HIST 152-3: US History since 1877
Spring 2013

Class: M/W 5:30p-6:45p, WTHR 320

Instructor: Andrew Smith
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Office Hours: M/W 7-8p or by appointment

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Course Description:
This course treats developments in the history of the United States from post-Civil War “Reconstruction” through the 1990s. A mixture of readings and lectures will provide students with new interpretations of familiar topics in America’s “long” twentieth century, and introduce them to potentially unfamiliar stories as well. Topics and time periods such as the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, World War and the Great Depression, and postwar America in the Cold War world, will all be studied under a variety of historical perspectives, including economic, diplomatic, political, social and cultural. Students are encouraged to consider different units of analysis, for example, race, class, and gender, as they approach the material. In addition, students will be exposed to the craft of history—how historians read primary documents from the past and how they view secondary sources about the past—to help understand how the histories encountered in this course have been shaped by historians.

Expectations:
While there is no formal attendance policy, most of the assignments will draw from lecture material which will not be posted online. As a lecture-oriented course, there are certain expectations placed on each individual student for the collective good of the class. Conduct that inhibits the ability of other students to succeed will not be tolerated. That includes coming into class late, leaving class early, packing up before class is dismissed, or any variety of behaviors that may distract another student or the instructor such as talking or texting via cell phone, listening to mp3 players or ipods, and using laptops for anything other than taking notes.
Required Textbook:

*The text should be available at Follets and University Bookstores, but students are welcome to utilize alternate/online vendors. It is your responsibility, however, to make sure you have the correct volume and edition by the second week of classes.

Assignments:
Take-home assignments must be turned in at the start of class, in hard copy, typed in 12pt. Times New Roman or Calibri font, double-spaced, with one inch margins on each side. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day with no exceptions. One alternate exam date will be available only to students who have legitimate, documented excuses for missing either the Midterm or Final. Online assignments must be completed by the scheduled due date or they will not be graded. Please remember that computer problems (viruses, crashes, printing errors, etc) are facts of life, not emergencies, and are not acceptable excuses for late or incomplete assignments. It is your responsibility to backup your work regularly and leave enough time to overcome any printing problems before the due date. **Failure to complete any component of the Midterm, Final, or Primary Document Analysis will result in an F for the course.**

Midterm Exam
In-Class, Wednesday, Feb. 6 (Week 5)
   Short-Answer Identification...............................................................50 points
   Essay Question..................................................................................50

   Midterm = 100 points

Primary Document Analysis (PDA)
Due at the start of Class, Wednesday, Mar. 6 & Mar. 20 (Week 9 & 11)
   Notes...........................................................................................................20 points
   Outline........................................................................................................30
   750-1000 word Essay..............................................................................50

   Primary Document Analysis = 100 points
My History Lab Assignments (MHL)
Due Sunday, Weeks 3-16

Complete Chapter Assignments on MHL.........................10 points/week x 10 weeks
My History Lab Assignments = 100 points

Final Exam
TBA Week 17
Short-Answer Identification.........................................................50 points
Essay Question................................................................................50
Final Exam = 100 points

*Class time will be provided to explain and discuss each assignment in greater detail

Grade Breakdown
A  372-400       B- 320-331       D+ 270-279
A- 360-371      C+ 311-319       D  251-269
B+ 351-359      C  291-310       D- 239-250
B  332-350      C- 280-290       F  0-238

Student Evaluation:
All four assignments are weighted equally (100 of 400 points, or 25%) to give students the fairest evaluation of their progress over the course of the semester. Admittedly, however, there is a subjective element to evaluating certain assignments and therefore this course has a policy in place for grade disputes. Students are welcome to meet with their TA during office hours or set up an appointment to discuss a particular grade, but in order to even consider an adjustment students are required to bring with them a typed, one-page (250 word) explanation of what, specifically, they believe merits a higher (or lower!) grade and, with reference to grader’s comments, assignment rubrics, or course material, why they hold this belief. Hopefully this process will encourage careful thought, and lead us to a mutual understanding and according evaluations.
Instructor / Course Evaluation:
Students will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and instructor. To this end, Purdue has transitioned to online course evaluations. Students will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation. Participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course as student feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue.

Cheating / Plagiarism:
Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism, and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will likely result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

Disclaimer:
In the event of a major campus emergency, the above requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted once the course resumes on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the professor via email or phone.

Important Dates:

Week 3: Mon. Jan. 21: MLK Day – No Class
       Wed. Jan. 23: HOW TO DAY
Week 5: Wed. Feb. 6: MIDTERM EXAM
Week 9: Wed. Mar 6: PDA Notes and Outline Due
Week 10: Mar 11-16: SPRING BREAK – No Classes
Week 11: Wed. Mar. 20: PDA Essay Due
Week 17: FINAL EXAM date/time/location TBA
Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week / Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| 1 / Jan 7-9 | *American Stories*  
Chapter 17 |                      |
| 2 / Jan 14-16 | Ch. 18            |                      |
| 3 / Jan 21-23 | Ch. 19            | MHL                  |
| 4 / Jan 28-30 | Ch. 21            | MHL                  |
| 5 / Feb 4-6  | Ch. 22            | Midterm Exam         |
| 6 / Feb 11-13 | Ch. 25            | MHL                  |
| 7 / Feb 18-20 | Ch. 26            | MHL                  |
| 8 / Feb 25-27 | Ch. 27            | MHL                  |
| 9 / Mar 4-6  | Primary Document  | PDA Notes and Outline Due |
| 10 / Mar 11-13 | SPRING BREAK      |                      |
| 11 / Mar 18-20 | Ch. 28            | PDA Essay Due        |
| 12 / Mar 25-27 | Ch. 29            | MHL                  |
| 13 / Apr 1-3 | Ch. 30            | MHL                  |
| 14 / Apr 8-10 | Ch. 31            | MHL                  |
| 15 / Apr 15-17 | Ch. 32            | MHL                  |
| 16 / Apr 22-24 | Review            | MHL                  |
| 17 / Apr 29—TBA | Study!          | Final Exam           |