a medical provider), not a family member. Each unexcused absence will result in a lowered final grade for the course. Multiple unexcused absences (more than 2) will result in a final grade of F for the course.

Attendance does not refer merely to physical presence in the classroom, but also to intellectual presence in the class. We will all keep our cell phones off during class. Similarly, laptops are permissible as long as they are being used for a legitimate course-related purpose, such as note-taking or accessing an assigned reading. Improper use of a phone or laptop during class, for instance to text or check email, to play games or engage with social media, is the equivalent of being physically absent. Such violations of class policy will be marked as an unexcused absence and violators may be asked to leave class for the day.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

Within any classroom it is imperative that students and teachers establish a relationship built on mutual respect and trust. Students should be able to rely on the fact that teachers will prepare their classes in earnest, respond fully to their questions, and test them appropriately on subject matter covered in the course and issue grades fairly using established criteria. Teachers should be able to rely on the fact that students will rigorously and honestly perform the tasks assigned to them, ask questions when they don't understand reading or lecture material and comment on any aspect of the course that they feel is not addressing their needs or expectations.

In accordance with stated policy above, I expect that you will adhere to ethical academic practices in the writing and reporting of your work. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Specifically, plagiarism can result in an F for the assignment, or an F for the course. If you have some question about whether or not to document a source or piece of reference material please do not hesitate to ask.

Schedule

Week 1 (July 2nd-July 6th)

Introduction

Get familiar with the course requirement

Theme 1: Freedom and Reconstruction, 1865-1877

Reading: Chapter 15 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 15 and Foner, Voices, chapter 15

Theme 2: The Gilded Age, 1870-1890

Reading: Chapter 16 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 16 and Foner, Voices, chapter 16

Week 2 (July 9th-July 13th)

Theme 3: The Boundaries of Freedom, 1890 - 1900

Reading: Chapter 17 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 17 and Foner, Voices, chapter 17

Theme 4: The Progressive Era, 1900 -1916

Reading: Chapter 18 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 18 and Foner, Voices, chapter 18

Theme 5: The United States, World War I, and Its Aftermath, 1914-1920

Reading: Chapter 19 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 19 and Foner, Voices, chapter 19

Week 3 (July 16th-July 20th)

Theme 6: The Roaring Decade to Depression, 1920 - 1932

Reading: Chapter 20 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 20 and Foner, Voices, chapter 20

Theme 7: The New Deal, 1932 - 1940

Reading: Chapter 21 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 21 and Foner, Voices, chapter 21

Theme 8: The United States and World War Two 1941 - 1945

Reading: Chapter 22 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 22 and Foner, Voices, chapter 22

Week 4 (July 23rd-July 27th)

Theme 9: The United States and Cold War, 1945-1953

Reading: Chapter 23 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 23 and Foner, Voices, chapter 23

Themes 10: An Affluent Society, 1953 - 1960

Reading: Chapter 24 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 24 and Foner, Voices, chapter 24

Themes 11: The Sixties, Civil Rights, Anti-war, and Feminist Movements, 1960 - 1968

Reading: Chapter 25 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 25 and Foner, Voices, chapter 25

Week 5 (July 30th-August 3rd)

Themes 12: The Conservative Triumph, 1969-1988

Reading: Chapter 26 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 26 and Foner, Voices, chapter 26

Themes 13: Globalization and its Discontents, 1989 - 2000

Reading: Chapter 27 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 27 and Foner, Voices, chapter 27

Themes: September 11 and the next American Century?

Reading: Chapter 28 – Foner, Give Me Liberty, chapter 28 and Foner, Voices, chapter 28

Final examination: Last day of the class.