

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

MR 1-2:30

E-mail: jcolby@uvic.ca
Twitter: @JasonColby2

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):

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, 5th ed., vol 2 (2017)

Foner, *Voices of Freedom*, 5th ed., vol 2 (2017)

- 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**