

History 152
United States History Since Reconstruction

Framingham State University
Fall 2013
Section 002 MWRF 10:30-11:20
Section 003 MWRF 11:30-12:20
Hemenway Hall 321

Dr. Joseph M. Adelman
May Hall 306
E-mail: jadelman@framingham.edu
(508) 626-4914
Office hours: M 3:00-4:20, Th 9:00-10:20,
and by appointment



This course surveys the history of the United States since the end of Reconstruction (1877 to present). It will cover a broad range of topics in the political, social, and cultural development of the United States, including: the rise of the United States as a world power; increasing access to public life for groups such as African-Americans, women, and immigrants; the role and influence of economic thinking on American society and culture; and the role of artistic and cultural developments. In particular, the course will focus on four thematic questions:

1. Why and how did the role of the federal government in American politics and society change?
2. What shaped the nature of the relationship between the United States and the rest of the world and why did that relationship change over time?
3. How did Americans' understanding of the Constitution change?
4. How has the economic ideology of capitalism shaped American society and culture?

In addition, the course will introduce students to the craft of the historian, the variety of skills that historians bring to bear on evidence, and the range of evidence available about early America. These skills include reading and analyzing texts, images, and materials from the past, evaluating quantitative data, and interpreting other historians' arguments. Students will have ample opportunity to practice these skills through short writing assignments, longer primary source analyses, and in-class discussions and exercises.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand the political narrative of the colonies and the United States since the end of Reconstruction.
- Integrate important developments in American society and culture into a broad historical narrative.
- Demonstrate the ability to reason through analysis and synthesis of various types of historical evidence.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate in writing an understanding of historical knowledge and reasoning.
- Assess the notion that history is rewritten by each generation according to the needs, aspirations, and frames of reference of each ensuing age.

SCHEDULE OF COURSE MEETINGS

NOTE: All dates and assignments are subject to change. Please be aware of any announcements made in class or via the course Blackboard site.

Weds., Sept. 4 Introduction to the Course

Thurs., Sept. 5 America in 1877

Fri., Sept. 6 Workshop: The United States Constitution

Reading: United States Constitution, Articles I-VII, Amendments I-XV

Week Two

Mon., Sept. 9 Overview: The Gilded Age

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 16

Weds., Sept. 11 Gilded Capitalism

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 100, 102, 104

Thurs., Sept. 12 Imperialism

Reading: Albert J. Beveridge on "The Philippine Question"

(<http://www.international.ucla.edu/article.asp?parentid=18454>)

G. Apacible, *To the American People: An Appeal* (Toronto, 1900)

(<http://name.umdl.umich.edu/BBM8741.001.001>)

Fri., Sept. 13 Imperialism, continued

Reading: None

Week Three

Mon., Sept. 16 Overview: Populism and Race

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 17

Weds., Sept. 18 Populism

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 106, 107

Thurs., Sept. 19 Jim Crow, part I

Reading: Examples of Jim Crow laws (Blackboard)

Sharecropper contract

(http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/reconstruction/sharecrop/ps_dawson.html)

Fri., Sept. 20 Jim Crow, part II

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 106, 107

Week Four

Mon., Sept. 23 Overview: Progressivism

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 18

Weds., Sept. 25 Progressivism, part I

Reading: Jane Addams, *Twenty Years at Hull-House*, excerpt

(<http://books.google.com/books?id=RVQpAAAAYAAJ>)

Thurs., Sept. 26 Progressivism, part II

Reading: Addams, *Twenty Years at Hull-House*, continued

Fri., Sept. 27 Progressivism, part III

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 114, 115, 116, 119

Week Five

Mon. Sept. 30 Overview: World War I at Home and Abroad

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 19

Weds., Oct. 2 World War I

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 120, 121, 123, 125

Thurs., Oct. 3 Women's Suffrage in Massachusetts and the Nation

Reading: 19th Amendment

(<http://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/amendmentxix>)

Voices of Freedom, document 113

Boston Globe editorials (Blackboard)

Fri., Oct. 4 Overview: The Roaring Twenties

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 20

Week Six

Mon., Oct. 7 Roaring Twenties, part I

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 128, 129

Weds., Oct. 9 Roaring Twenties, part II

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 130, 131, 132

Thurs., Oct. 10 Overview: Great Depression and New Deal

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 21

Fri., Oct. 11 Great Depression, part I

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, document 136

Week Seven

Mon., Oct. 14 Columbus Day - NO CLASS

Weds., Oct. 16 Great Depression, Part II

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 140, 141, 142

Thurs., Oct. 17 The New Deal

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 135, 138, 139

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Fireside Chat on Banking

(<http://youtu.be/osYAEggOtI8>)

Fri., Oct. 18 Review Session

Week Eight

Mon., Oct. 21 **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

Weds., Oct. 23 Overview: The Second World War

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 22

Thurs., Oct. 24 World War II: The Ideological Battle

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 143, 144, 148

Fri., Oct. 25 World War II: Those Who Fought

Reading: Studs Terkel, *The Good War*, excerpts (Blackboard)

Week Nine

Mon., Oct. 28 World War II: The Home Front

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, document 149; Terkel, *The Good War*, excerpts (Blackboard)

Weds., Oct. 30 Overview: The Cold War

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 23

Thurs., Oct. 31 Cold War

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 151, 152, 153, 156, 157

Fri., Nov. 1 Cold War: Conformity at Home

Reading: *The House in the Middle* (<http://youtu.be/pGJcwaUWNZg>)
Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*, Ch. 1 (Blackboard)

Week Ten

Mon., Nov. 4 Overview: The Fifties

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 24

Weds., Nov. 6 Civil Rights, Part I

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 160, 168

Thurs., Nov. 7 Civil Rights, Part II

Reading: Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"
(<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/letter-from-birmingham-city-jail-excerpts/>)
Malcolm X, "The House Negro and the Field Negro"
(<http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/mmt/mxp/speeches/mxa17.html>)

Fri., Nov. 8 *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter* (film)

Week Eleven

Mon. Nov. 11 Veterans' Day - NO CLASS

Weds., Nov. 13 *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter, Part II*

Thurs., Nov. 14 Group Project Work Time

Reading: Bring *Voices of Freedom* to class

Fri., Nov. 15 Group Project Work Time

Reading: Bring *Voices of Freedom* to class

Week Twelve

Mon., Nov. 18 James Baldwin and Civil Rights

Reading: James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*

Weds., Nov. 20 Baldwin and Civil Rights, continued

Reading: Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*

Thurs., Nov. 21 Overview: The Sixties

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 25

Fri., Nov. 22 Student Movements and Vietnam

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 169, 170

Week Thirteen

Mon., Nov. 25 The Women's Rights Movement

Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 171, 178

Weds., Nov. 27 The Counterculture

Reading: Creedence Clearwater Revival, "Fortunate Son"

(<http://youtu.be/04spb0vUrWU>)

Bob Dylan, "Times They Are A-Changin'" (<http://youtu.be/vCWdCKPtnYE>)

Joan Baez, "Blowing in the Wind" (<http://youtu.be/DFvkhzkS4bw>)

Jimi Hendrix, "Star-Spangled Banner (Woodstock)"

(<http://youtu.be/wt3cYpFLjiM>)

Thurs., Nov. 28- Thanksgiving Recess - NO CLASS

Fri. Nov. 29

Week Fourteen

Mon., Dec. 2 Overview: From Watergate to the Berlin Wall

Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 26

Weds., Dec. 4 Class Presentations
 Reading: Bring *Voices of Freedom* to class

Thurs., Dec. 5 Class Presentations
 Reading: Bring *Voices of Freedom* to class

Fri., Dec. 6 Class Presentations
 Reading: Bring *Voices of Freedom* to class

Week Fifteen

Mon., Dec. 9 Overview: The Post-Cold War World
 Reading: Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*, Ch. 27

Weds., Dec. 11 The Clinton Years
 Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 181, 183, 185

Thurs., Dec. 12 The War on Terror
 Reading: *Voices of Freedom*, documents 186, 187, 188, 191

Fri., Dec. 13 2008 and Beyond

REQUIRED TEXTS

James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time* (New York: Vintage, 1992).

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History*, vol. II, Third Seagull Edition (New York: W.W. Norton, 2012).

Eric Foner, ed., *Voices of Freedom: A Documentary History*, vol. II, Third Edition (New York: W.W. Norton, 2011).

The above texts are all available through the Framingham State bookstore. Additional readings will be found on the course Blackboard site and library e-reserves.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Participation (15%)

Participation is vital to your success in this course. You are expected to attend all course meetings and to come to class prepared. That is, you should have completed the assigned reading, have it with you in class, and be prepared to participate actively in class discussion through comments and questions. You will lose credit for participation after four absences, except in documented cases for extended family or medical emergencies.

The history department and the Center for Academic Support and Advising (CASA) co-sponsor two mandatory workshops for students in any 100-level history course. The workshops focus on key skills for success in history courses, including reading and note-taking, writing papers, plagiarism, and preparing for exams. Each workshop will last approximately one hour; the schedule of workshops will be distributed during the first week of classes. All students in this course are required to attend; failure to do so will count as an unexcused absence from class.

2. Chapter Quizzes (10%)

Approximately once a week, we will read a chapter from Eric Foner's *Give Me Liberty!* (the dates are labeled "Overview" on the course schedule above). Each date on which we read a chapter, there will be a brief quiz at the beginning of class to ensure you understand the material. It will consist of one question from among the "Review Questions" at the end of each chapter. Your grade will consist of your ten best scores, that is, you will be able to drop two low scores. There will be no make-ups available for these quizzes; all students who are absent or tardy will receive a zero (which can be one of the two scores you drop).

3. Paper 1 (due October 9) (10%)

The first paper (3-4 pages) will cover material on the Progressive Era and ask you to integrate our discussions of Jane Addams's *Twenty Years at Hull-House* with other sources and discussions. Details will be announced in class approximately two weeks before the due date.

4. Midterm Examination (15%)

The midterm examination will take place on Monday, October 21, and will cover material through class on October 17 (that is, through the New Deal). It will consist of several brief questions asking you to identify and analyze sources, individuals, and/or events, as well as one essay. No makeup exams will be given except under extreme and documented extenuating circumstances.

5. Paper 2 (due Wednesday, December 4) (15%)

The second paper (4-6 pages) will use sources from the unit on civil rights in order to analyze connections between James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time* and other materials. Details will be announced in class approximately two weeks before the deadline.

6. Group Presentations (10%)

During the week of December 2, students in groups of 3 or 4 will make a 15-minute presentation on a topic related to the 1970s and 1980s. Each group will have the opportunity to spend two class periods preparing the presentation during November. The grade will consist of a component evaluating the group's performance as a whole and a second on evaluating each group member's contribution.

7. Final Exam (25%)

The final examination will cover material from the entire course, with a slight emphasis on the second half (i.e., material covered after the midterm). It will consist of identifications, short answer questions, and one or more essays. Full details will be distributed approximately one week before the examination date set by the Registrar.

COURSE POLICIES

Blackboard

Please be sure that you are properly enrolled for the course Blackboard site and be sure to check it regularly. The site will be updated regularly with PowerPoint slide shows for class, course assignments, and supplementary materials.

Communication

All students are required to maintain a Framingham State e-mail account, and course announcements will be sent to that address and posted to the course Blackboard site. Please check your FSU account and Blackboard regularly for updates.

Etiquette

Students are permitted to use electronic devices (including laptops, tablet computers, cell phones, etc.) to take notes or access readings during class. However, you are expected at all times to be engaged in the class discussion, which means that you are prohibited from texting, making or receiving phone calls, surfing the internet, sleeping, and any other activity that distracts you or your classmates. The instructor reserves the right to assign a zero for participation for the day for any student found in violation, as well as to ban electronic devices should it become a recurring problem. Please show respect and consideration for your classmates.

All lectures and course materials are copyright to the instructor and may not be reproduced or distributed without written permission. You may not record lectures without prior approval in writing.

Accommodations

Any student with a disability or other extenuating circumstances should see the instructor as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of any accommodations provided through CASA, including written documentation.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

The academic community is built upon the free, open, and honest exchange of ideas and opinions. In order to achieve such an environment, students need to be confident that their peers are holding themselves to the same high standards. Cheating undermines the reputation of a university's degrees and violates the trust of all members of our intellectual community. Accordingly, no form of cheating will be tolerated in this course. All students are expected to conform to the university's code of conduct at all times. Any student found cheating will be referred to the Dean of Students according to university policy. Cheating on any assignment will result in an automatic failure of the assignment and other possible repercussions.

Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own without giving proper credit to the source. You must acknowledge the original author or source of all quotations and ideas through quotation marks, footnotes, etc. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to the following:

- the submission of a work, either in part or in whole completed by another;
- failure to give credit for ideas, statements, facts or conclusions which rightfully belong to another;
- failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or even a part thereof;
- close and lengthy paraphrasing of another's writing, without credit or originality;

- use of another's project or programs or part thereof without giving credit.

Submission of a work completed for another class either in a previous or concurrent term is academic dishonesty. In short, plagiarism is not allowed under any circumstances. If you have any questions about whether something might be consideration plagiarism, *please ask*.

For more information on Framingham State's policies on academic honesty and plagiarism, please see the CASA Writing Guide at: http://www.fscmedia.com/web-external/writing-guide/plagiarism_fsc.html.