

Year Course Offered: 2014
Semester Course Offered: Fall
Department: History
Course Number: 1302
Name of Course: U.S. History II
Name of Instructor: TBD

The information contained in this class syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Course Description: United States History II is a survey of the social, political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from the Civil War/Reconstruction era to the present. United States History II examines industrialization, immigration, world wars, the Great Depression, Cold War and post-Cold War eras. Themes that may be addressed in United States History II include: American culture, religion, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, urbanization and suburbanization, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. foreign policy.

Learning Objectives

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.

Core Objectives

1. Critical Thinking
2. Communications
3. Social Responsibility
4. Personal Responsibility

Major Assignments/Exams

Three tests, with each covering a third of the course and worth a third of the grade. The exams as a whole form the basis of assessing LO 1 to 3, with the target of at least 70% of students completing the course achieving at least a grade of C.

The last exam will require a written response interpreting a primary source (LO 1 to 3; CO 1&2) and a section of questions focused on global connections (LO 1 to 3; CO 3). Successful completion of the exams will demonstrate personal responsibility (LO 1 to 3; CO 4).

Critical Thinking (CO1) – Instructor will rank written interpretation of a primary source as Unacceptable, Acceptable or Excellent.

Communications (CO2) – Instructor will rank written interpretation of a primary source as Unacceptable, Acceptable or Excellent.

Social Responsibility (CO3) – A score of 90 or higher on the section of questions dedicated to global connections will signify a rank of Excellent, 70-89 Acceptable and under 70 Unacceptable.

Personal Responsibility (CO 4) – Successful completion of all three exams with a grade of C or higher on each will signify a rank of Excellent, two exams are Acceptable and one or zero are Unacceptable.

Learning Outcomes	CO	Assessment Methods	Criteria/Targets
1. Create an argument through the use of historical evidence	CT, COM, PR	Selected questions from final test; completion of three tests	For critical thinking and communications, 70% students will receive acceptable or excellent. For personal responsibility, successful completion of all three exams with a grade of C or higher on each will signify a rank of Excellent, two exams are Acceptable and one or zero are Unacceptable.
2. Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources.	CT, COM, PR	Selected questions from final test; completion of three tests	For critical thinking and communications, 70% students will receive acceptable or excellent. For personal responsibility, successful completion of all three exams with a grade of C or higher on each will

			signify a rank of Excellent, two exams are Acceptable and one or zero are Unacceptable.
3. Analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on this period of United States history.	CT, COM, PR, SR	Selected questions from final test; completion of three tests	For critical thinking and communications, 70% students will receive acceptable or excellent. For personal responsibility, successful completion of all three exams with a grade of C or higher on each will signify a rank of Excellent, two exams are Acceptable and one or zero are Unacceptable. For social responsibility, a score of 90 or higher on the section of questions dedicated to global connections will signify a rank of Excellent, 70-89 Acceptable and under 70 Unacceptable.

Required Reading

Visions of America: A History of the United States, Volume 2: since 1865
(Pearson, 2nd edition, 2013)

List of Discussion/Lecture Topics

Week 1: Conflict and Conquest: The Transformation of the West, 1865–1900

Week 2: Wonder and Woe: The Rise of Industrial America, 1865–1900

Week 3: Becoming a Modern Society: America in the Gilded Age, 1877–1900

Week 4: Creating a Democratic Paradise: The Progressive Era, 1895 –1915

Week 5: Imperial America: The United States in the World, 1890–1914

Week 6: The Great War: World War I, 1914–1918

Week 7: A Turbulent Decade: The Twenties

Week 8: A New Deal for America: The Great Depression, 1929–1940

Week 9: World War II: Fighting the Good War, 1939–1945

Week 10: A Divided World: The Early Cold War, 1945–1963

Week 11: In a Land of Plenty: Contentment and Discord, 1945–1960

Week 12: A Nation Divided: The Vietnam War, 1945–1975

Week 13: A Decade of Discord: The Challenge of the Sixties

Week 14: Righting a Nation Adrift: America in the 1970s and 1980s

Week 15: Building a New World Order: The United States Since 1989