**HISTORY 152-1**

**United States since 1877**

**Spring 2018**

TTH 10:30-11:45 AM

UNIV 219

Instructor:

Cornelius L. Bynum, PhD

Office:

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Office Hours:

Tuesdays 12:00-1:00 PM or by appointment

Course Description:

This course sets out to explore how social, political, economic, and cultural forces shaped the development of the nation from the late nineteenth through the present. It specifically draws attention to the broad trends, events, and key figures of these times and examines their impact on the lives of ordinary Americans. Topics covered in this course include modernization and industrialization, World War I and II, the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Cold War at home and abroad, the Vietnam War, and the Civil Rights Movement.

Assigned Text:

Foner, Eric. *Give Me Liberty! An American History, Volume 2, 4th edition* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2014).

ISBN: 978-0-393-92028-4.

Tyson, Timothy B. *The Blood of Emmett Till* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2017)

ISBN: 978-1476714851

Course Requirements and Policies:

There will be two (2) mid-term exams and a final exam for this course. The two mid-terms will each count for twenty-five percent (25%) of your final grade and the final exam will count for fifty percent (50%). The first mid-term will focus on document interpretation, requiring students to draw on material presented in lectures and the textbook to contextualize and explain two separate exhibits. Mid-term two will consist of two sections, a short-answer identification section and an essay section, that draw on the lecture material, the textbook, *Give Me Liberty!*, and the other course readings. The final exam will be entirely essay in format.

Attendance:

Attendance is not required, but you will find it difficult to do very well in this course if you are not in class regularly. I do not take roll and I give no points for attendance. In return for not treating you like middle-school students, I expect you to be attentive and respect the rights of others to a constructive learning environment. Turn off cell phones and all such handheld devices.

**Lastly, this syllabus maybe subject to change as dictated by class needs and at the instructor’s discretion.**

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading policies are subject to changes made necessary by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. **In the event of such an emergency, I will notify you of key schedule or policy changes by email.**

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Syllabus:

**Week One: Reconstruction’s Demise**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 15, “‘What Is Freedom?’: Reconstruction, 1865 – 1877”

Tuesday, January 9, 2018: Course Introduction;

“Presidential vs. Congressional Reconstruction”

Thursday, January 11, 2018 Lecture: “Reconstruction’s Collapse and the Rise of the New South”

**Week Two: Standardizing the Nation: Innovations in Technology, Business, and Culture**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 16, “America’s Gilded Age, 1870 – 1890”

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 Lecture: “Industrial Development and the Rise of Corporate Empire”

Thursday, January 18, 2018 Lecture: “Wage Earners and the Culture of Work”

**Week Three: Toward an Urban Society**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 17, “Freedom’s Boundaries, At Home and Abroad, 1890 – 1900”

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 Lecture: “The Lure of the City and Social and Cultural Change”

Thursday, January 25, 2018 Lecture: “The Spread of Jim Crow and Stirrings of Reform”

**Week Four: Political and Cultural Conflict in a Decade of Depression and War**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 18, “The Progressive Era, 1900 – 1916”

Tuesday, January 30, 2018 Lecture: “The Politics of Stalemate and the Rise of Populism”

Thursday, February 1, 2018 Lecture: “The Crisis of Depression and the Election of 1896”

**Week Five: The Progressive Era**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 19, “Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916 – 1920’

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 Lecture: “The Changing Face of Industrialism”

Thursday, February 8, 2018 Lecture: “Conflict in the Workplace”

**Week Six: From Roosevelt to Wilson in the Age of Progressivism**

Assigned Reading:

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 Lecture: “Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and the Spirit of Progressivism”

Thursday, February 15, 2018 **Mid-Term Exam 1**

**Week Seven: Rise of Modern America**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 20, “From Business Culture to Great Depression: The Twenties, 1920 – 1932”

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 Lecture: “City Life in the Roaring Twenties”

Thursday, February 22, 2018 Lecture: “Republican Politics and the Election of 1928”

**Week Eight: The New Deal**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 21, “The New Deal, 1932 – 1940”

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 Lecture: “The Great Depression and Roosevelt’s Plan for Recovery”

Thursday, March 1, 2018 Lecture: “The Impact of the New Deal”

**Week Nine: America and the World**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 22, “Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World War II, 1941 – 1945”

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 Lecture: “The Road to War”

Thursday, March 8, 2018 Lecture: “Turning the Tide against the Axis Powers”

**Week Ten: Spring Break**

Monday, March 12 – March 17, 2018

**Week Eleven: The Cold War**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 23, “The United States and the Cold War, 1945 – 1953”

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Lecture: TBA

Thursday, March 22, 2018 **Mid-Term Exam 2**

**Week Twelve: Postwar Affluence and Anxiety**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 24, “An Affluent Society, 1953 – 1960”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 1 – 5.

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 Lecture: “The Postwar Boom”

Thursday, March 29, 2018 Lecture: TBA

**Week Thirteen: The Sixties**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 25, “The Sixties, 1960 – 1968”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 6 – 10.

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 Lecture: “The Struggle over Civil Rights”

Thursday, April 5, 2018 Lecture: “LBJ’s Great Society”

**Week Fourteen: New Conservatism**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 26, The Triumph of Conservatism, 1969 – 1988”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 11 – 15.

Tuesday, April 10, 2018 Lecture: “Nixon, Watergate, and Its Aftermath”

Thursday, April 12, 2018 Lecture: “The Reagan Revolution”

**Week Fifteen: Week Fifteen: Into the Twenty-First Century**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 27, “Globalization and Its Discontents, 1989 – 2000”

Tyson, *The Blood of Emmett Till*, Chapters 16 – 18, Epilogue.

Tuesday, April 17, 2018 Lecture: “The First Bush and the Changing Faces of America”

Thursday, April 19, 2018 Lecture: “Bill Clinton and the Rise of the New Democrats”

**Week Sixteen: Into the Twenty-First Century**

Assigned Reading:

Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* Chapter 28, “A New Century and New Crises”

Tuesday, April 24, 2018 Lecture: “George W. Bush and the Republican Resurgence”

Thursday, April 26, 2018 Lecture: “Barack Obama and Post-Racial Politics”