

# Bridgewater State University

## Syllabus Summer 2019

### HIST 222 US Constitutional History and Constitution since 1865

May 27 – June 21

**Professor Name:** Dr. Burton Van Name Edwards (Van)

**E-mail:** [bledwards1@bridgew.edu](mailto:bledwards1@bridgew.edu).

#### **BOOKS:**

Eric Foner. *Give Me Liberty!* Vol 2. Seagull 5<sup>th</sup> edition (ISBN 978-0-393-61419-0)

Eric Foner. *Voices of Freedom: A Documentary History*, v. 2. (ISBN 978-0-393-61450-3)

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will survey the history of the United States from 1865 to the present. We will analyze the course of American history from a variety of perspectives: political, diplomatic, economic and cultural.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

5% Class participation: attendance, doing work on time, contributing to class discussion, oral report.

10% Paper 1

15% Paper 2

20% Mid-Term

25% Paper 3

25% Final Exam

The first two papers will be based on the source documents read in the course. The first paper will be 4-5 pages long. The second paper will be 5-6 pages. The third paper will be an in-depth analysis of one of the classics of American literature. This is not a book report – your task will be to show ways the work you have read tells us something about the period during which it was written. This paper will be approximately 8 pages long and will form the subject of an oral report at the end of the course. Please send me an e-mail if you are going to miss a class or have missed a class – there may be important changes in assignments.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Quality Points</b>
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

**Plagiarism** (especially lifting work from the Internet – which is easily detectable) will not be tolerated. I am interested in your ideas and interpretations, not those of others (although you may incorporate the ideas of others into your papers using proper footnoting techniques). Plagiarism will be punished severely.

## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

### **Class I**

Monday 5/27 Foner textbook, preface xvi-xxiii and chapter 15, pp. 564-602: ‘What is Freedom?’: Reconstruction  
Foner, Document reader pp.1- 27.

### **Class II**

Tuesday 5/28 Foner textbook, chapter 16, pp. 603-648: America’s Gilded Age 1870-1890  
Foner, Document reader, pp. 28- 51.

### **Class III**

Wednesday 5/29 Foner textbook, chapter 17, pp. 649-690: Freedom’s Boundaries, at Home and Abroad 1890-1900.  
Foner, Document reader, pp. 52-76.

### **Class IV**

Thursday 5/30 Foner textbook, chapter 18, pp. 691-733: The Progressive Era

Foner, Document reader, pp. 77-104.

**Class V**

Friday 5/31 Foner textbook chapter 19, pp. 734-778: Safe for Democracy: The United States and  
WWI

Foner, Document reader, pp. 105-135.

**First Paper Due**

**Class VI**

Monday 6/3 Foner textbook chapter 20, pp. 779-817: From Business Culture to Great  
Depression

Foner, Document reader, pp. 136-62

**Class VII**

Tuesday 6/4 Foner textbook chapter 21, pp. 818-860: The New Deal

Foner, Document reader, pp. 163-191.

**Class VIII**

Wednesday 6/5 Foner textbook chapter 22, pp. 861-904: Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World  
War II 1941-1945

Foner, Document reader, pp. 192-214

**Class IX**

Thursday 6/6

**Class X**

Friday 6/7 Foner textbook, chapter 23 pp. 905-939: The United States and the Cold War  
1945-1953

Foner, Document reader, pp. 215-247

**Second paper due**

**Class XI**

Monday 6/10 **Mid-Term**

**Class XII**

Tuesday 6/11 Foner textbook, chapter 24, pp. 940-981: An Affluent Society 1953-1960.

Foner, Document reader, pp. 248-271.

**Class XIII**

Wednesday

**Class XIV**

Thursday 6/13 Foner textbook, chapter 25, pp. 983-1029: The Sixties.

Foner, Document reader, pp. 272-306.

**Class XV**  
Friday 6/14

**Class XVI**  
Monday 6/17 Foner textbook, chapter 26, pp. 1030-1070. The Triumph of Conservatism 1969-1988.  
Foner, Document reader, pp. 307-331.

**Class XVII**  
Tuesday 6/18

**Class XVIII**  
Wednesday 6/12 Foner textbook, chapter 27, pp. 1071-1108: From Triumph to Tragedy 1989-2001.  
Foner, Document reader, pp. 332-348.

**Class XIX**  
Thursday 6/20

**Class XX**  
Friday 6/21 **Final Exam**