512:104 | Development of the United States II (1865 to the present)   Spring 2012

Tuesday/Friday 9:50-11:10 AM
Frelinghuysen Hall, Room A6 (College Avenue Campus)

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Office: 101D Van Dyck Hall
Office hours: Tuesdays & Fridays, 1:00-2:30 PM (or by appointment)

This syllabus and other course materials will be posted on Sakai.
<https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

Course Description
This course examines major changes in American politics, economy, and society from the end of the Civil War to the early twenty-first century. We will trace several main themes throughout the course, including the expansion of federal government; industrialization and the growth of a mass consumption economy; changing ideas about individual rights, equality, and freedom; and the development of American economic and military power in a global context. This is a lecture/discussion course that relies on a combination of textbook reading and primary and secondary sources as the basis for weekly discussions and writing assignments.

Course Objectives
1. Understand the bases and development of human and societal endeavors across time (H.)
2. Understand the common analytical approaches and the methodological differences among political, economic, social, and cultural history
3. Develop a grasp of the basic chronology of United States history from 1865 to the present, with a focus on major events and turning points
4. Explain the development of the following aspects of American society from 1865 to the present: the expansion of the federal government; industrialization and the emergence of a consumer society; changing ideas about individual rights, equality, and freedom; and the emergence of the United States as an economic and military power on the world stage (K.)
5. Analyze a range of primary sources, including speeches, essays, memoirs, political cartoons, paintings, photographs, propaganda posters, print and television advertisements, and films
6. Write a comparative analytical essay that synthesizes and evaluates different contemporary perspectives on the prevalence of machine politics in late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century cities
7. Write an analytical essay that combines primary and secondary sources to construct an explanation for the fall of New Deal liberalism and the rise of conservatism in late-twentieth-century politics and society
8. Communicate complex ideas effectively, in standard written English, to a general audience (S.)
Course Requirements

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to attend all sessions and to be active and thoughtful participants in class discussion. More than three (3) unexcused absences (i.e., other than a documented illness, documented emergency, religious observance, or university-approved absence) will have an adverse effect on your grade. For each unexcused absence beyond the 3 allowed, your final course grade will be lowered by 2 percentage points. For example, if you accumulate 5 unexcused absences during the semester and have a grade of 88%, your grade will be lowered to 84%. Please note that an excused absence does not mean that you email me an excuse before class; an excused absence means that you provide me with a note from a doctor, dean, or coach that explains your absence. All absences, whether excused or unexcused, should be entered into the new University absence reporting website https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/, where you will indicate the date and reason for your absence. I will receive an automatic email from this system, so there is no need to send me a separate email regarding your attendance.

Attendance involves not only physical presence, but also mental presence. This means that cell phone use is not permitted in class for any reason, and that laptops should be used for note-taking only. I consider each of you a valuable member of our shared intellectual community this semester, and I fully expect that you will conduct yourselves accordingly.

Assignments
In addition to regular class attendance and participation, students will be required to write two 4-page papers and to take a midterm exam and a final exam. The reading assignments should be completed for the date on which they are listed. You will need to bring your Voices of Freedom reader (but not your textbook) and any additional readings to class as we will often refer to specific passages during discussion.

Required books (available at the Rutgers Bookstore and on reserve at Alexander Library):
ISBN: 978-0-393-93543-1 (paperback)


*Please note that the Foner textbook and reader are packaged together at the Rutgers bookstore.


Any additional course readings will be available on Sakai.
**Academic Integrity**

The foundation of this course and any scholarly endeavor is academic integrity. I fully expect that all students will adhere to principles of academic integrity in their work. All written work must be a student’s own original work. (Collaboration on essay assignments is not permitted.) Any and all references to other sources within your own paper must be properly documented according to the guidelines in the Chicago Manual of Style, which is available at the Alexander Library.

You are responsible for understanding the Rutgers policies regarding academic integrity, as outlined here:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml

Ignorance of these policies or the consequences for violations is not an acceptable excuse.

The Rutgers Writing Program has an excellent webpage that details some of the subtleties of plagiarism, which I urge you to read carefully:

http://wp.rutgers.edu/courses/plagiarism

The Rutgers Libraries have produced an interactive online tutorial, which I also urge you to consult, that provides concrete examples of what is and what is not plagiarism:

http://www.scc.rutgers.edu/douglass/sal/plagiarism/intro.html

Another valuable resource that you should consult is the Rutgers Libraries webpage that explains how to take careful reading notes so that you will not fall into the trap of unintentional plagiarism as you are writing:

http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/lib_instruct/instruct_document.shtml

If you have any questions about quoting, paraphrasing, or referring to the work of others, please ask! It is better to be safe than sorry, better to have too many citations than not enough and thus run the risk of unintentional plagiarism.

Any and all violations of academic integrity in this course will result in the formal consequences and disciplinary action that are outlined in the Rutgers policy on academic integrity. Please understand that I take academic integrity extremely seriously and have a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism or cheating of any kind.
Grading Policies

Grades will be calculated as follows:

20% Paper #1 (4 pages): Analytical essay on machine politics and progressive reform, based on your reading of *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall* and additional primary sources. (Specific assignment will be distributed as the course gets underway.)

20% Midterm exam: 5 short-answer identifications and 1 essay question (A study guide will be distributed well in advance of the midterm exam.)

30% Paper #2 (4 pages): Analytical essay on the rise of conservatism, based on your reading of *Lyndon B. Johnson and American Liberalism* and additional primary sources. (Specific assignment will be distributed as the course gets underway.)

20% Final exam: 10 short-answer identifications and 2 essay questions (A study guide will be distributed well in advance of the final exam.)

10% Class participation

Please note that late paper submissions will be penalized by half a letter grade (i.e., from B+ to B) for each day they are late, unless you have obtained a letter from a doctor or a dean explaining why you were unable to complete your work on time.

Also, please be aware that I do not offer extra credit, nor do I grade on the curve. My philosophy is that students earn grades; I do not give them. But I also believe that it is part of my job to help you succeed—so please come to office hours or email me with any question, big or small. I am always happy to help students with the course material and with their writing.

Schedule

**Week 1: Introduction/Reconstruction**

Tues 17 Jan Course introduction

Fri 20 Jan Lecture: Reconstructing a Nation
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 93, 94, 95, 97
**Week 2: The New Industrial Society**

**Tues 24 Jan**  
Lecture: Standardizing Time and Space  

**Fri 27 Jan**  
Lecture/discussion: Industrialization and Its Discontents  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 16, pp. 656-672 [16 pages]  
chapter 17, pp. 678-688 [10 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 100, 102, 103, 105

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**Week 3: Frontiers at Home & Abroad**

**Tues 31 Jan**  
Lecture: Race and Violence in the South and the West  
chapter 17, pp. 688-703 [15 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 106, 107

**Fri 3 Feb**  
Lecture/discussion: The Wars of 1898 and a New Imperial Age  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 17, pp. 703-718 [15 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 109, 110, 111  
Begin Riordan, *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall*, pp. 45-102

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**Week 4: Progressivism & the Urban Scene**

**Tues 7 Feb**  
Discussion: Machine Politics  
Reading: Finish Riordan, *Plunkitt of Tammany Hall*, pp. 45-102

**Fri 10 Feb**  
Lecture: Progressive Reformers, the City, and the State  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 18, pp. 724-762 [38 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 118, 119

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**Week 5: WWI**

**Tues 14 Feb**  
Lecture: Wilsonian Foreign Policy and U.S. Entry into the Great War  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 19, pp. 768-779, 803-808 [16 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, document 120

**Fri 17 Feb**  
PAPER #1 DUE  
Lecture/discussion: Mobilizing Support and Sacrificing Rights on the Home Front  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 122, 123, 125
**Week 6: The 1920s and the Great Depression**

**Tues 21 Feb** Lecture: Conservatism and Consumerism in the New Era  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!,* chapter 20, pp. 818-847 [29 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom,* documents 128, 129, 131, 133, 134

**Fri 24 Feb** Lecture/discussion: From Economic Prosperity to Economic Collapse  

**Week 7: The New Deal**

**Tues 28 Feb** Lecture: Recovery, Relief, and Reform under FDR  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!,* chapter 21, pp. 860-898 [38 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom,* documents 138, 139

**Fri 2 Mar** Review for midterm exam  
Assignment: Prepare for midterm exam

**Week 8: WWII**

**Tues 6 Mar** Lecture: Arsenal of Democracy  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!,* chapter 22, pp. 904-944 [40 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom,* documents 143, 144, 147, 148, 149

**Fri 9 Mar** **MIDTERM EXAM**

**SPRING RECESS**

**Week 9: Cold War Politics & Culture**

**Tues 20 Mar** Lecture: Containment in the New Atomic Age  
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!,* chapter 23, pp. 950-980 [30 pages]  
Foner, *Voices of Freedom,* documents 151, 152, 154, 156

**Fri 23 Mar** Lecture/discussion: Anxiety and Affluence in Postwar Suburban Culture  
Foner, *Give Me Liberty!,* chapter 24, pp. 990-1018 [28 pages]
Week 10: The Sixties
Tues 27 Mar  Lecture: New Social Movements and the Rights Revolution
Reading: Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 160, 164, 168, 169

Fri 30 Mar Film: *Eyes on the Prize: America’s Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1985*,
“Bridge to Freedom” episode (1965)
Reading: Schulman, *LBJ and American Liberalism*, pp. 104-123 [19 pages]

Week 11: The Decline of Postwar Liberalism
Tues 3 Apr Lecture: War on Poverty and War in Vietnam
Reading: Schulman, *LBJ and American Liberalism*, pp. 81-103, 125-154 [51 pages]

Fri 6 Apr Film: *Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam* (1988)
Reading: Schulman, *LBJ and American Liberalism*, pp. 155-165 [10 pages]

Week 12: Age of Limits
Tues 10 Apr Lecture: Political and Economic Crises under Nixon and Carter
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 26, pp. 1082-1101 [19 pages]

Fri 13 Apr Lecture/discussion: Feminism and Anti-Feminism
Reading: Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 174, 178
[Sakai]

Week 13: The Rising Tide of Conservatism
Tues 17 Apr Lecture: Grassroots Conservatism
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 26, pp. 1101-1119 [18 pages]
Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 167, 177
Newt Gingrich, Address to College Republicans in Atlanta, June 24, 1978. [Sakai]

Fri 20 Apr Lecture/discussion: The Reagan Revolution
Reading: Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, documents 179, 180
[Sakai]
Week 14: New World Order

Tues 24 Apr  PAPER #2 DUE
Lecture: The End of Communism and the Era of Globalization
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 27 [skim, focusing on parts that are unfamiliar to you]

Fri 27 Apr  Lecture/discussion: A War on Terror in the New American Century
Conclusions and review for final exam
Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, chapter 28 [skim, focusing on parts that are unfamiliar to you]

FINAL EXAM: 3 HOURS, DATE & TIME TBA

The official university final exam schedule can be found online at the following link:

http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/