

History 152-X
US History 1877 - Present
Fall 2010
UNIV 201
T - 6 – 8:50 p.m.



Instructor: Kara Kvaran
Office: 402 REC
Email: kkvaran@purdue.edu
Office Hours: Tue 12:00 – 2:00 or by appointment

Texts:

Give Me Liberty!: An American History, Second Seagull Edition, Volume 2 – Eric Foner
Bold Spirit – Linda Lawrence Hunt
One Man's Castle – Phyllis Vine
Teenagers: An American History - Grace Palladino

Course Description:

The course covers the social, economic, and political developments within the United States as well as its diplomatic history in the period of its emergence as a leading world power. This course is designed to provide general information about U.S. history between 1877 to the present. During the semester we will examine the vast changes, primarily in American society, that created the America we live in today. We will also discuss aspects of American culture that have remained the same through the last 100 years. Obviously, we cannot cover everything but in an attempt to do justice to all the fascinating events and people that helped develop modern America we will move quickly and try to hit all the high points. In order to make this class as interesting as humanly possible we will incorporate lecture material, film, music, and primary readings.

Attendance:

There are too many people in this class to allow for taking attendance and a participation grade. However, most of the material you will be tested on will come directly from lectures so it is not safe to assume that you will pass the class if you never attend.

Tests:

There are three tests in this class. **DO NOT MISS THE TESTS.** I do not give makeup exams so if you are gone you will receive a zero on the test unless you have a university authorized excuse for illness or travel. This policy is not flexible and I am not a nice person. The final is not comprehensive. We will have a review in the class meeting before tests and you will be provided with a review sheet and it will be posted on blackboard.

Tests may include ID's, a question about your reading assignments, and an essay. You will need to bring a blue book to each test and write in pen.

Reading Response Papers:

In addition I have selected 3 outside reading books for you that should be enjoyable and easy to read. You will have to write a short 2-3 page response paper on each book. You will have a choice of several questions/prompts for each paper. These will be given out and posted on blackboard.

Reflective Writing/Discussion:

Most lectures you will be asked a reflective question about what is being covered that day. These will be either discussion or written. They will be done in class and written questions will be collected and graded.

Expectations: (or how to pass this class)

		Scale:
Test 1 –	90 points	400 – 360 points = A
Test 2 –	100 points	359 – 320 points = B
Final –	110 points	319 – 280 points = C
3 Papers –	75 points total	279 – 240 points = D
Participation/Writing –	25 points total	239 – 0 points = F

Grades will be posted on Blackboard. – however, I will not discuss grades with you until you have picked up your test or paper.

Behavior:

You are adults. This is college. As such I don't expect or tolerate childish behavior. So, don't write notes to the person sitting next to you, talk when someone else (probably me) is speaking, sleep, read the paper, use your cell phone, check your facebook account, or treat a classmate or me with disrespect. I have a low tolerance for crappy behavior. You do not have to be in class – so if you feel like sleeping or reading, stay home. I do not give my notes out for missed classes. **DO NOT CHEAT ON TESTS.** The university has a fine academic dishonesty policy, so don't sneak a peek at your neighbor's paper or bring in outside help. If I see you talking I will assume that you are cheating, as anything else could wait until after class, and you will be treated as such. If caught you will be given a zero for the test and turned over to the Dean's office for further discipline.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is taking credit for another person's idea, opinion, or theory. **DO NOT DO THIS!** If you plagiarize I will give you a zero on the assignment and report to the Dean of Students office. Trust me, it's easier on everyone if you just do your own work. Do not copy and paste from websites.

Changes:

I reserve the right to change assignments, add assignments, subtract assignments, and if I'm feeling really nice offer extra credit. Depending on time and availability the schedule is also subject to change. We will try to follow it, and the syllabus, as closely as possible but should anything unforeseen happen changes may be made.

Schedule:

Week:	Date:	Class:	Readings/Papers:
Week 1	Aug. 24	Introduction – You, Me, and 1877 “As Long as Waters Run” – US Indian Policy and populating the West	Start Reading <i>Bold Spirit</i> Chapter 16 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>

Week 2	Aug. 31	<p>“Jump Jim Crow” - The Old Politics of the New South</p> <p>“There’s No Place Like Home” – The Populist Movement</p>	Chapter 15 and 17 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 3	Sept. 7	<p>“Do Not Pass Go” – The Economics and Labor Unrest in Industrial America</p> <p>“The Devil in the White City” – American Urbanization</p>	Chapter 18 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 4	Sept. 14	<p>“Welcome to the Jungle” – Muckrakers and Reform in the Progressive Era</p> <p>“My Hat is in the Ring” – Roosevelt, Taft, Debs and the Rise of Woodrow Wilson</p>	<p>Chapter 16 and 18 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i></p> <p>Paper on <i>Bold Spirit</i> Due</p>
Week 5	Sept. 21	<p>Test I</p> <p>Film “Iron Jawed Angels”</p>	
Week 6	Sept. 28	<p>“Here’s to you Sister Suffragette” – The Fight for Women’s Suffrage</p> <p>“The War to End All Wars” – Making Sense of WWI and its aftermath</p>	<p>Start Reading <i>One Man’s Castle</i></p> <p>Chapter 19 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i></p>
Week 7	Oct. 5	<p>“Al Capone Dancing the Charleston on Top of a Flagpole” – Roaring 20’s and the Crash</p> <p>“Making a New Deal” – The Great Depression, Ethnicity, Unions and Pre-Mature Anti-Fascists</p>	Chapter 20 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 8	Oct. 12	No Class!!!	
Week 9	Oct. 19	<p>“A Chicken in Every Pot” – FDR and New Deal Legislation</p> <p>“The Great Dictator” – The Start of WWII</p>	Chapter 21 and 22 – <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 10	Oct. 26	<p>“Rosie the Riveter and the Double Victory” – WWII and Changes on the Homefront</p> <p>Film “Band of Brothers”</p>	<p>Chapter 22 - <i>Give Me Liberty!</i></p> <p>Paper on <i>One Man’s Castle</i> Due</p>
Week 11	Nov. 2	<p>Test II</p> <p>Film “Eyes on the Prize”</p>	
Week 12	Nov. 9	“Atomic Diplomacy” – 1950’s Cold War Cause	Start Reading <i>Teenagers</i>

		and Effect “The Wonder Years” – The Politics of Mass Consumption	Chapter 23 and 24 in <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 13	Nov. 16	“Knights of Camelot” – JFK: Reality and Myth “I Have a Dream” – the Civil Rights Movement	Chapter 24 in <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 14	Nov. 23	“Slouching Towards Bethlehem” – 1960’s Countercultures “The Madman Strategy” – The 1968 Democratic Convention and the Vietnam War	Chapter 25 in <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 15	Nov. 30	“Tricky Dick and the Disco Inferno” – Watergate and America in the 1970s Film “Fog of War”	Paper on Teenagers Due Chapter 26 in <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 16	Dec. 7	“Post Modern American” – The 1980s “The Wall Falls Down” – The End of the Cold War	Chapter 26 and 27 in <i>Give Me Liberty!</i>
Week 17	TBA	Finals Week	