512 subject course description FALL 2007

512:103 Development of the US I
Professor Clemens


512:305 United States 1914-1945
Professor William O’Neill

The following books are required reading: Frederick Lewis Allen, Only Yesterday; J. W. Chambers, The Tyranny of Change; David M. Kennedy, The American People in the Great Depression; W. L. O'Neill, A Democracy at War. There will be a midterm examination and a final. For the midterm read all of Allen and Chambers. For the final read all of Kennedy and O'Neill.

September  Introduction

The Crisis of the 1890s
Theodore Roosevelt

Woodrow Wilson
The Great War
America Enters the War
Winning the War

Losing the Peace
The 1920s

October
Franklin D. Roosevelt I
Franklin D. Roosevelt II

The First New Deal
The Second New Deal

MIDTERM EXAMINATION
The Rise of Labor

Labor Triumphant
Communism and the Left

November
Midterm Postmortem
Hitler and Nazi Germany

The Road to War in Europe
Operation Barbarossa

Operation Blau
Russia is Saved

Japan at War

Why We Dropped the Bomb
December
Making Peace

America in the Postwar World
Review

512:347 War, Peace, and the Military in the U.S. to 1877
Professor John W. Chambers II

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This is a survey of American attitudes towards and experiences with war, peace, and the
military from colonial settlement in 1607 through the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Plains Indian Wars. The course examines the development of military institutions (militia, National Guard, Army, Navy, and Marines) in peace and war. It also examines aspects of the nation's wartime experiences. The course covers technological and organizational developments, changing strategic doctrines, and the nationalization and professionalization of the armed forces. It also explores civilian attitudes towards war, peace, and the military, contours in civil-military relations, development of antiwar, peace, and disarmament movements, and the relationship of war, peace, and the military to U.S. foreign and national security policy and to American society and culture.

512:355 - America’s Rise to Global Power
Professor Michael Adas

Beginning with the encounters between the Native Americans and the tiny settlement colonies established in New England and Virginia in the mid-17th century, the course explores key themes in the emergence of the United States as a global power and, by the end of the 20th century, a global hegemon. Although rivalries with the great powers of Europe will be taken into account, the course focuses on the interaction and enduring contacts between American expansionists and non-Western peoples from the Indians who inhabited the moving frontier and the Japanese, Chinese and Filipinos in the late-19th century to the Vietnamese, Iranians and Iraqis in the post-1945 era. We will look at the ways in which each stage of outward expansion, first across North America and then overseas, secured the resource base, spurred the advances in technology and military organization, and provided the motivations for further incursions into the global arena. We will examine cases of direct colonization, military incursions, and instances of informal influence exerted over societies in Asia, the Middle East, the Pacific, and Latin America. We will pay particular attention to the patterns of domination devised by American expansionists at various points in time, the critics of these schemes and the alternatives they have offered, and their legacies in the present day. We will also explore the broader social, environmental, and political repercussions of nearly three centuries of projects to extend U.S. influence and power into the rest of the world. Readings in the course will include books and essays by William Penn, Mark Twain, William Fulbright, Louis Mumford, Michael Herr, Mark Bowden and Michael Kelly. Power Point Slides, Films and Music will be used to illustrate key themes and events. Major assignments will include analytical exams and a thought paper on a topic related to the course of particular interest to each student.

512:364 History of Blacks in Urban America
Professor Donna Murch

This course explores the history of African American urbanization. The first section examines the foundations of black urbanism in the nineteenth century, including the genesis of residential segregation in northern antebellum cities, the emergence of race-based labor market segmentation, pogrom violence and the rise of black urban cultural forms. From there we move into the postbellum city to consider the “strange career” of Jim Crow, exoduster migration, southern urbanization, domestic work, and black social
activism. The second half of the course is devoted to black life in the industrial and postindustrial city. Topics include the Great Migration, New Negro Movement, Harlem Renaissance, the struggle for unionization, white flight, urban rebellions, Black Power, the rise of Black mayors and city government, and social origins of Hip Hop.

512:378 African Americana History I  
Professor Mia Bay

This course is a survey of African-American history from its beginnings through emancipation and Reconstruction. Classes, readings and course work will explore African origins of black Americans, the history of the middle passage, the development of plantation slavery, and the many historical changes that shaped African-American life and culture thereafter—from the Revolution to the Civil War. Topics will include the impact of the Revolution on African-American life; the emancipation of slavery in the post-Revolutionary North and the development of a free black community there; antebellum slave culture and gender relations under slavery; slave resistance; the black abolitionist movement; and African-American freedom struggles during the Civil War and Reconstruction.

512:391 Historical Studies: Chinatown USA  
Professor Ellen Wu

This course examines the interrelated histories of race and racism, immigration, labor, urban life, and nation-building in American culture and society through the thematic lens of “Chinatown.” Students will consider spatial, social, economic, cultural, political, and intellectual constructions of “Chinatown” by a range of actors in United States history from the mid-19th century to the present. Lecture and discussion topics include segregation, community formation, Orientalism and representation, war, assimilation, radical movements, and recent immigration and globalization.

A major goal of this course is for students to obtain first-hand experience in the “craft” of history through active engagement with interdisciplinary primary sources such as mainstream and ethnic-specific periodicals, photographs, film, poetry, autobiography, ethnographic data, and government and organizational documents used in constructing Chinatown, Chinese America, and the American nation.

Professor Lloyd Gardner

It is remarked that the Iraq War has now lasted longer than the war against Japan that began on December 7, 1941. Actually, the "war" has lasted longer than Vietnam, if you include the first aid to Afghan Guerrillas (later called Taliban) that began in 1989. This course will explore the war for what used to be called, the Eurasian Heartland, or the "Great Game of Asia," in Rudyard Kipling's phrase. The course will look at the impact of Vietnam on American policy, the deepening of the involvement in the Afghan war
against the Soviet Union, the growing hostility to Saddam Hussein, Gulf War I and Gulf War II. The course is a lecture course, with appropriate readings, and evaluations.