

Hist. 2112 Fall 2009
United States History 1890 to Present
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This course is a survey of United States history beginning in the 1890s and concluding with the present. The course will provide a brief overview of political, economic, social, and cultural events during the time period. Special emphasis will be placed upon the developing sense of imperialism in the United States, along with changing economic conditions and developing cultural institutions in the backdrop of national politics. In the end, a greater appreciation of the American character will be attained.

This syllabus is a general outline for the course during the Fall Semester. Variations on the schedule may become necessary. Students are expected to complete reading assignments and participate in classroom discussion. Regular attendance is required, with students making every effort to be punctual and remain for the entire class. Frequent absences (more than 2) or consistent lateness will seriously effect the final grade.

The final course grade will be determined through: a quiz on the Constitution of the United States (worth 50 points); two tests from class discussion (each worth 100 points); one final exam (100 points); and one writing assignment (50 points). In the event of an absence on scheduled test dates the time and location of all make-up exams will be at the discretion of the instructor. Writing assignments turned in late, or make-up exams, will be penalized for lateness by 10 percent.

Writing Assignments

During the semester, students will be expected to visit the Atlanta History Center and write a five page review of the exhibits and presentations at the museum and the two Historic Houses. These papers will be turned in no later than Nov. 30. It is expected these papers will be straight forward statements of opinions and ideas. Each paper should be written in an essay format with an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. **Students must attach a ticket stub or receipt to the final paper as proof of attendance.**

Grades Breakdown (possible 400 points)

A-400 to 360 points

B-359 to 320 points

C-319 to 280 points

D-279 to 240 points

F- Below 239 points

The class meets 6:30 pm -7:45 pm (or 8:00 pm to 9:15 pm) Monday and Wednesday. Discussion and comments are welcome both inside and outside of the classroom. Office hours are by appointment.

Ethics:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes an informal solution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

Required Reading:

Nystrom, Elsa A., ed. The Reality and the Dream New York: McGraw Hill Primis, 2001.

Classroom Schedule

- 17 Aug Introduction
- 19 Aug. Industrialization and Modernization
Nystrom: Andrew Carnegie, Lecture to Young Men
Upton Sinclair, Conditions in the Slaughterhouse
Pauline Newman, Conditions at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company
George Rice, George Rice Loses Out to Standard Oil
- 24 Aug. Life in the 1890s
Nystrom: Frederick Jackson Turner, Significance of the Frontier
Jacob Riis, Immigrant Life in the New York City Tenements
Henry Grady, The New South
- 26 Aug. Politics to 1900
Nystrom: George Washington Plunkitt, Honest and Dishonest Graft
Alfred R. Tucker, A Warm Welcome for the IWW
- 31 Aug. **Class Cancelled**
- 2 Sept. Imperialism in the United State
Nystrom: Alfred Thayer Mahan, On Sea Power
Albert Beveridge, America's Destiny
Constitution Quiz
- 7 Sept. **Labor Day—Class Cancelled**

- 9 Sept. Imperialism
- 14 Sept. Theodore Roosevelt
Monroe Doctrine
Nystrom: Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
- 16 Sept. Taft and Wilson
Nystrom: William Howard Taft, Inaugural Address
- 21 Sept. **Test One**
- 23 Sept. World War One
Nystrom: Woodrow Wilson, Address to Congress
Eugene Debs, Speech in Canton, Ohio
Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points
Senator William Borah, Senate Speech on the League of Nations
- 28 Sept. World War One
- 30 Sept. The 1920s
Nystrom: Ku Klux Klan, The Klansman's Manual
Bruce Barton, The Man Nobody Knows
Ernest Elmo Calkins, Business the Civilizer
- 5 Oct. Depression
Nystrom: Franklin D. Roosevelt, First Inaugural Address
E. J. Sullivan, The 1932nd Psalm
- 7 Oct. Depression and World War Two
Nystrom: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Radio Address on Arsenal of Democracy
Franklin D. Roosevelt, The Four Freedoms
- 12 Oct. World War Two
Nystrom: Edgar L. Jones, Iwo Jima
John Hersey, Hiroshima
- 14 Oct. Truman and the Post War
Nystrom: Joseph R. McCarthy, Lincoln Day Address
Margaret Chase Smith, Declaration of Conscience
- 19 Oct. Korean War
- 21 Oct. Eisenhower and the 1950s
Nystrom: Nixon-Kruschev, Nixon Kruschev Debate (Kitchen Debate)

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Farewell Address

- 26 Oct. **Test Two**
- 28 Oct. John Kennedy and Camelot
Nystrom: John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address
- 2 Nov. Vietnam
Nystrom: Soldier's Memories of Vietnam
Lyndon B. Johnson, Message to Congress on the Gulf of Tonkin
- 4 Nov. Civil Rights
Nystrom: Booker T. Washington, The Atlanta Compromise
U. S. Supreme Court, Plessy vs. Ferguson
W. E. B. DuBois, Of Mr. Booker T. Washington
Rosa Parks, The Front of the Bus
Martin Luther King, Jr., Letter From Birmingham Jail
- 9 Nov. Johnson and the 1960s
Nystrom: Barry Goldwater, Presidential Nomination Speech
- 11 Nov. Nixon and Watergate
Nystrom: White House Conversations, 1972-1973
Richard Nixon, A Self Portrait
- 16 Nov. Gerald Ford and the Fallout of Watergate
- 18 Nov. The Reagan Revolution
Nystrom: Ronald Reagan, First Inaugural Address
Linda Chavez, What to do About Immigration
- 23 and 25 Nov. Class Cancelled Thanksgiving Holiday.**
- 30 Nov Bill Clinton and the Bush Dynasty
Museum Papers Due
- 2 Dec. **Final Exam**
Last Day of class