

AMERICAN HISTORY II

HIS 104-02, Fall 2024

T-Th 8:40 – 10:00 A.M., VAN 113

Hans P. Vought, Ph.D.

TEXTBOOKS: You should purchase the following books at the college bookstore (where they are bundled together for a discount) or retailer of your choice. You will be responsible for all material in the books in addition to the lectures. In college, you should develop the ability to read critically - that is, to determine what the author's thesis or argument is, and evaluate the evidence which he or she uses to support it. You will probably find it useful to take notes on the reading, both for in-class discussions and in preparing for the papers and exams.

- **Rebecca Edwards, Eric Hinderaker, Robert O. Self & James Henretta, *America's History, Value Edition, Volume 2: Since 1865* (10th ed, Bedford/St. Martin's)** This is the main textbook. It gives a narrative history with supporting features available online. It is important to read the textbook in conjunction with the lectures to fully understand the course material.
- **Kevin B. Sheets, *Sources for America's History, Volume 2: Since 1865* (10th ed, Bedford/St. Martin's)** This is the primary source reader. It has historical documents and images that allow you to explore the topics in the textbook in greater detail. Analyzing primary sources allows you to understand how historians develop their interpretations of the past.

*The ISBN for the bundle is **978-1-319-45980-2**. It should be cheaper than buying each book separately.

CONTACT INFORMATION: My office is in Vanderlyn 239D. My Office Hours are 11:40 – 1:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 10:00 – 12:00 on Wednesdays, and by appointment (either in person or online via Zoom). My office telephone number is 688-1594. My e-mail address is voughth@sunyulster.edu. Website: <http://people.sunyulster.edu/voughth>. **Please note that all e-mail communication between faculty and students should occur through Brightspace or the mysunyulster.edu portal, which complies with federal law (FERPA).**

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This survey course traces the development of American civilization from the post-Civil War era through the present. This course meets the SUNY General Education requirement for U.S. History and Civic Engagement.

LEARNING OUTCOMES OF COURSE: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to do the following:

1. Students will analyze why and how the major developments in American history from 1877 to the present occurred.
2. Students will assess the impact of race, class, ethnicity and gender in the development of American society.
3. Students will understand the role of individual participation in U.S. communities and government.
4. Students will appraise America's evolving relationship with the rest of the world.
5. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in written English, to apply historical and contemporary evidence to draw, support, or verify conclusions.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the completion of the course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Describe the combination of political, social and economic factors that transformed America from an agrarian society to an urban, industrial one.
2. Examine the forces within American society that exacerbated historical tensions in the areas of race and ethnicity.
3. Explain the emergence of the United States as a world power from the late nineteenth century to American involvement in World War I.
4. Describe the growth of the regulatory state in the Progressive Era and the welfare state as a result of the Great Depression and the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
5. Examine how in the period associated with World War II and the Cold War (1939 – 1991) the United States played an increasingly important global role as a super power.
6. Explain how African Americans and other minorities were able to secure greater civil rights and liberties in the postwar period.
7. Describe the resurgence of political conservatism beginning in the 1970s and the consequences following this shift.

OUTLINE OF COURSE CONTENT:

Tues. 8/27 – Thur. 8/29: RECONSTRUCTION

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 14; *Sources*, chap. 14

Chapter 14 Paper due on Thur. 8/29

Tues. 9/3 – Thur. 9/5: NATIVE AMERICANS & “SETTLERS” IN THE WEST

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 15; *Sources*, chap. 15 & Document Set

Chapter 15 Paper due on Thur. 9/5

Thur. 9/5 – Tues. 9/10: INDUSTRIAL CAPITALISM

Thur. 9/12: IMMIGRATION

READINGS: *America's History*, chaps. 16 – 17; *Sources*, chaps. 16 – 17

Chapter 16 & 17 Papers due on Thur. 9/12

Tues. 9/17: THE RISE OF JIM CROW

Thur. 9/19: GILDED AGE POLITICS & REFORM

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 18; *Sources*, chap. 18

Chapter 18 Paper due on Thur. 9/19

Tues. 9/24: FIRST EXAM

Thur. 9/26 – Tues. 10/1: THE PROGRESSIVE ERA

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 19; *Sources*, chaps. 19 & Document Set

Chapter 19 Paper due on Tues. 10/1

Thur. 10/3: THE NEW IMPERIALISM

Tues. 10/8 – Thur. 10/10: WORLD WAR I

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 20; *Sources*, chap. 20

Chapter 20 Paper due on Thur. 10/10

Tues. 10/15: NO CLASS – MONDAY SCHEDULE

Thur. 10/17: THE ROARING TWENTIES

Tues. 10/22: THE CONSUMER ECONOMY & THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Thur. 10/24: FDR AND THE NEW DEALS

READINGS: *America's History*, chaps. 21 – 22; *Sources*, chaps. 21 – 22 & Document Set
Chapter 21 & 22 Papers due on Thur. 10/24

Tues. 10/29: WORLD WAR II

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 23; *Sources*, chap. 23 & Document Set
Chapter 23 Paper due on Tues. 10/31

Thur. 10/31: SECOND EXAM

Tues. 11/5: THE BEGINNINGS OF THE COLD WAR

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 24; *Sources*, chap. 24
Chapter 24 Paper due on Thur. 11/7

Thur. 11/7: POSTWAR AMERICA

Tues. 11/12 – Thur. 11/14: THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

READINGS: *America's History*, chaps. 25 – 26; *Sources*, chaps. 25 – 26
Chapter 25 & 26 Papers due on Thur. 11/14

Tues. 11/19: THE VIETNAM WAR

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 27; *Sources*, chap. 27
Chapter 27 Paper due on Tues. 11/19

Thur. 11/21: THE NEW LEFT, NIXON & WATERGATE

Tues. 11/26: THE 1970s: AMERICA AT 200

READINGS: *America's History*, chap. 28; *Sources*, chap. 28 & Document Set
Chapter 28 Paper due on Tues. 11/26

Thur. 11/28: NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING

Tues. 12/3: REAGAN & NEO-CONSERVATISM

Thur. 12/5: THE 1990s & BEYOND

READINGS: *America's History*, chaps. 29 – 30; *Sources*, chaps. 29 – 30 & Document Sets
Chapter 29 & 30 Papers due on Thur. 12/5

Tues. 12/10 – Wed. 12/11: Make-up days (if necessary)

Tues. 12/17, 8:40 – 10:40: FINAL EXAM

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF THE COURSE: You will write 10 short papers about the historical documents in the *Sources* book. Each paper will be 2-3 pages (typed), and will be in response to one of the Comparative Questions at the end of each chapter in the *Sources* book. These questions ask you to compare several of the primary sources in that chapter. **You must write on 10 of the 17 chapters we will be reading in the *Sources* book.** The papers are due at the beginning of class on the days noted in the schedule above. You will submit them to the Turnitin drop boxes in the Paper Assignments folder on Brightspace. *Late papers will not be accepted.*

You will write three essay exams over the course of the semester. The three exams will include a choice of short answer and essay questions, covering material discussed in the readings as well as material discussed in class. The exams are closed-book and notes (including websites) and non-cumulative. Your essays should articulate a clear thesis (that is, an argument supported by evidence) in response to the questions. You are free to express any opinion; however, you must present historical evidence to support it.

N.B.: This syllabus is not a legal contract. Assignments and policies (other than college rules) are subject to revision at any time throughout the course.

LATE PAPER POLICY: The papers are due by 8:40 a.m. on the days noted in the schedule above. *Late papers will not be accepted.*

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance and meaningful participation in the class discussion is mandatory. I strongly encourage all students to attend class. Excessive absences will lower your grade. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. Please note the withdrawal deadlines set by the college.

ASSESSMENT: Grades will be based upon the ten *Sources* papers and the three exams. The papers will make up 30% of your final grade, the first two exams will make up 20% each of your final grade, and the final exam will make up 30% of your final grade. There will be no “extra credit” - in college, you are judged by the quality rather than the quantity of your work. Participation in class discussion and improvement will be taken into consideration in determining the final course grade.

The following grading scale is used:

93-100 = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+
83-86 = B
80-82 = B-
77-79 = C+
73-76 = C

70-72 = C-
67-69 = D+
63-66 = D
60-62 = D-
< 59 = F

Please retain all graded papers from this course until you see your final grade posted on your College transcript. If I suspect you of plagiarism or cheating, you will receive a 0 for that particular paper or exam. You will have an opportunity to meet with me and demonstrate that you are innocent. If a second offense should occur, you will receive a 0 for the course, and face possible expulsion from the college.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam will be given during the regularly scheduled examination period at the end of the semester. It will not be cumulative – it will simply be the third exam.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic honesty means that students are expected to do their own work and follow the rules regarding acts such as cheating and plagiarism. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic honesty. That is, ignorance of the standards of academic honesty is not an acceptable excuse for breaking these standards. Academic dishonesty - breaking the standards of academic honesty - is taken very seriously by the College. Breaking the rules of academic honesty will result in immediate disciplinary consequences.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:

1. **Cheating on examinations or quizzes.** Examples include (a) referring to materials that the instructor has not allowed to be used during the test, such as textbooks or notes or websites; (b) using devices the instructor has not allowed to be used during the test, such as cell phones, text messages, or calculators; and (c) copying from another student's paper or asking another student for an answer.
2. **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism means the use of words or ideas that are obtained from other sources without giving credit to those sources. Not only do quotations have to be referenced, but also any use of the ideas of others, even if expressed in the student's own words, must be referenced. The College has a service to check for plagiarism. Any student paper can be submitted for this plagiarism check.
3. **Submission of work that is not entirely the student's own work.** Having another person write a paper or parts of a paper is one example of this offense; allowing another student to copy

test answers is another example.

4. Theft or sale of examinations, falsification of academic records, and similar offenses.

5. Submitting work to more than one class without the permission of the second instructor.

For example, a student who submits to a class a paper previously turned in to another class is in violation of academic honesty, unless the second instructor has given permission.

6. Unauthorized duplication of computer software or print materials. For example, turning in a term paper downloaded from a website is a violation of academic honesty.

7. Influence. A student should not attempt to get an instructor to change a grade or record for any reason except achievement. For example, trying to get an instructor to change a grade because of personal hardship - or because of a bribe - is a violation of academic honesty.

8. Practice of any other form of academic dishonesty not included in this list.

Basic Needs Statement

To learn effectively you must have basic security: a roof over your head, a safe place to sleep, enough food to eat. If you are having trouble with any of those things, please contact Samantha Chambers at chambers@sunyulster.edu or 845-688-1560.

Start Here. Go Far Boutique

VAN 154

Weekdays 8:30a-4:30p

A Dress to Feel Your Best resource. Free clothing, shoes, accessories, coats, scrubs, undergarments, and select personal care items. FREE for students.

Samantha Chambers, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

StudentLife@sunyulster.edu, 845-688-1560

SUNY Ulster Food Pantry

VAN 155

Wednesdays 10:30a-1:30p, Thursdays 11:30a-12p

The Food Pantry provides free food and select personal care items to all SUNY Ulster Students, Faculty, and Staff regardless of race, color, creed, religion, citizenship, national origin, sex, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or ability.

Samantha Chambers, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

chambers@sunyulster.edu, 845-688-1560

Office of Mental Health

Zen Den (entrance through VAN 119)

Weekdays 9:00a-4:30p

Students are provided with short-term counseling for issues involving mental health, alcohol or substance abuse, careers, and life skills. When needed, referrals are made to outside agencies.

Ashley Brown, LCSW-R, Crisis Counselor/Case Manager Director

brownas@sunyulster.edu, 845-687-5192

Office of Accessibility Services

VAN 128F or VAN 128C

(Entrance through VAN 119)

Weekdays 8:30a-4:30p

At SUNY Ulster and in this class, we welcome a diverse student body and are committed to promoting access and inclusion for all members of our campus community. For more information and for students who plan to request academic accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services at Accessibility@sunyulster.edu Phone: (845) 687-5121. They will assist eligible students with the process of setting up accommodations.