

Maybank 323
953-8127 or 5711
Office Hours
MWF 11:00-11:50 a.m.
MW 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Also by appointment

Fall 2008
Dr. Powers
powersb@cofc.edu

HISTORY 202
UNITED STATES HISTORY 1865-PRESENT

This is a general and thematic study of the culture, society and politics of the United States from the aftermath of the Civil War to the present time.

Learning Goals:

1. To introduce the student to the fundamental issues and elements of American history.
2. To encourage the development and use of critical thinking skills including the synthesis, analysis and application of facts and ideas to explain historical phenomena.
3. To improve the student's communication skills both oral and written through periodic discussion groups and opportunities to write essays and reports.

Requirements: Attend class regularly and on time; participate in all discussion groups; turn in all assignments punctually and computer printed (double spaced) with standard margins. Late work will be penalized. Take responsibility for any work missed due to absence. **DO NOT** e-mail or fax papers except in the most extraordinary circumstances and obtain prior approval before doing so. Make a copy of your papers before submitting them. MAKE SURE THAT YOU RETAIN ALL OF YOUR GRADED WORK UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THE FINAL GRADE FOR THE COURSE.

Grading: There will be three written examinations. The examinations primarily include essay type questions with a relative few objective questions. Study guides will be provided in advance of the exams, **HOWEVER DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THEN TO BEGIN STUDYING!** This is a convenience so don't make it a crutch! In addition, each student will complete **two** written projects organized according to directions provided by the instructor. Each of the above items counts for approximately one-fifth of the final grade. Effective class participation will be **considered**. The grading scale is as follows: **A=90+, A-=89, B+=85-88, B=80-84, B-=79, C+=75-78, C=70-74, C-=69, D+=65-68, D=60-64, D-=59, F= below 59.**

Texts:

George Tindall & David Shi, America: A Narrative History Vol II,
W W Norton, 2007

Nina Silber, The Romance of Reunion: Northerners and the South
1865-1900 University of North Carolina, 1993

Jeff Woods, *Black Struggle, Red Scare: Segregation and Anti-
Communism in the South 1948-1968* Louisiana State University,
2003

Course Outline

1. ORDEAL OF CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

Consequences of the Civil War
Towards Radical Reconstruction and Results
Reconstruction: Later Years and Demise
Redemption and the Birth of the New South

Text chap 18, Silber begin

2. AMERICAN TRANSFORMATIONS

New Farms and Frontiers
The Industrial Boom
Urban America

Text chap. 19-21

3. LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY POLITICS AND PROTEST

Gilded Age Politics
Populists Gold and Silver: The Politics of Protest

Text chap. 22

EXAMINATION.....

4. THE AMERICAN EMPIRE

Roots of American Expansionism
Teddy Roosevelt and the Imperial Nation

Text chap. 23; Silber finish [report]

5. THE PROGRESSIVES

Progressives and American Life
National Progressive Politics

Text chap. 24

6. THE FIRST WORLD WAR

The War to End All War and American Life

Text chap. 25

7. POST-WORLD WAR I AMERICA AND THE 1920s
New Eras Mass Production and Cultural Conflict
Politics of Normalcy

Text chap. 26-27

8. THE DEPRESSION ERA
Depression-F.D.R. and New Deal Policies
Reform and Impact of the New Deal

Text chap. 28

EXAMINATION.....

9. SECOND WORLD WAR
Into the Vortex of War
Home Front and an End to the "Good War"

Text chap. 29-30; Woods begin

10. POSTWAR PERILS AND PROSPERITY
Origins and Expansion of the Cold War
Prosperity Consensus and Anxiety in the 1950s

Text chaps. 31-33

11. THE CRISIS YEARS: AMERICA 1960-76
New Frontiers and the Great Society
Protest and the Search for Social Justice
Nixon-Ford Watergate Era

Text chap. 34-35; Woods finish [report]

12. AMERICA SINCE 1980
Reagan's America
America in Transition and the New Conservatism
Toward the Present

Text chap. 36-37.

EXAMINATION December 10