Development of the United States II (1865-Present)
512:104
Rutgers University
Department of History
Summer 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Melissa Horne
CONTACT: mmhorne@eden.rutgers.edu
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
TIME: Mon-Thurs 10:15 am - 12:05 pm
LOCATION: Murray Hall, Room 113

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore the key themes and developments in the political, social, cultural and economic history of the United States from the Civil War to the early twenty-first century. Throughout the course we will explore several main themes including the changing role and expansion of the federal government; industrialization and its impact on society and culture; the development of a mass consumption economy and culture; the impact of immigration and urbanization on the nation; the relationship of the United States to the rest of the world; the changing ideas about individual rights, equality and freedom; and the ways in which social movements reshaped the nation's political culture, institutions, and individual's experiences. Ultimately, the goal of the course will be to understand the history of the United States as a record of multiple narratives and of many stories involving many different groups with a variety of experiences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Develop an understanding of the chronology of United States history from 1865 to the present with an understanding of the major political, economic, social and cultural turning points. (H)
2. .Explain and asses the development of the following themes in American society from 1865 to the present: the changing role and expansion of the federal government; industrialization and its impact on society and culture; the development of a mass consumption economy and culture; the impact of immigration and urbanization on the nation; the relationship of the United States to the rest of the world; the changing ideas about individual rights, equality and freedom; and the ways in which social movements reshaped the nation's political culture, institutions, and individual's experiences (K)
3. Analyze a range of primary sources
4. Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience (S)

CLASS PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE:

Class meetings will consist of lectures, discussions and videos. Students are expected to come to each class prepared to be active and thoughtful participants. At several points throughout the semester, you will be asked to write a brief, in-class response to the assigned primary documents. These responses will not be announced ahead of time, and will count towards your participation grade. Attendance is mandatory and will be included as part of your participation grade.

ASSIGNMENTS/EVALUATION:

In addition to regular class attendance and participation, students will be required to write two 4 page response papers, take in-class quizzes and write an in-class final exam.

Quizzes: There will be 5 quizzes based on the textbook readings. You will be given a set of study questions ahead of time.

Book Response: Write a 4 page response to Richard Wright's *Black Boy* discussing the book's significance using course readings, lectures and class discussion. Further instructions will be posted on Sakai. **Due: July 30**

Film Response: Write a 4 page response to the film *Rebel Without a Cause,* discussing its historical and cultural significance using course readings, lectures and class discussion. Further instructions will be posted on Sakai. **Due: August 6**

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Class Participation: 20%
Quizzes: 30%
Book Response: 25%
Film Response: 25%

Note: All assignments must be submitted through Sakai. Late paper submissions will be penalized by half a letter grade (i.e., from a B+ to a B) for each day they are late.

All assignments should be original and you are responsible for reviewing and obeying Rutgers University Policy, as outlined here: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The textbook and document reader are packaged together at the Rutgers Book store.

Textbook: James Roark, et al., *The American Promise: A History of the United States,* Vol. II, 5th edition (Bedford/St. Martins) ISBN: 1457615746

Document Reader: Michael P. Johnson, ed., *Reading the American Past* Volume II, 5th Edition, From 1865 (Bedford/St. Martins) ISBN: 1457615746

Richard Wright, *Black Boy* (1954) (Sakai)

*Any additional readings will be posted to Sakai

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

Please see me within the first week of class so that the appropriate accommodations can be made to enable you to successfully meet all the course requirements. If you need to speak with school personnel regarding accommodations for a disability you should contact the Office of Disability Services at 732-932-2848.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

WEEK 1

Mon July 9 — **Course Introduction: A nation at war**

Tues July 10 — **Reconstruction and the Meaning of Freedom**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 16
Reading the American Past, Ch. 16, p. 1-5, 14-21

Wed July 11 — **The Conquest of the West**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 17 p.535-565
Reading the American Past, Ch. 17 pg. 22-29

Thus July 12 — **Politics and Business in the Gilded Age**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 18
Reading the American Past, Ch. 18 p. 52-55
QUIZZ 1

WEEK 2

July 16 **Living and Working in the City**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 19
Reading the American Past, Ch. 19 p.60-64

July 17 **Dissent and Depression**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 20 p. 639-658
Reading the American Past, Ch. 20 p.79-88, 91-96

July 18 **The U.S. and the World: Markets, Missionaries and War**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 20 p.658-670
Reading the American Past, Ch. 20 p.97-100

July 19 **From the Grassroots to the White House: Progressivism, 1890-1916**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 21
Additional readings on Sakai
QUIZZ 2

WEEK 3

July 23 **WWI: The Progressive Crusade Continues at Home and Abroad**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 22
Reading the American Past, Ch. 22 p. 127-133, 138-143

July 24 **A New Era, The 1920s**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 23
Reading the American Past, Ch. 23 p. 151-162, Sakai

July 25 **Great Depression and the New Deal**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch.24
Reading the American Past, Ch. 24 p.174-186, Sakai

July 26 **American and the Second World War**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 25
Reading the American Past, Ch.25 p.189-192, 198, 207-208
QUIZZ 3

WEEK 4

July 30 **Truman and Cold War Politics**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 26
Reading the American Past, Ch. 26 pg.221-224

July 31 **The Age of Affluence: Politics and the Culture of Abundance**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 27
Reading the American Past, Ch. 27 pg. 230-233

August 1 **Film:** *Rebel Without a Cause*

August 2 **Reform, Rebellion, Reaction I- Civil Rights and Black Power**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 28 pg. 930-947
Reading the American Past, Ch. 28 pg. 250-268
QUIZZ 4

WEEK 5

August 6 **Reform, Rebellion, Reaction II-**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 28 pg.947-964
Sakai

August 7 **New Frontiers in American Foreign Policy and The War in Vietnam**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 29 pg.969-982

August 8 **The End of Cold War Consensus**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 29 pg. 982-998
Film: Mai Lai *http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/mylai/*

August 9 **Making the Right Turn**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 30 p.1002-1019
Sakai
QUIZZ 5

WEEK 6

August 13 **The Regan Revolution**
Reading: *The American Promise*, Ch. 30 pg. 1019-1035
Sakai

August 1 4 **Promises and Challenges of Globalization- Bush I to Clinton**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 31 pg. 1039-1061
Film:

August 15 **Promises and Challenges of Globalization- Bush II- Obama**
Reading: *The American Promise,* Ch. 31 pg.1061-1072