

HISTORY 2710 (BAI)
U.S. HISTORY, 1877-2000
Fall Semester 2006

Professor Tim Wolters (twolters@hass.usu.edu; 7-1295)

Class: MWF, 1:30 - 2:20pm, Old Main 115

Teaching Assistant: Adam Dunn (asdunn@cc.usu.edu; 7-0146)

Undergraduate Teaching Fellows: Sara Skindelien (saram@cc.usu.edu)

Adrienne Croxall (adcrox@cc.usu.edu)

Supplemental Instructor: Codey Kolasinski (cyk@cc.usu.edu)

Office hours: MWF, 2:25 - 3:25pm, Old Main 323F, or by appointment (Prof.)

MWF, 12:00 - 1:00pm, Old Main 321N, or by appointment (TA)

Course Description and Objectives:

This course serves as an introduction to American history from 1877 through the end of the twentieth century. It will cover a broad range of topics, including American culture, politics, foreign relations, military conflicts, social movements, and economic, scientific, and technological developments. Although primarily a lecture course, students' questions and comments are encouraged, both in and out of class.

The objectives of this course are: (1) to provide students with a basic understanding of the American experience from the end of Reconstruction through the Presidential Election of 2000, (2) to expose students to a wide range of historical sources, including but not limited to letters, speeches, memoirs, and work by professional historians, (3) to teach students how to analyze these types of sources, (4) to introduce students to the richness and diversity of the American experience, (5) to improve students' analytical abilities and written communication skills, and (6) to help achieve the university's declared mission of preparing citizen-scholars "to serve the people of Utah, the nation, and the world."

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This class is heavily "front loaded." The lectures contain a large amount of material and due diligence is required to avoid falling behind on reading assignments. The advantage of front loading comes in the final two weeks of the semester, which are entirely self-paced and have only one assignment, a take-home final.

Required Reading:

John Mack Faragher, Mari Jo Buhle, Daniel Czitrom, and Susan H. Armitage, *Out of Many: A History of the American People, Vol. II*, revised 4th edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2004.

Lendol Calder, *Financing the American Dream: A Cultural History of Consumer Credit*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999 [303 pages].

OR

William M. McBride, *Technological Change and the United States Navy, 1865-1945*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000 [241 pages].

Yoshiko Uchida, *Desert Exile: The Uprooting of a Japanese-American Family*, 2nd printing. Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 1995 [154 pages].

OR

Dik A. Daso, *Doolittle: Aerospace Visionary*. Washington, DC: Potomac Books, 2004 [128 pages].

John Lewis Gaddis, *The Cold War: A New History*, New York, NY: Penguin Press, 2005 [315 pages].

Readings as placed on Electronic Course Reserve (**ECR**).

Assigned books are available at the campus bookstore and all except the textbook will be placed on reserve at the library. If you decide to buy your books (recommended), earlier editions are acceptable. You must use the revised 4th edition of the main text (Faragher, et al.), however, since previous versions do not include all the material covered in class.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: *Required* readings are NOT OPTIONAL. If you desire to take a course in which you can “get-by” on lecture notes alone, this is not the class for you. Students who fail to do the required readings, *by the assigned due date*, will have great difficulty achieving a passing grade.

Requirements and Grading:

Eight Quizzes (lowest dropped) – 35% (i.e., each quiz counts 5%)

Final Exam (take-home) – 20%

Mid-Term Exam – 20%

Paper (4-5 pages) – 20%

Class Participation – 5%

Scheduled quizzes will be given throughout the semester and are based on both assigned readings and all lectures since the previous quiz. Quizzes cannot be made-up unless you miss class due to an official, university-excused absence; however, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you read carefully and study your notes thoroughly, you should score well on these quizzes.

The paper assignment will be given in late September and is due on October 25th. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. ***In no instance will an extension be granted unless it is requested at least two days prior to the due date.*** Delinquent papers receive a one-letter grade reduction for every class period they are late.

The mid-term will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions. The final is “take-home,” but you are given extensive class time at the end of the semester to work on it. Both the mid-term and final are based on required readings and class lectures.

Numeric scores may be converted to letter grades according to the following scale: 97-100 = A+, 93-96 = A, 90-92 = A-, 87-89 = B+, 83-86 = B, 80-82 = B-, 77-79 = C+, 73-76 = C, 70-72 = C-, 67-69 = D+, 63-66 = D, 60-62 = D-, and <60 = F. In calculating a final grade for the course, letter grades will be converted to the highest number on this scale. For example, an “A+” paper will receive 100 points, an “A” paper 96 points, an “A-” paper 92 points, a “B+” paper 89 points, and so on down to an “F” paper, which will receive only 50 points. Failure to take a quiz/test or to turn in a paper will result a score of zero points.

Miscellaneous:

Any cheating, falsification, or presentation of another’s work as your own without proper credit being given (i.e., plagiarism) is a violation of Section V-3 of “The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University” and will lead to one or more of the sanctions described in Section VI-1 of the code. If you are unclear about what constitutes plagiarism, see me BEFORE turning in a given assignment.

University policy states that a student may receive an “I” only for extenuating circumstances, such as serious illness or a death in the family. An incomplete cannot be used to avoid a poor grade or to retain financial aid.

If accommodations for the course are needed, students should contact the Disability Resource Center, located in the University Inn, Room 101 (7-2444). The Center can provide a copy of this syllabus in a suitable alternate format.

Course Schedule:

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Due (@ <i>Start</i> of Class)</u>
MON, AUG 28:	Introduction	
WED, AUG 30:	Civil War & Reconstruction	Faragher, 323-343
FRI, SEP 1:	Westward Expansion	Faragher, 347-364
MON, SEP 4:	No Class – Labor Day	
WED, SEP 6:	American Industrialization (Quiz #1)	Faragher, 369-379
FRI, SEP 8:	Gilded Age	Faragher, 379-383
MON, SEP 11:	Populism	Faragher, 390-402
WED, SEP 13:	Progressive Era (<i>movie on child labor</i>)	Faragher, 409-423
FRI, SEP 15:	No Class – Homecoming Weekend vs. the U	Go AGGIES!
MON, SEP 18:	Spanish-American War	Faragher, 402-405
WED, SEP 20:	American Imperialism (Quiz #2)	Love, 228-258 (ECR)
FRI, SEP 22:	World War I: Over There	Faragher, 429-433; 440-442

MON, SEP 25:	World War I: The Home Front	Faragher, 433-440
WED, SEP 27:	How to Write a College Paper	<i>Book Review Assignment</i>
FRI, SEP 29:	America in the 1920s (Quiz #3)	Faragher, 447-460
MON, OCT 2:	Hoover and the Great Depression	Faragher, 464-466
WED, OCT 4:	FDR and the First New Deal	Faragher, 466-469
FRI, OCT 6:	FDR and the Second New Deal	Faragher, 469-478
MON, OCT 9:	Mid-Term Exam	
WED, OCT 11:	Origins of World War II	Faragher, 482-487
FRI, OCT 13:	World War II: Europe and Africa	Faragher, 492-499
MON, OCT 16:	World War II: The Pacific (Quiz #4)	Daso/Uchida Due
WED, OCT 18:	World War II: The Home Front	Faragher, 487-492
FRI, OCT 20:	No Class – Fall Break	
MON, OCT 23:	Origins of the Cold War	Faragher, 507-520
WED, OCT 25:	Truman and the Korean War (Papers Due)	Faragher, 520-524
FRI, OCT 27:	Prosperity and “Massive Retaliation”	Faragher, 529-537
MON, OCT 30:	Kennedy and the New Frontier (Quiz #5)	Faragher, 537-541
WED, NOV 1:	Civil Rights Movement	Faragher, 546-564
FRI, NOV 3:	The Great Society and Vietnam	Faragher, 570-583
MON, NOV 6:	Nixon, Détente, and Watergate (Quiz #6)	Faragher, 589-594
WED, NOV 8:	Energy Crisis; Environmental Awareness	Faragher, 600-606
FRI, NOV 10:	Reagan/Bush Years	Faragher, 606-622
MON, NOV 13:	End of the Cold War (Quiz #7)	Faragher, 627-630
WED, NOV 15:	Culture Wars; the “New” Economy	Faragher, 630-640
FRI, NOV 17:	<i>Take Home Final Assigned</i>	
MON, NOV 20:	President Clinton; 2000 Election (Quiz #8)	Pleasants, 1-29 (ECR)
WED, NOV 22:	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
FRI, NOV 24:	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
MON, NOV 27 through FRI, DEC 8	Class Attendance Not Required - time should be used to research and write your take-home final	
MON, DEC 11:	Final Exam Due	No Finals Accepted after 1:20PM on this day – turn in @ OM #323 (History Dept.)