



HIS 012: US History since 1865

Term: 2020 Winter Session

Instructor: Staff

Language of Instruction: English

Classroom: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Class Sessions Per Week: 6

Total Weeks: 4

Total Class Sessions: 25

Class Session Length (minutes): 145

Credit Hours: 4

Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to the social, political, economic, and cultural history of the United States – from the end of the American Civil War to the present. Main topics under consideration include Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, Industrialization, Progressivism, the Great War, the Great Depression, The Last Good War, the Cold War, the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, the Climax of Liberalism. Among these topics, the course will focus on three changes: the US changing from a nation made up mainly of farmers and small-town dwellers to an urban, industrial society; the changing meaning of American identity in a society; and the emergence of the U.S. as a major world power. With the course assignments, students will be able to get command of historical issues and improve their ability of critical thinking in writing historical analysis paper.

Course Materials:

1. **In-class Handouts**

Contents of handouts will be mainly selected from the optional textbook below. Students are not required to buy textbooks. The in-class handouts are the only mandatory course materials.

2. **Optional Texts:**



The American Story: Since 1865, Vol. 2, Robert A. Divine, T.H. Breen and others, 5th edition

Forging the American Character: Reading in United States History since 1865, Vol. 2, John R. M. Wilson, 4th edition

The American Journey: A History of the United States, Vol. 2, David Goldfield, Virginia DeJohn Anderson, Jo Ann E Argersinger, Peter H Argersinger, Carl Abbott, William M Barney and Robert M Weir, 7th edition

Course Format and Requirements:

Please turn off all cell phones during lecture. No texting during class lectures. There is no talking out of turn or during lectures unless called upon to answer a question. If you have a question you will be given every opportunity to ask for the answer. You are encouraged to ask questions since extra credit may be given for thoughtful questions.

Attendance:

Students must attend the majority (90%) of classes. Participation means preparation. Attendance will be taken every day. Each student will have 3 (three) free absences, so no grade deduction will be made for the first three absences. Starting from the fourth absence, each unexcused absences will result in an automatic drop in grade. With each unexcused absence your final letter grade will be dropped ½ a grade – NO EXCEPTIONS (e.g.: A to A-).

Grading Scale:

A+: 98%-100%

A: 93%-97%

A-: 90%-92%

B+: 88%-89%

B: 83%-87%

B-: 80%-82%

C+: 78%-79%

C: 73%-77%

C-: 70%-72%

D+: 68%-69%

D: 63%-67%



D-: 60%-62%

F: Below 60%

Course Assignments:

Attendance: 10%

Attendance at all class sessions is required. You have to notify the instructor in advance of your absence. If you fail to attend class on a regular basis, your final course grade will be lowered. Likewise, you should arrive to class on time. Tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful to me and to your classmates. Please make every effort to arrive punctually.

Midterm Exam: 25%

Midterm exam will be conducted in-class on the third week. You will be informed the covered content in advance by your instructor. You should not refer to the textbook or communicate with your classmates. Otherwise, you will get zero points for this exam. It may include multiple choices, true/false questions, matching, short answer. You will get more detailed information when the exam is approaching.

Papers: 30%

You are supposed to finish two paper for this course. The detailed topic and rubric will be posted by the instructor. You are required to work on the paper individually, but you will have an opportunity to bring your draft paper and share ideas with classmates.

Final Exam: 35%

The final exam will be held outside of normal class hours. It is close-book, non-cumulative and will include all the content you have learnt during the twenty-five classes. You are supposed to review your textbook, notes, and additional reading materials provided by the instructor. It will consist of some combination of short answer, multiple choice, identification, and essays. There are no make-up exams.

Course Assessment:

Attendance	10%
Midterm Exam	25%
Paper 1	15%
Paper 2	15%



Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

Course Schedule:

Week	Topics	Assignments
Week One (Class 1~6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Reconstruction: Nothing but Freedom (Lock & Wright, Ch. 15) • Organizing American in the Gilded Age (Lock & Wright, Ch. 17) • Industrialization and Working-Class Life (Lock & Wright, Ch. 16, sec. I-IV) • Cities and Immigrants: “America” Redefined (Lock & Wright, Ch. 18; Ch.19, sec. VI; Ch. 20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 distribution on class 4
Week Two (Class 7~12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformers, Populists and Politicians (Lock & Wright, Ch. 16, sec. V-VI) • Progressivism (Lock & Wright, Ch. 20; Ch. 16, sec. VII) • Progressivism, Empire, and the Great War (Lock & Wright, Ch. 19; Ch. 21) • The Twenties: Cultures in Conflict (Lock & Wright, Ch. 22) • America and the Great Depression (Lock & Wright, Ch. 23) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish the draft of paper 1 before the class 9 • Paper 2 distribution on class 10
Week Three (Class 13~18)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Last Good War (Lock & Wright, Ch. 24) • The Bomb and the Cold War (Lock & Wright, Ch. 25) • Complacency and Rebellion in the Fifties (Lock & Wright, Ch. 26) • The Logic of the Vietnam War (Lock & Wright, Ch. 27, sec. V; Ch. 28, sec II) • The Civil Rights Movement: Introduction (Lock & Wright, Ch. 26, sec. III-IV; Ch. 27, sec. III) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm Exam • Finish the draft of paper 2 before the class 15 • Submit the final draft of the paper 1 before the class 18
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sixties: The Climax of Liberalism, and 	



<p>Week Four (Class 19~25)</p>	<p>Beyond (Lock & Wright, Ch. 27, sec. I-VI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sixties: Beyond Consensus (Lock & Wright, Ch. 27, sec. VII-VIII; Ch. 28, sec. I-V) • In Search of the Seventies (Lock & Wright, Ch. 28, sec. VI-IX; Ch. 29, sec. I-III) • In Our Time: Reaganism, Its Discontents, and Its Legacies (Lock & Wright, Ch. 29, IV-XI) • Politics from Bush to Obama (reading: Barack Obama, “The Audacity of Hope”) • New Gilded Age (reading: Gary Younge, “How Trump Took Middle America”) • Review for final exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the final draft of the paper 2 before the class 24 • Final exam
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Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Shanghai Normal University’s *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean’s Office.

Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.

Special Needs or Assistance:

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.