



HSTY 112 US United States History Since Reconstruction

COURSE INFORMATION:

Semester	: June 28, 2021 – July 30, 2021
Credit	: 4
Teaching Hours	: 50 Hours
Professor	: TBD
Email	: TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A survey of the political, economic, social, and cultural developments from Reconstruction to the present. The course examines the development of the United States within a global context and covers the growth of American industry, the nation's growing international role, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Cold War, and political changes of the late 20th century. Note: This course fulfills the State law requiring study of the United States and Massachusetts constitutions.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

Why study history? We are all historians to one degree or another: by telling a friend what you did during the summer you convey history; by posting pictures or comments on a social networking site you create history; by graduating from high school; and married/divorced you leave historical records. In other words, we are all part of history. By studying the past, we can better comprehend current events such as the rise of international terrorism, racism, and the animosity between the political parties. While it is impossible to predict what will happen in the future, study of the past often reveals important trends and/or possibilities. History helps us understand the present.



Framingham
State University

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. *America's History 8th Edition*

James Henretta / ISBN-13: 978-1-319-0-4039-0 / 2016

2. *A People's History of American Empire*

Howard Zinn / ISBN-13: 978-0-8050-8744-4 / 2008

Other Source Material for Course:

**Articles, Primary Sources, Films and Documentaries* will be provided on a week to week basis and posted on course *Blackboard* site for weekly viewing.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS, GRADING POLICY, GOALS:

Assignments:

-Mid-Term & Final Examination:

There will be *TWO* Examinations in this course. There will be a *Mid-Term EXAM* and a *Final EXAM* that will take place at two different points during the semester and will be a somewhat significant part of your grade. These exams will cover your knowledge of the major information that we discussed in class through lecture, power points videos, music, etc. My feeling about exams, by the way, is that they should be a learning experience: an opportunity to show and apply what you have learned, NOT an ordeal or an exercise in mere regurgitation of facts and dates.

-Primary Source Reaction Assignment:

Each Student is required to write *ONE 1-2* page commentary on a Primary Sources related to the material we are covering in the class. Primary Source



Framingham

State University

Assignments are due in class on the day indicated. Guidelines are on *Blackboard* and will be provided.

-Documentary Assignment Project:

Each Student will write *ONE 2-3-page* opinion about the documentary film, *The Fog of War*, which will be watched and discussed during the course of the semester. You are an educated individual, so therefore I expect you to come up with a logical conclusion, but you must be able to back up everything you say, whether you agree with the position or not. Guidelines are on *Blackboard* and will be provided.

-A People's History of American Empire Book Project:

Each student will write *ONE 2-3 page* critical analysis book report on *A People's History of American Empire*. It will be your job to read the work over the course of the semester, and observe its drawings, and construct a logical and well written assessment of this unique source. This is going to be a short report, so just focus on what is important and what was argued and what you felt was important. Guidelines are on *Blackboard* and will be provided.

Evaluation of Course Work:

(Total Course Value is 100%)

Course Participation/Attendance:	10%
Mid-Term Exam:	20%
Final Exam:	20%
Primary Source Reaction Assignment:	20%
<i>A People's History of American Empire</i> Book Project:	10%
Documentary, <i>Fog of War</i> , Project	20%

Grading Policy:



Framingham

State University

- A: (A- 90-92; A 93-100)
- B: (B- 80-82; B 83-87; B+ 88-89)
- C: (C- 70-72; C 73-77; C+ 78-79)
- D: (D- 60-62; D 63-67; D+ 68-69)
- F: (F 59-0)

Course Goals & Instructional Objectives:

1. To facilitate an understanding of the present by learning how ours past has shaped the present.
2. To foster a greater appreciation for the great complexity and diversity, that is the American heritage.
3. To foster the sense that people are shaped by their time and place in history.
4. To encourage the use of primary sources in learning about the past through the materials from the past.
5. Students will learn how to lead an effective class discussion, and how to be an active contributor to a class discussion.
6. Students will learn how to closely read and analyze a primary source.
7. Students will learn how to write an historical book review.
8. Students will learn of the diverse nature and interconnections between World and US Histories.

CLASSROOM AND WORK POLICIES

Academic Honesty:

Integrity is essential to academic life. Consequently, students who enroll at Framingham State University agree to maintain high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. They shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the published policies and procedures regarding academic honesty. In addition to the required statement, faculty members shall, at their discretion, include in the course syllabus additional statements relating the



definition of academic honesty to their courses 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;
5. Use of dishonest procedures in computer, laboratory, studio, or field work;
6. Misuse of the University's technical facilities (computer machinery, laboratories, media equipment, etc.), either maliciously or for personal gain;
7. Falsification of forms used to document the academic record and to conduct the academic business of the University.

Classroom Policy:

Environment:

The classroom is meant to be a learning environment, both from the instructor and from one another. However, learning is inhibited when there is a lack of respect for one another's individuality as well as for the class as a whole.

Privacy and confidentiality.

Most likely there will be times when class members share very personal experiences and beliefs, or controversial ideas. Since we all benefit from hearing perspectives beyond our own, we must be respectful of one another.



Framingham

State University

Therefore, we will have an understood policy that nothing shared in class can be divulged outside of the class. While you may discuss general issues with others, you should not share any information that may identify another member of the class.

Risk taking.

To learn from each other we are going to ask each other to “step out of our comfort zones.” We may be expressing ideas that others do not agree with, or listening to ideas that challenge our own beliefs or preconceptions. Be willing to listen to one another and be prepared to be respectfully challenged when controversial issues arise.

Support.

If we are asking each other to step out of our comfort zones, we need to be there to support one another. This does not mean you have to agree with someone. It means that you have to allow her/him the space and freedom to express her/himself. It is difficult to take risks if you are concerned that people will attack your ideas.

Respect.

Every individual’s perspective is valued and legitimate for that person. Respect that someone’s ideas may be different from your own and try to understand where that person is coming from. Being open to other perspectives is important to academic and personal growth.

No “put downs.”

All comments should be made with the desire to educate, not hurt. You can express disagreement with an issue or idea, but be aware of HOW you express yourself. Also, express WHY you disagree...this continues the learning process for all of us.

Etiquette:

Be on time.



Framingham

State University

People coming in late disrupts the flow of the class and places them behind in the material covered in class. Our class time is precious and limited, and no one would like to spend that time repeating material for late-comers. Occasionally, being late cannot be helped, and that is fine. But routine tardiness shows a lack of respect for the entire class.

Raise your hand when you wish to speak.

There are times when several people want to speak, so some just blurt out their responses. This behavior, especially when repeatedly perpetrated, takes away people's equal access to the classroom forum. If you speak out of turn, you will be ignored.

No talking.

Making comments to your neighbor while someone is speaking is disrespectful. If you missed something that was said, let us know and the speaker will repeat it.

Any phones will be turned off or otherwise silenced during class time.

Attendance:

At the meeting times of this course, this class is to be your top priority. I will do my best to make sure that each class is as interesting as possible (and even fun!). Keeping up with the readings is very important. In a class with a fair amount of reading like this one, getting behind can be devastating. Classroom instruction is a principle component of the educational process. Students and faculty have a mutual responsibility for contributing to the academic environment of the classroom. Consistent class attendance and participation in classroom activities are essential. Students are expected to attend all classes regularly. Students should consult the course syllabus to determine the relationships between attendance, including tardiness, and the goals, objectives, requirements, and grading of each course as the attendance policy for each class is determined by the instructor.



Framingham

State University

The instructor reserves the right to deviate from the course evaluation criteria in order to reflect a student's continued failure to attend class. A key portion of this course happens in class.

While some absences *may* be excused, students cannot multiple days of the course (even with good reason) and expect to pass. Students who do not regularly show up for this class may be failed or penalized beyond 20% of their grade. Your participation grade will be a combination of class discussion and attendance. More than **TWO** unexcused absences will not only seriously hurt your participation grade but also will inflict serious consequences on your overall semester grade.

Participation:

Students are required to actively participate in class by attending class meetings, completing reading assignments, and actively contributing to class discussions and in-class writing assignments. Students will also be asked to reflect upon the readings and their own experiences in relation to the class sources and perspectives.

Managing Course Time:

Students are expected to work outside of class (e.g., through readings, group work, online assignments, etc.). Federal regulations dictate that students be required to engage in two hours of work outside of class for each credit hour. So for a 4-credit course, they are expected to work 20 hours per week outside the regular classroom or online meeting times. In short, for 4-credit classes, students are expected to engage with the course material for a total of 30 hours per week (including in-class or online time) for a 4-credit course.



Framingham

State University

Summer 2021 SEMESTER OUTLINE AND TIMELINE (Syllabus is Subject to Change)

Week ONE **June 28 – July 2**

Welcome to US History II

Course Introductions and go over Syllabus

Reading Chapter 16 – 18 of *America's History*

Topic – Conquering the American Continent

Topic – The Gilded Age

Topic – Progressive Era

Reading *Chapter I of A People's History of American Empire*

Week TWO **July 5 – July 9**

Reading Chapter 19 – 22 of *America's History*

Topic – Roosevelt and Taft and Wilson

Topic – Imperialism and the War of 1898

Topic – World War I and Aftermath

Reading *Chapter II – IV of A People's History of American Empire*

****Primary Source Reaction Assignment – Due on Friday, July 9***

Week THREE **July 12 – July 16**

Reading Chapter 23 – 25 of *America's History*

Topic – Great Depression and the New Deal Era

Topic – The Start of World War II

Topic – Origins of the Cold War

Reading *Chapter V – VII of A People's History of American Empire*

****Mid-Term EXAM – Due on Friday, July 16***



Framingham

State University

Week FOUR

July 19 – July 23

Reading Chapter 26 – 28 of *America's History*

Topic – Cold War in Korea and Vietnam & Anti-War Movement

Topic – Politics in the 1960s – Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon

Topic – Civil Rights & Women's Rights

Reading *Chapter VII & IX* of *A People's History of American Empire*

****Documentary Project on the film, "The Fog of War" –***

Due on Friday, July 23

Week FIVE

July 26 – July 30

Reading Chapter 29 & 30 of *America's History*

Topic – Conservative Ascent

Topic – Globalization

Topic – September 11th and the Obama Era

Reading *Chapter X – XII* of *A People's History of American Empire*

****A People's History of American Empire Book Project – Due on Tuesday, July***

27

****Final EXAM – Due on Friday, July 30***