

Dr. Denise Conover-Main 321J; 797-0870; email at conoverd@hass.usu.edu

UTF: Daniel Allred (For questions about your total score or missing assignments, contact the Undergraduate Teaching Fellow, Daniel Allred. I grade all papers, but Mr. Allred keeps the scores tallied)

Course Description:

According to the College Catalog, the purpose of this course is to provide a survey “of the development of American society, economy, culture, and politics since 1877.” It is considered a BAI course (Breadth American Institute); for history majors or history teaching majors or history minors, Hist. 2710 counts as one of your “American history” requirements (as does Hist. 2700).

Objectives:

1. To enhance the student’s understanding of the US economy (industrial and global)
2. To broaden the student’s awareness of the impact of consumerism on American society and its impact on American “values”
3. To increase the student’s understanding of the role of the presidency in American economy, society, and war
4. To heighten the student’s perception of racism in society and bias in education and politics
5. To promote the student’s understanding of the political parties and their agendas in US society since 1900
6. To develop the student’s appreciation of American culture, politics, wars, economic development, entertainment

Textbooks

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History*, Vol. 2 (2005)

This year, I am using a special edition (Seagull Edition) of Foner’s *Give Me Liberty!* which comes in a special package and includes a second book: *That’s Not What We Meant To Do*. I encourage you to purchase this special package, for we will utilize the textbooks extensively. However, if you cannot afford this, I have placed a copy of last year’s Foner book on reserve (Media Collections Dept); I will also put a copy of *That’s Not What We Meant To Do* on reserve. Also, I am using a new electronic learning resource. At the bookstore will be a barcode item which will allow you access to the Wadsworth Publishing Company’s online database. Please purchase this. The ISBN is 0495009024. This allows you to access US History Resource Center Link: <http://ushistory.wadsworth.com/>

Requirements:

--Responsible class attendance (i.e., no talking with neighbors, sleeping, reading newspaper, doing homework from another class or any other non-responsible behavior. You are expected to tell the instructor if you have to leave early, and do not make early departures a habit. You are allowed to come in late up to 20 minutes. After that point, just

do not bother to come)

--Unspecified number of class-designated assignments (could be a brief reading assignment from the text, with a brief quiz; could be a written response in class to a video viewed or an assignment read, etc.)

–Text assignments: brief responses based on either textbook (points: to be determined)

–Final essay (or for those who prefer, a final exam) (worth 100 pts.) For those writing a final essay, the topic must be approved by professor; approximately six typed pages, with end notes and bibliography).

Warning: I use video material nearly every class; if you do not like visual learning but prefer lecture/exam approach to learning, drop this class immediately!

TENTATIVE Topical Class SCHEDULE (i.e., subject to change; follow the reading assignment, however, even if we do not keep up with the topical schedule in class)

FIRST WEEK: Gilded Age

Monday Jan 9: Introduction to problems of historical study

Wed. Jan 11 Video on Andrew Carnegie and the building of modern industrial America

Fri. Jan 12 Video on Al Smith, a young boy in urban, immigrant-oriented New York City in

the Gilded Age

SECOND WEEK: Gilded Age

Mon. Jan. 16= DR. KING DAY; No Class

Wed. Jan. 18 Video on Ida B. Wells and racism in Gilded Age America; Carlisle Indian School and the attempt to assimilate Native Americans

Fri. Jan. 20 Richard Sears and consumerism

THIRD WEEK: Imperial/Progressive Era

Mon. Jan. 23 Video on Teddy Roosevelt and the growth of imperialism in US society

Wed. Jan. 25 Video on the War with Spain; Video on the Filipino Insurrection

Fri. Jan. 27 American society in 1900-review

FOURTH WEEK: Progressive Era

Mon. Jan. 30 TR as progressive president

Wed. Feb. 1 Frances Perkins and women reformers

Fri. Feb. 3 Woodrow Wilson, Henry Ford- Progressive giants

FIFTH WEEK: Era of Great War

Mon. Feb. 6 WWI, 1914-17 and US reaction; US entrance in 1917

Wed. Feb. 8 Video on US in WWI

Fri. Feb. 10 Impact of WWI on US and world

SIXTH WEEK: Interwar Years: 20s & 30s (Illusions of Peace & Prosperity)

Mon. Feb. 13 Contradictions of Twenties

Wed. Feb. 15 Presidents of 20s

Fri. Feb. 17 FDR & Hitler: Studies in Contrast/1930s

SEVENTH WEEK: World War II

Mon. Feb. 20=PRESIDENT'S DAY; No Class

Wed. Feb. 22 WWII & US entrance in 1941

Fri. Feb. 24 US & WWII

EIGHTH WEEK: Cold War

Mon. Feb. 27 Impact of WWII on US society (video on GI Bill)
Wed. March 1 Truman and Cold War Fears
Fri. Mar. 3 Korean War and its consequences
NINTH WEEK: Cold War: 50s-60s
Mon. Mar. 6 Ike, prosperity and paranoia
Wed. Mar. 8 JFK, prosperity and power
Fri. Mar. 10 LBJ, Great Society and Vietnam
SPRING BREAK = March 13-17
TENTH WEEK: Cold War: 70s
Mon. Mar. 20 Nixon, Vietnam & Watergate
Wed. Mar. 22 Ford & 70s
Fri. Mar. 24 Carter, time of trouble for US
ELEVENTH WEEK: Cold War: 80s
Mon. Mar. 27 Morning in America: Reagan
Wed. Mar. 29 Reagan: anti-Big Government, anti-Communist
Fri. Mar.31 Bush and New World Order: Fall of communism; Gulf War
TWELFTH WEEK: Post-Cold War 90s
Mon. Apr. 3 Gulf War: Incredible Victory
Wed. Apr. 5 1990s: Clinton Years
Fri. Apr. 7 Review of American cultural developments: 1960s-90s
THIRTEENTH WEEK: America's Economic, Social, Cultural, Military Life in Review
Mon. Apr. 10: Review of American economic developments: WWII to 2001
Wed. Apr. 12 Review of American civil rights achievements: WWII to 2001
Fri. Apr. 14 Review of American national security: 1970s-2004
FOURTEENTH WEEK: 21st Century: New Age of Terror
Mon. Apr. 17: 9/11 and Operation Enduring Freedom
Wed. Apr. 19 Operation Iraqi Freedom
Fri. Apr. 21 America and the World, 1945-2004
FIFTEENTH WEEK: LAST WEEK & REVIEW
Mon. Apr. 24- Transformed America: Review 1877-2004
Wed. Apr. 26- Review
Fri. Apr. 28 - Review

FINAL EXAM WEEK: May 1-May 5

OPTION: FINAL EXAM or FINAL ESSAY

Book Response and Optional Essay due during Final Exam Week (by May 4 in History Dept. Main 323 front office)

Reading Schedule - Foner (keep up with reading regardless of class schedule)

Chp. 15, "What is Freedom?" 1865-1877 is optional

First Week: Chp. 16 "America's Gilded Age: 1870-1890"

Second & Third Weeks: Chp. 17 "Freedom's Boundaries, at Home and Abroad"

Fourth Week: Chp. 18, "The Progressive Era"

Fifth Week: Chp. 19 "Safe for Democracy" (WWI)

Sixth Week: Chp. 20 "From Business Culture to Great Depression" and Chp. 21 "The New Deal"

Seventh Week: chp. 22 "Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World War II"

Eighth Week: chp. 23 "The United States and the Cold War"

Ninth Week: chp. 24 "An Affluent Society" and chp. 25 "The Sixties"

Tenth Week: chp. 26 "The Triumph of Conservatism" (Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan) & chp. 27 "Globalization and Its Discontent"

Eleventh & Twelfth Weeks: chp. 27 "Globalization and Its Discontent" (Bush, Clinton)

Thirteen & Fourteenth Weeks: chp. 28 "Epilogue: September 11 and the Next American Century" and handouts on recent events (Bush 43)

Fifteenth Week: handouts on current events; review