

HISTORY 2710 (BAI)
U.S. HISTORY, 1877-2000
Fall Semester 2007

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

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

Teaching Assistant: Charley Smith (clsmith@cc.usu.edu; 7-0146)

Undergraduate Teaching Fellows: Don Kirby (dkirby1105@comcast.net)

Kara Parker (karaparker@cc.usu.edu)

Supplemental Instructor: None this semester due to budget cuts

Send complaints to ARC3@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 "front-loaded." The lectures contain a large amount of material and due diligence is required to avoid falling behind on the reading assignments. The advantage of front-loading comes during the last week of the semester, which is entirely self-paced and has only one assignment, the 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 [course text].

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

OR

Steven M. Gillon, *“That’s Not What We Meant to Do” – Reform and Its Unintended Consequences in Twentieth-Century America*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2000 [240 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 dates*, will have great difficulty achieving a passing grade.

Requirements and Grading:

Five Quizzes (lowest dropped) – 20% (i.e., each quiz counts 5%)

Paper #1 (3-5 pages) – 20%

Paper #2 (3-5 pages) – 20%

Mid-Term Exam – 15%

Final Exam – 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 assignments will be given out September 12th and are due October 3rd and November 2nd. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. ***In no instance will an extension be granted unless it is requested at least two class periods 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 DRC, 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 27:	Introduction	
WED, AUG 29:	Civil War & Reconstruction	Faragher, 323-343
FRI, AUG 31:	Westward Expansion	Faragher, 347-364
MON, SEP 3:	No Class – Labor Day	
WED, SEP 5:	American Industrialization	Faragher, 369-379
FRI, SEP 7:	Gilded Age (Quiz #1)	Faragher, 379-383
MON, SEP 10:	Populism	Faragher, 390-402
WED, SEP 12:	How to Write a College Paper	<i>Paper Assignments</i>
FRI, SEP 14:	Progressive Era: I	In-Class Movie
MON, SEP 17:	Progressive Era: II	Faragher, 409-423
WED, SEP 19:	No Class – Naval Academy Conference	
FRI, SEP 21:	No Class – Naval Academy Conference	

MON, SEP 24:	Spanish-American War (Quiz #2)	Faragher, 402-405
WED, SEP 26:	American Imperialism	Speakman Letter (ECR)
FRI, SEP 28:	World War I: Over There	Faragher, 429-433; 440-442
MON, OCT 1:	World War I: The Home Front	Faragher, 433-440
WED, OCT 3:	America in the 1920s (Paper #1 Due)	Faragher, 447-460
FRI, OCT 5:	Hoover and the Great Depression	Faragher, 464-466
MON, OCT 8:	FDR and the First New Deal	Faragher, 466-469
WED, OCT 10:	FDR and the Second New Deal	Faragher, 469-478
FRI, OCT 12:	Mid-Term Exam	
MON, OCT 15:	Origins of World War II	Faragher, 482-487
WED, OCT 17:	World War II: Europe and Africa	Faragher, 492-499
FRI, OCT 19:	No Class – Fall Break	
MON, OCT 22:	World War II: The Pacific (Quiz #3)	Daso/Uchida Due
WED, OCT 24:	World War II: The Home Front	Faragher, 487-492
FRI, OCT 26:	Origins of the Cold War	Faragher, 507-520
MON, OCT 29:	Truman and the Korean War	Faragher, 520-524
WED, OCT 31:	Prosperity and “Massive Retaliation”	Faragher, 529-537
FRI, NOV 2:	Kennedy’s New Frontier (Paper #2 Due)	Faragher, 537-541
MON, NOV 5:	Civil Rights Movement	Faragher, 546-564
WED, NOV 7:	The Great Society and Vietnam	Faragher, 570-583
FRI, NOV 9:	Nixon, Détente, and Watergate	Faragher, 589-594
MON, NOV 12:	Energy Crisis; Environmental Awareness	Faragher, 600-606
WED, NOV 14:	Reagan/Bush Years (Quiz #4)	Faragher, 606-622
FRI, NOV 16:	<i>Take Home Final Assigned</i>	
MON, NOV 19:	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
to FRI, NOV 23	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
MON, NOV 26:	End of the Cold War	Faragher, 627-630
WED, NOV 28:	Culture Wars; the “New” Economy	Faragher, 630-640
FRI, NOV 30:	President Clinton; 2000 Election (Quiz #5)	Pleasants, 1-29 (ECR)
MON, DEC 3	Class attendance not required; this time should be used to research,	
to FRI, DEC 7	write, proof-read, and print-out your take-home final assignment	
WED, DEC 13:	Final Exam Due	Due NLT 1:30 PM Turn in Paper Copy @ Old Main #323F