

Fall 2013, Revision date: 7/16/2013

The United States since 1877  
MWF – D. M. Smith, Room 105  
History 2112 Section A

Instructor: Wayne Drews

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Office Hours: 2:00 – 2:45 MF and 4:00 – 4:45 W or by appointment  
First Floor – Old Civil Engineering Building

**Course Description:** Examines major developments, events and individuals of United States history since 1877. The social, political, economic and technological nature of U.S. civilization and the nation's role in the global arena are explored.

**Textbook:** The American Promise Value Edition, Volume II: From 1865 by James L. Roark; Michael P. Johnson; Patricia Cline Cohen; Sarah Stage; Susan M. Hartmann. Publication Date: 2012 | ISBN-13: 978-1-4576-1347-0 | Fifth Edition

**Academic Honesty:**

Cheating, plagiarism, or any other forms of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited. Students are expected to abide by the Georgia Tech Honor Code as described at: <http://honor.gatech.edu/>

**Classroom Etiquette:**

Turn off cell phones. You may use a laptop for taking notes only. Please do not talk to other students, do outside work, play on your computer, check e-mail, sleep, etc. This is distracting to me and to other students. Be on time, do not come and go, or leave early.

**Grading for the Course:**

There are five exams during the semester. The last of the five is given during the final exam period. Each exam covers only the material since the previous exam and each exam is 20% of the final grade. They are all a combination of multiple choice and T/F. There will be 50 questions in total on each of the five exams and each question is worth two points. However, if you miss an exam your make-up will be in the form of discussion questions. Exams will be closed-book and closed-note and will be derived primarily from what is covered in class. Please note that although some of the material in the textbook overlaps with what I will cover in class, my lectures are not solely from the book. It is intended for your use as an additional resource. Therefore, if you attend class regularly you should score well on the exams. If you fail to attend, doing well on the exams will be difficult. The scale applied for your final letter grade is: F=0 to 59.9, D=60 to 69.9, C=70 to 79.9, B=80 to 89.9, A=90 to 100. There will be no exceptions, no extra credit and no rounding up of scores.

This syllabus provides a general plan for the course. I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus, including changes to assignments, projects, examinations, etc. in order to accommodate the needs of the class as a whole. Students are expected to abide by class policies and procedures and to treat faculty and other students in a professional, respectful manner.

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

Review the related chapters of the book for background content prior to the class period where they are listed. Additional reference materials will be posted on T-square throughout the semester.

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPICS</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>
M 8/19	Introduction	
W 8/21	Legacy of Reconstruction	Chapter 16
F 8/23	Manifest Destiny	Chapter 17
M 8/26	The Gilded Age	Chapter 18
W 8/28	Industrialization A	Chapter 19
F 8/30	Industrialization B	<a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/photogallery/the-presidents">http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/photogallery/the-presidents</a>
<b>M 9/2</b>	<b>Labor Day – no class</b>	
W 9/4	Engineering & World's Fair	<a href="http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma96/wce/title.html">http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma96/wce/title.html</a>
F 9/6	Populism/Progressivism	Chapters 20 and 21
<b>M 9/9</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	
W 9/11	World War I	Chapter 22
F 9/13	Roaring 20s	Chapter 23, pages 683-707.
M 9/16	Great Depression	Chapter 23, pages 707-715.
W 9/18	New Deal	Chapter 24, pages 800-822
F 9/20	Labor's Impacts	<a href="http://www.historicalvoices.org/flint/#">http://www.historicalvoices.org/flint/#</a>
M 9/23	World War II	Chapter 25 and <a href="http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII_Women/Timeline.html">http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII_Women/Timeline.html</a>
W 9/25	Origins of Cold War	Chapter 26

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F 9/27	McCarthyism	
<b>M 9/30</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	
W 10/2	1950s	Chapter 27
F 10/4	Civil Rights Movement	Chapter 28
M 10/7	Cold War Crisis	Chapter 29, 875-882.
W 10/9	New Frontier	
F 10/11	New South	
M 10/14	Great Society	
W 10/16	Counterculture	
F 10/18	Women's Movement	
<b>M 10/21</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>	
W 10/23	Vietnam War Origins	Chapter 29, 882-890.
F 10/25	Vietnam War Endings	Chapter 28, 890-904.
M 10/28	1968	<a href="http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/1968/reference/timeline.html">http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/1968/reference/timeline.html</a>
W 10/30	Dawn of Information Age	Read Chapter 1 of <i>Crystal Fire: Dawn of an Age</i> . <a href="http://books.google.com/books?id=0bTpcTLCu6MC&amp;printscc=frontcover#v=onepage&amp;q&amp;f=false">http://books.google.com/books?id=0bTpcTLCu6MC&amp;printscc=frontcover#v=onepage&amp;q&amp;f=false</a>
F 11/1	The Visible Hand	
M 11/4	Nixon	Chapter 30, 905-912.

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W 11/6	Watergate	Chapter 30, 912-913.
F 11/8	Government and the Economy	
<b>M 11/11</b>	<b>Exam 4</b>	
W 11/13	Ford	Chapter 30, 913-915.
F 11/15	Carter	Chapter 30, 915-923.
M 11/18	1980's	
W 11/20	Reagan Economics	Chapter 30, 923-932.
F 11/22	Reagan Diplomacy / Bush I	Chapter 30, 932-938. & Chapter 31, 939-950.
M 11/25	Impacts of Automobile Technologies	
<b>W 11/27</b>	<b>No Class</b>	
<b>F 11/29</b>	<b>Holiday – No Class</b>	
M 12/2	Clinton	Chapter 31, 950-961.
W 12/4	Bush II	Chapter 31, 961-969.
F 12/6	9/11 and Beyond	
<b>?</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	