

Fall 2014
History 118-03
History of the U.S. since 1876
MR 10-11:15

Professor Burke
Office hrs: M 9:30-10; R 1-2:30 pm
Dickson 281
burkem@mail.montclair.edu

Course Text: The American Story, v2 Since 1865 5th ed, Divine, Breen, Fredrickson, Williams

This course will study the development of the U.S. as a country from the end of the Reconstruction period to our modern times. We will examine the key political, social, and economic events that shaped the course of our history.

Course Objectives:

- Identify the important political, economic, social, and diplomatic forces, figures, and problems that contributed to the rise of America as a world power.
- To think critically.
- To locate and use information.
- To integrate knowledge and ideas in a coherent and meaningful manner.

Coursework:

The class grades will consist of midterm (25%) and final examinations (30%), 2 short papers (15% each), homework (10%) and attendance (5%). Students who are absent from more than 4 classes will lose the class attendance part of their final grade. If absences are continually a problem, a further penalty (2pts off final grade per absence) will be incurred. Documentation is required for severe illness; otherwise there are no excused absences. When absent, students are still responsible for all work and should get notes from a classmate.

Lateness: Students should not be more than 10 minutes late to class, if you arrive after 10 minutes, a late will be recorded. (But consistent lateness is never acceptable) If you arrive more than 20 minutes late, an absence will be recorded.

***There will be no make-ups for exams – do not be absent!!!**

Homework assignments (focus questions) are to be completed and turned in on date due. The questions are designed around the assigned textbook for the course, and will be used to foster class discussion. Assignments may be turned in via hard copy (must be typed) or email.

*If absent when assignments are due, they must be sent via email or otherwise turned in.

Academic Integrity and Class Protocol:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the appropriation of someone else's words or ideas and presenting them as those of one's self. All written assignments must be the original product of the student. Any material copied verbatim from a text or article must appear in quotation marks with the source of the information indicated. All instances of such violations of academic integrity will be immediately reported to the Divisional Chairperson, whereupon further disciplinary action will likely be taken.

Class Conduct: Please turn off cell phone or any other device that may cause a disturbance during class. ****There is absolutely no use of any such devices while taking exams**

Students must not use class time to complete assignments from other courses. Our class is not a study hall. Students may be asked to leave the class and have it count as an absence.

Students must inform the instructor if the need to leave early, do not simply walk out, it may count as an absence.

Only registered students are allowed to attend class, please do not bring any guests to class.

Class Schedule and assigned text readings:

- 9/4 – Introduction
- 9/8 – Western Expansion; 540-569 (**HW #1**)
- 9/11 – Western Expansion; Railroads; Burden's of empire; 574-583
- 9/15 – Global Expansion; Spanish American War; 674-693
- 9/18– Span/Am War; Perils of empire; 694-702, 776-783
- 9/22 – Urbanization; Immigration; Progressive Era; 583-614,704-712 (**HW #2**)
- 9/25 – Progressive Era; Towards War; 712-770
- 9/29 – World War I; 784-807
- 10/2 – World War I; cont.
- 10/6 – World War I; cont (**HW #3**)
- 10/9 – Isolationism; Roaring 20s; 874-79; 810-824
- 10/13 – 20s backlash; Boom to bust; 824-838
- 10/16 – Great Depression; 841-851
- 10/20 – New Deal; 851-869
- 10/23 – **Midterm**
- 10/27 – World War II; 879-907 (**HW#4**)
- 10/30 – World War II; cont.
- 11/3 – World War II; cont.
- 11/6 – Post War; Cold War; 909-922
- 11/10 – Cold War; 1950s boom; 922-957 (**HW #5**)
- 11/13 – Civil Rights; continued Cold War; 957-965, 968-991
- 11/17 – Vietnam; 935-37, 973-74, 992-97, 1005-06, 1017-18
- 11/20 – Troubled 60s; Divided nation; Nixon; Watergate; 997-1005, 1014-20
- 11/24 – Economic Crisis; Middle East revolution; 1021-39(**HW #6**)
- 11/27 – **No Class - Thanksgiving**
- 12/1 - Reagan, 80s; Fall of Communism; 1039-58
- 12/4 – Gulf War I; 1990s – Clinton; Domestic upheavals; 1058-77
- 12/8 – New millennium; War on Terror; 1077-86
- 12/11 –Economic Crisis; Modern America; 1086-91
- 12/15 – **Final Exam (10:15-12:15)**