

Course Syllabus
Chaminade University of Honolulu

History 304: America Between the Wars
Dr. Yamasaki

Course Description

This course will examine of the forces that molded and divided the United States between the two world wars. It will see how urbanization, prohibition, nativism, religious fundamentalism, the Great Depression and the New Deal impacted America in the 1920s and 1930s. And it will analyze how these historical developments impact us today.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, students will have...

- a working knowledge of the key people, events and developments in American history between World War I and World War II.
- refined their reading, writing, speaking and cognitive skills.
- engaged in learning that embodies cooperation, self-discipline, caring and mutual respect.
- developed their concern for social justice, ethics and civic responsibilities.

Course Requirements

- Regularly attend and actively participate in class meetings. Turn in short writing assignments.
- Take a mid-term examination and a final examination.
- Write a book review. (See book selections on next page).
- Turn assignments in on time: All assignments are to be turned in to the instructor, in class, during the class hour, on the day they are due. Papers turned in to the instructor's mailbox or under his office door will not be accepted. For short writing assignments, no late papers will be accepted. For take-home exams and the book review, 5 points will be deducted for each class meeting beyond the due date.

Grades

Class participation and short writing assignments.	100 points
Mid-term examination.	100 points
Final examination.	100 points
Book review.	100 points

370-400 = A; 330-369 = B; 280-329 = C; 240-279 = D; below 240 = F.

Outline of Course Topics

Week 1: Orientation / World War I / League of Nations debate / "red scare."

- Week 2-8: The 1920s: immigration and nativism, rural vs. urban, science vs. religion, prohibition, revolution in morals, golden age of literature. **Book review due week 5. Mid-term examination due week 8.**
- Week 9-14: The 1930s: causes of the Great Depression, what the Depression did to people, the New Deal, literature and film of the 30s.
- Week 15: American foreign policy Between the Wars.
- Week 16: **Final examination due.**

Texts

William Leuchtenburg, *The Perils of Prosperity, 1914-1932*.
 Mitch Yamasaki, *History 304: America Between the Wars*.

Office Hours

Eiben Annex: 8:30-9:30 AM & 2:00-3:00 PM on Tuesdays & Thursdays.
 Phone: 735-4824.

Selections for book review:

Anderson, Sherwood, *Winesburg, Ohio* (1919)
 Hemingway, Ernest, *The Sun Also Rises* (1926)
 Lee, Harper, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960)
 Lewis, Sinclair, *Babbitt* (1922)
 _____, *Elmer Gantry* (1926)
 _____, *Mainstreet* (1920)
 Steinbeck, John, *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939)
 _____, *Of Mice and Men* (1937)
 Woody Guthrie, *Bound for Glory* (1943)
 F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (1925)
 Carson McCullers, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (1940)
 _____, *The Member of the Wedding* (1950)
 Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle* (1905)
 Lillian Hellman, *The Little Foxes* (1939)
 Eugene O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night* (1956)
 E.L. Doctorow, *Ragtime* (1974)
 Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (1943)
 Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (1949)
 Neil Simon, *Biloxi Blues* (1985)
 Bernard Malamud, *The Natural* (1952)
 Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947)
 Luis Valdez, *Zoot Suit* (1978)
 William Faulkner, *A Light in August* (1932)