HSTR 210B:
The History of the United States, 1865 to Present
**Subject to Change**

Dr. Jason Colby  
Office: CLE B216  
Office hours: R 2:30-4:30  
Telephone: 721-7389

**Course Description:**
This course offers a survey of post-1865 US history. It will take us from Reconstruction to the present. Despite the class’s large size and historical sweep, we will strive for a dynamic learning environment. In addition to hearing my thoughts on the central themes and developments in this period of US history, you will have the opportunity to explore critical issues during discussions and to engage with primary sources in your reading and writing.

**Website:**
The Coursespaces site will be a useful resource. In addition to the course outline and essay assignment, it will include the PowerPoint presentations from lecture.

**Requirements:**
1. Attendance and Class Participation 20%
2. First Analytical Essay 15%
3. First Exam 20%
4. Second Analytical Essay 30%
5. Second Exam 15%

**Discussions:**
Attendance is mandatory. You should come to class prepared to talk about the readings. Your mark for a discussion will start at 60% (for attendance) and rise with the quality of your participation.

**Exams:**
The midterm and final exams will be in essay format. Questions will draw upon lectures, readings, and discussions. Marks will be determined by the directness, pertinence, and comprehensiveness of your answers. Makeup exams will be given only in the case of documented emergencies.

**Analytical Essays:**
The essay assignments will be available at least two weeks prior to the due date. Your essays will be evaluated on clarity of argument, use of evidence, quality of writing, and proper style and format. Papers must be typed and double-spaced in 12-pt font (10-pt font for footnotes) with 1-inch margins. The essay must include a title page and page numbers. For formatting questions, see the style guide link on the History Department website.

**Submitting Essays:**
You must submit a hard copy of the essay in class on the due date. Extensions will be given only for emergencies. Essays will be penalized 5% for each day late to a maximum of 20%.
Policies:
1. When listening to lectures and discussing issues in class, always be respectful of others.
2. Do not carry on a conversation or read outside material during class.
3. Turn off all electronic devices (except laptop computers being used for taking notes).
4. Do not pack up while I am speaking; I will finish on time.

Required Texts (available at UVic bookstore):

Week I  
RECONSTRUCTION AND REPUBLICANISM  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 15; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 15  
1/6: The Limits of Freedom  
1/9: Industrialization and Its Discontents

Week II  
EXPANSION AND CRISIS  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 16; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 16  
1/13: The Conquest of the West  
1/16: Depression and Upheaval

Week III  
REDEFINING AMERICA  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 17; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 17  
1/20: An Imperial Leap  
1/23: A “New” Immigration?

Week IV  
THE GREAT WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 18-19; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 18-19  
1/27: The Progressive Era  
1/30: Crusade and Reaction

Week V  
A NEW STATE  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 20-21; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 20-21  
2/3: From the Roaring 20s to the Great Depression  
2/6: Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal **First Essay Due**

Week VI  
THE GREAT CRUSADE  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 22; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 22  
2/10: The “Good” War  
2/13: **First Exam**

Week VII  
2/17-2/21 **Reading Break**

Week VIII  
COLD WAR AMERICA  
**Reading**: *Give Me Liberty*, ch. 23; *Voices of Freedom*, ch. 23  
2/24: An Age of Conformity?  
2/27: The Second Reconstruction
Week IX  THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
Reading: Give Me Liberty, ch. 24; Voices of Freedom, ch. 24
3/2: Eyes on the Prize
3/5: Eyes on the Prize

Week X  THE VIETNAM ERA
Reading: Give Me Liberty, ch. 25; Voices of Freedom, ch. 25
3/9: The Bad War
3/12: Protest and the Counterculture

Week XI  THE CONSERVATIVE REVOLUTION
Reading: Give Me Liberty, ch. 26; Voices of Freedom, ch. 26
3/16: The Troubled Seventies
3/19: Reagan’s America

Week XII  AFTER THE COLD WAR
Reading: Give Me Liberty, ch. 27; Voices of Freedom, ch. 27
3/23: Crisis at Home, Triumph Abroad **Second Essay Due**
3/26: Globalization and Immigration

Week XIII  LOOKING FORWARD AND BACKWARD
Reading: Give Me Liberty, ch. 28; Voices of Freedom, ch. 28
3/30: 9/11 and the Road to Iraq
4/2: From Obama to Trump

Week XIV  EXAM TIME!
4/6: **Second Exam**