

HIS 132
AMERICAN HISTORY II

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090, or satisfactory score on placement test

Corequisites: None

This course is a survey of American history from the Civil War era to the present. Topics include industrialization, immigration, the Great Depression, the major American wars, the Cold War, and social conflict. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze significant political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments in American history since the Civil War. Native Americans, minorities, women, and representative biographies are also examined. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for the general education core requirement in social/behavioral sciences. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able:

- a. To demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology by mastering the knowledge of historical narrative.
- b. To interpret and apply data from original documents.
- c. Use historical data to support generalizations and interpretations.
- d. Effectively use analytical skills of evaluation, cause and effect, and comparison.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. The American West, 1870-1900
 - A. Federal Indian policies and effects of settlement on Native Americans
 - B. Patterns of settlement and characteristics of frontier society
 - C. Economic exploitation - mining, ranching, agriculture
 - D. The West of life and legend - Turner thesis and conservation

- II. Industrial America, 1870-1900
 - A. cheap energy sources and railroads
 - B. the integrated corporation and the "new managerial class"
 - C. Mass Marketing
 - D. the New South - economic progress with a Lost Cause myth
 - E. unions and industrial conflict - the hardships of immigrants and women

- III. Urban America, 1870-1900
 - A. slums, ghettos and suburbs
 - B. governing, policing, and promoting social welfare
 - C. the urban environment- public spaces and skyscrapers

- IV. Daily life, popular culture, and the arts, 1870-1900
 - A. social classes and families
 - B. middle class - mores, consumption, higher education
 - C. working class leisure in the immigrant city
 - D. cultures in conflict - Victorianism vs. women and popular culture

- V. Politics in the Gilded Age
 - A. political parties - irrelevant responses to the real issues of American society
 - B. the politics of privilege - the interests and ideology of big business
 - C. Populism - a challenge to the urban, industrial, bureaucratic state
 - D. African Americans in the Gilded Age - A Jim Crow life

- VI. The Progressive Era, 1900-1920
 - A. society in turmoil - urban middle class, racism, and labor
 - B. reformers at work - perfectionism and social control
 - C. civil rights: the on going struggle of American blacks and women
 - D. national progressivism as Square Deal, New Nationalism & New Freedom

- VII. America Goes to War, 1914-1919
 - A. perils of neutrality and mobilization
 - B. patriotism and dissent
 - C. the war at home - the economy, immigrations, women, the end of reform
 - D. the terms of peace and a bitter aftermath

- VIII. The Roaring Twenties
 - A. prosperity and "normalcy"?
 - B. mass society and culture - a material moment and a creative ferment
 - C. social conflict - nativism, moralism, racism
 - D. Herbert Hoover - American individualism with a socially responsible cast

- IX. Crash, Depression & New Deal, 1929-1939
 - A. the maladies of a sick market economy
 - B. A New Deal fix for the economy and FDR's leadership
 - C. the legacy of a New Deal for today's society

- X. America in the Thirties: failure of nerve and renewal of faith
 - A. the human faces of economic depression
 - B. cultural voices - America as movie, art, sport, and literature
 - C. A menacing world - fascism and national aggressions

- XI. World War II - The Good War, 1939-1945

- A. American intervention and mobilization
 - B. the transformation of American society
 - C. alliances, D-Day, and atomic bombs
- XII. Cold War America, 1945-1952
- A. demobilization - GI's return
 - B. anti-communism and global containment
 - C. Truman's "Fair Deal"
 - D. McCarthyism - hysteria and government repression
- XIII. The Affluent Society of the 1950's
- A. "dynamic conservatism"
 - B. The Warren Supreme court - launching a new civil struggle
 - C. a prosperous nation - "What's good for GM is good for America"
 - D. society and culture - suburbs, drive ins, and "Luci"
 - E. the other America - poverty, blight, and rebels without a cause
- XIV. The Turbulent Sixties - shattered "grand expectations"
- A. JFK and the New Frontier
 - B. LBJ and the Great Society
 - C. struggles for equality - "We shall overcome"
 - D. Vietnam - "the lost crusade"
- XV. The 1970's: A Troubled Journey
- A. rise and fall of the counter culture
 - B. end of the Vietnam War - "end of the best and brightest"
 - C. a conservative reaction - "the silent majority speaks"
 - D. the crisis of the Presidency - Watergate and a disgraced president

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

To be selected by the Instructor/Discipline Chair.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.