



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE - FALL 2010

HI 2510 A2 American History Since 1865 - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: D. White

PHONE: Office (780) 539-2083

OFFICE: C401

E-MAIL: dawwhite@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Mon. 1-4pm; Tues. 11:30-12, 1-2; Thurs. 11:30-2:30

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Of the People: A Concise History of the United States, Volume II: Since 1865

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

The course covers the development of contemporary America from the period of Reconstruction after the Civil War to the present. Through lectures and class debates from prepared readings, you will examine and evaluate the American historical experience of western settlement, economic expansion and social crisis, racial conflict, imperial expansion, war, social protest and world power status.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:

HI 2510 consists of three hours of lecture and discussion each week.

DELIVERY MODE(S):

The course work includes lectures, discussions, research and writing assignments as well as a midterm and final exam.

OBJECTIVES:

The primary objectives of HI2510 are:

- To present students with an overview of the events that brought the United States to a position of global prominence and how it has shaped and been shaped by the past century and a half.
- To develop and enhance historical research and synthesis skills as well as composition skills.

TRANSFERABILITY:

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

This course has university transferability to the University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Concordia University College of Alberta, Canadian University College, Grant MacEwan University and King's University College. For complete information consult the Alberta Transfer Guide (www.transferalberta.ca).

GRADING CRITERIA:

Class Participation	10%
Assignment #1 (Popular History)	15%
Assignment #2 (Proposal)	5%
Assignment #3 (Essay)	25%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	30%

All assignments must be word-processed. It is particularly important to save a copy of any written work handed in for credit or grading.

All assignments will be submitted electronically via Moodle. This procedure will be demonstrated in class.

All assignments are to be submitted before midnight on the due date. To encourage promptness and in fairness to those who complete their work on time, late assignments will be reduced 15% for each twenty-four hour period (or part thereof, including weekends and holidays) after the due date.

Students will be granted five (5) days of extension to use at their discretion during the term. They may be applied to any of the three assignments in any combination (ie. submitting one assignment three days late, another two days late and the third one time). Extensions beyond this will only be considered when students contact the instructor prior to the deadline and present evidence of extenuating circumstances. Other scheduled coursework will not be considered an extenuating circumstance.

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATION:

Students will be assessed on their research, synthesis and writing in the three course assignments. The presentation of information in terms of organization and writing will be given equal weight in grading to the research and analysis.

There will also be a midterm exam scheduled during class in October and a final exam written during the exam period in December. These will consist of both short answer and essay questions.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students are expected to commit the required time to complete this course. Requests to reschedule assignments or exams are extraordinary and will only be granted under such circumstances.
- Submitting assigned work on the dates set by the instructor. Late assignments will be penalized 15% per 24 hour period beyond the due date.
- Regular attendance is important to success in HI2510. The lectures contain important information and interpretations for exams and instructions and examples for essays.
- Participation in course discussions is important and 10% of your final grade is based on your contributions to these classroom discussions.
- Students who are unable to write the midterm on the scheduled date should advise the instructor as soon as possible either by e-mail or office telephone. Makeup midterms will only be granted under extenuating circumstances.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to pages 49-50 of the College calendar regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

September 2: INTRODUCTION

Discussion: a) Are Canadians obsessed with Americans? What can we learn from American history?

September 7: THE ASHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

September 9: REBUILDING AMERICA

September 14: SEIZING THE WEST

September 16: THE POOR, TIRED AND HUDDLED MASSES

Discussion: Are the Ellis Island image and the melting pot a myth?

September 21: AMERICA'S INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

September 23: THE RISE OF AMERICA'S CITIES

September 28: THE AMERICAN DREAM AND REALITY

Discussion: Did America have a “gilded age”?

September 30: THE AMERICAN EMPIRE

September 30 - Assignment #1 (Popular History) Due

October 5: EFFORTS TO REFORM

October 7: OVER THERE

Discussion: How did Americans react to the First World War?

October 12: NORMALCY

October 14: DEPRESSION AND THE NEW DEAL

October 14 - Assignment #2 (Proposal) Due

Discussion: Was the New Deal effective?

October 19: ISOLATION

October 21: **MIDTERM**

October 26: "THE NEW WORLD WITH ALL ITS MIGHT"

October 28: "WORLD COMMUNISM IS LIKE A MALIGNANT PARASITE"

Discussion: Was the United States responsible for starting the Cold War?

November 2: AFFLUENCE AND DISCONTENT

November 4: CIVIL RIGHTS AND RACE RELATIONS

November 9: VIETNAM

November 11: REMEMBRANCE DAY – NO CLASS

November 16: "THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

November 18: NIXON

Discussion: Should Richard Nixon have been pardoned?

November 23: NATIONAL DOLDRUMS

November 25: REAGAN AND THE '80S

November 25 - Assignment #3 (Essay) Due

November 30: THE LONE SUPERPOWER

December 2: BUSH AND OBAMA

December 7: EXAM REVIEW

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!