



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2012

HI 2510 A3 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. 12-2; Tues. 12-2; Wed. 12-2

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

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

Links to supplementary electronic reading materials will be available on Moodle. Other reading materials will be available on reserve in the library if necessary. A schedule of readings and related quizzes will be posted on Moodle.

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.transferralberta.ca).

GRADING CRITERIA:

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:

Class Participation	5%
Textbook and Reading Quizzes	10%
Assignment #1 (Popular History)	15%
Assignment #2 (Research Essay)	20%
Assignment #3 (Essay Revision)	10%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	25%

All assignments must meet the criteria presented in the course assignment file. Assignments which fail to meet these criteria will be penalized.

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.

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 February and a final exam written during the exam period in April. 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 or part thereof 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 5% 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 the college policy on Student Misconduct – Plagiarism and Cheating available on the college website or on page 50 of the 2011-2 Admissions Guide. These are serious issues and will be dealt with severely. If you have concerns, please consult the instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

January 9: INTRODUCTION

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

January 11: THE ASHES OF THE CIVIL WAR

January 16: REBUILDING AMERICA

January 18: SEIZING THE WEST

January 23: THE POOR, TIRED AND HUDDLED MASSES

Discussion: Was America really a land of opportunity?

January 25: AMERICA'S INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP

January 30: THE RISE OF AMERICA'S CITIES

February 1: THE AMERICAN DREAM AND REALITY

February 3 - Assignment #1 (Popular History) Due

February 6: THE AMERICAN EMPIRE

Discussion: Were the Americans typical imperialists?

February 8: EFFORTS TO REFORM

February 13: OVER THERE – THE FIRST WORLD WAR

February 15: RETURNING TO NORMALCY

READING WEEK – NO CLASS FEBRUARY 20 OR 22

February 27: THE DEPRESSION AND THE NEW DEAL

February 29: MIDTERM

March 5: ISOLATIONISM

March 7: "THE NEW WORLD WITH ALL ITS MIGHT"

March 9 - Assignment #2 (Research Essay) Due

March 12: "WORLD COMMUNISM IS LIKE A MALIGNANT PARASITE"

Discussion: Did the Americans start the Cold War?

March 14: AFFLUENCE AND DISCONTENT

March 19: CIVIL RIGHTS AND RACE RELATIONS

March 21: VIETNAM

Discussion: Could the Americans have won the Vietnam War?

March 26: "THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

March 28: NIXON

March 30 - Assignment #3 (Revised Essay) Due

April 2: NATIONAL DOLDRUMS

April 4: REAGAN AND THE '80S

April 9: THE LONE SUPERPOWER

Discussion: Will America remain influential in the 21st century?

April 11: EXAM REVIEW

A FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE EXAM PERIOD

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!