

History 202:
America From Reconstruction to Modern Times
Chaminade University
PACE – Winter 2017

Instructor: Kyle Gaynor

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: This course continues to examine the history of the American Nation from the period of reconstruction after the Civil War to modern times. Emphasis will be placed on the social, cultural and ideological differences that transpired after war; igniting movements and creating a nation. Emphasis will be placed on the growth of this nation through its mid years towards the current union that we now study in.

Course Objective: This course aims for the students to achieve a greater understanding of (1) America's history; (2) America's growth through chronological and geographical factors; (3) critical analysis skills needed to contextualize and formulate America's history for present-day audiences; and (4) the size and scope of America's history and to have fun with it. We may not have the Musee de Louvre but we do have the Smithsonian!

Grading:

- 90 – 100 = A
- 80 – 89 = B
- 70 – 79 = C
- 60 – 69 = D
- 0 – 59 = F

Grades will be determined by the following:

- Weekly posting – 70%
- Research paper – 30%

Weekly postings: Each student will discuss via posts on the weekly assignments. Students should summarize, explain and give insight into the depth and/or breadth of the readings.

Research Paper: Students will turn in an 8-10 but no more than 12-page research paper on a topic of their choosing. The paper must contain at least one primary source.

Class Participation: 70% of the class will be determined by your ability to make meaningful and critical analysis of the readings through online posts. It is important to understand that the history of America is not just a series of dates to be memorized but also made up of movements, people and events that permeated and shaped this nation. It is expected of students during these periods of open discussion to participate by actively engaging in online discussions. This means all readings must be completed on time.

Attendance: Since this is a PACE course the schedule is compressed and leaves no room for absences. It is the student who is responsible for ensuring that their schedule meets the needs of the course.

Plagiarism: Students are expected to conform to university policies regarding academic honesty, including the avoidance of plagiarism. There are serious penalties for students who submit work that is not entirely their own, so be sure that you understand what constitutes plagiarism. Your instructors are required by University policies to report any instances of academic dishonesty.

Classroom Etiquette:

1. **Use Proper Writing Style:** A virtual classroom is still a classroom. This is not Facebook, Twitter, or you texting with your friends. A proper English format is expected in all scholarship and academic writing. Avoid heavy use of acronyms and write using proper sentence structure.
2. **Clear Language:** Since we are not located in a classroom the subtleties and nuances of speaking in person are lost and because of this it is imperative that when you write you write in as clear and concise manner as possible to make sure your posts are not misconstrued. Comments need to be constructive, well-meaning, well-articulated and have a purpose.
3. **Use Proper Internet Decorum:** Never say anything in an email or on a discussion that you would not want to see printed.
4. **Academic Respect:** When reacting to someone else's post, address the idea, not the person. History belongs to the dead and as historians we are here to discuss perspective and learn; not to attack or belittle someone. If you disagree, prove it with sources.
5. **Be Helpful:** Not being in a classroom can leave you without the immediate desire to be helpful and turn a blind eye to helping others, with either technology issues or academic pursuits because of the lack of personal interactions. This class will grow with you. So please find the time to not only post comments, but post helpful comments that will lead to further academic growth of your classmates.

Required Format: All work shall be typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12-point font and 1" margins on all sides. The format used will be Chicago Manual of Style. Please familiarize yourself with the following link: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>

Required Text:

- Brinkley, Alan. *The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People Vol. 2: From 1865*. New York, New York: McGraw-Hill Education Press, Inc., 2016.

Course Schedule and Assignments

Week 1 (January 09):	Introduction - Covering the course syllabus and classroom expectations, Reconstruction and the New South: pgs. 351 – 379.
Week 2 (January 16):	The Conquest of the Far West pgs. 380 – 403. Industrial Supremacy: pgs. 404 – 426. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Offices closed) Posts can be done on this day or if not before.
January 17:	Registration Ends Add/Drop Period Ends
Week 3 (January 23):	The Age of the City: pgs. 427 – 453. From Crisis to Empire: pgs. 454 – 486.
January 25:	Withdrawal without Records Ends
Week 4 (January 30):	The Progressives: pgs. 487 – 517. America and the Great War: pgs. 518 – 542.
Week 5 (February 06):	The New Era: pgs. 543 – 562. The Great Depression: pgs. 563 – 586.
Week 6 (February 13):	The New Deal: pgs. 587 – 610. The Global Crisis, 1921 – 1941: pgs. 611 – 627.
Week 7 (February 20):	America in a World at War: pgs. 628 – 652. The Cold War: pgs. 653 – 669. President's Day (Offices closed) Posts can be done on this day or if not before.
Week 8 (February 27):	The Affluent Society: pgs. 678 – 706. The Turbulent Sixties: pgs. 707 – 735. Withdrawal with Record Ends
Week 9 (March 06):	The Crisis of Authority: pgs. 736 – 765.
Week 10 (March 13):	From "The Age of Limits" to the Age of Reagan: pgs. 766 – 788.

March 19: Research Paper Due.