



## **DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

### **COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2014**

**HI 2510 A3 AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE 1865 - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours**

**INSTRUCTOR:** D. White

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**OFFICE:** C401

**E-MAIL:** dawwhite@gprc.ab.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon. 11:30-12:30; Tues. 9-10; Wed. 9-10; Thur. 9-10; Fri. 10-11

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** None

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

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

Other reading materials will be made available as necessary on Moodle or on reserve in the library.

#### **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 (OPTIONAL):**

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, MacEwan University, Augustana Faculty of the University of Alberta, Canadian University College, Concordia University College of Alberta. For complete information consult the Alberta Transfer Guide ([www.transferalberta.ca](http://www.transferalberta.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 <sup>+</sup>	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A <sup>-</sup>	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B <sup>+</sup>	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B <sup>-</sup>	2.7	70 – 72	
C <sup>+</sup>	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C <sup>-</sup>	1.7	60 – 62	
D <sup>+</sup>	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

#### EVALUATIONS:

Class Participation	5%
Textbook Quizzes	10%
Writing Assignment #1 (Popular History)	20%
Writing Assignment #2 (Research Essay)	10%
Research Challenges (2 worth 5% each)	10%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	30%
<b>Course Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

All assignments must follow the requirements laid out in the course assignment file.

All assignments must be original work for this course. Work previously submitted for other courses will not be accepted in this course. Students found to have submitted such work will receive a 0% for the assignment.

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. Students will have a three calendar day grace period to submit work after the due date. Work submitted after the three day grace period but before ten days after the due date will be penalized 25%. Work submitted more than ten days after the grace period will not be accepted for grading and students will receive a 0% for the assignment. Extensions beyond the grace period will only be considered when students contact the instructor prior to the deadline and present evidence of extenuating circumstances.

Students will be assessed on their research, synthesis and writing in the 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 be a midterm exam scheduled during class in February and a final exam written during the exam period in April.

### **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.
- 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:**

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/)  
Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

### January 8: The Ashes of the Civil War

Discussion: Are Canadians obsessed with Americans?

### January 13: Rebuilding America - Reconstruction

### January 15: Seizing the West

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 16

### January 20: The Poor, Tired and Huddled Masses

Discussion: Was America really a land of opportunity for turn-of-the-century immigrants?

### January 22: America's Industrial Leadership

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 17

### January 27: The Rise of America's Cities

### January 29: The American Dream and the American Reality

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapters 18 and 19

### February 3: The American Empire

Discussion: Did Americans become European-style imperialists?

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 20

### February 5: Efforts to Reform

### **February 6 – Writing Assignment #1 – Evaluation of Popular History Due**

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 21

### February 10: Over There – The First World War

Discussion: Should the Americans have become involved in the First World War?

February 12: Returning to Normalcy

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapters 22 and 23

**February 17: Family Day – No Class**

**February 19: Winter Break – No Class**

February 24: The Depression and the New Deal

February 26: **Midterm Exam**

March 3: Isolationism

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 24

March 5: The New World with All Its Might

**March 7 is the last day to withdraw**

March 10: “World Communism is Like a Malignant Parasite”

Discussion: Were Joseph McCarthy’s actions in any way justifiable?

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapters 25 and 26

March 12: Affluence and Discontent

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 27

March 17: Civil Rights and Race Relations

March 19: Vietnam

Discussion: Could the Americans have won the Vietnam War?

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 28

**March 20 – Writing Assignment #2 – Research Essay Due**

March 24: “The Times They Are A-Changin’”

March 26: Nixon

Discussion: Should Gerald Ford have pardoned Nixon?

March 31: National Doldrums

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapter 29

April 2: Reagan and the 1980s

April 7: The Lone Superpower

**Reading Quiz:** *Of the People*: Chapters 30 and 31

April 9: America into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Discussion: Will the United States remain a superpower?

April 14: Exam Review

**A FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE EXAM PERIOD**

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!