

WE '02

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY  
WINTER EVENING SEMESTER, 2002  
HISTORY 403: AMERICAN DIPLOMACY  
KANEHOE MCBH**

Jim Cullen  
524-7721

ORGANIZATION: This course consists of 10 classes as outlined below. Classes will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 9:40 p.m. The format of the course is lecture but there will be film presentations and some class discussions.

TEXT: *The American Age*, Walter LaFeber

GRADES: Your grade for this course will be determined by your performance on the mid-term and final examinations and on your research paper. The mid-term and paper will account for 30% each and the final will count for 40%. However, your final exam will be given greater consideration should it demonstrate substantial improvement over your mid-term. Each exam will consist of essay questions that will require you to write a series of paragraphs composed of complete sentences. Please bring paper, preferably 8 1/2" x 11", to the exams. If you would like to have your final examination returned, please bring a self-addressed stamped envelope. Your grade for the course will be written on your final examination paper. This is the ONLY way to receive your grade from the instructor. No one will pass the course unless both examinations and the research paper are completed.

RESEARCH PAPER: The purpose of this assignment is to expand your horizons and allow you to pursue an area of particular interest and express your interpretation. You may select any topic within the scope of this course. It is preferred that you consult sources with conflicting interpretations. Review the conflicting views and discuss your findings. The grade for your paper will be determined as follows: 60% on "what" you say and 40% on "how" you say it. It should be a minimum of three (3) pages. The paper should be turned in on or before March 13.

ATTENDANCE: University regulations require that attendance be taken and that instances of two (2) consecutive unexcused/unreported absences be reported to the Dean. This policy will be followed. In addition, it is virtually impossible to be successful in this course without attending the classes.

PROCEDURES: Please ask questions at any time during the classes. The use of sound recorders is strongly discouraged as they will inhibit your academic development.

GENERAL OVERVIEW: This course is a study of America's international relations from 1776 to the present, including the influence of domestic affairs on diplomacy.

This course will focus not only on "what" happened but, more importantly, on "why" events unfolded as they did. However, the magnitude of the scope of the material of this course is so great as to require a case study approach. The goal will be to review these cases and relate them to some of the central themes of American history.

- Jan. 9: Course Introduction; The Early Years; The War of 1812
- Jan. 16: No class
- Jan. 23: The Landed Expansion of the U.S.; The Civil War
- Jan. 30: ~~Expansion in the Late 19th Century; World War I~~
- Feb. 6: Mid-term; Versailles
- Feb. 13: Oil Policy; The 1920's
- Feb. 20: World War II; The Origins of the Cold War
- Feb. 27: Korea; The Escalation of the Cold War
- Mar. 6: Vietnam to D'Etente
- Mar. 13: From Jimmy Carter to Saddam Hussein
- Mar. 20: Final

**The following are the criteria which will be employed when evaluating research papers:**

**Thesis:** The paper should present a clear thesis. After the opening paragraph there should be no doubt in the reader's mind of the direction of the paper.

**Historical Content:** This includes accuracy and the awareness of and reference to opposing viewpoints.

**Analysis:** The writer needs to display an understanding of "how" and "why" events occurred rather than merely listing them.

**Sources:** Appropriate sources should be used and cited when necessary. The "Internet" as a sole source is unacceptable at this time.

**Organization:** The ideas and topics should be clearly and logically arranged and effective transitions should be used between paragraphs.

**Grammar and Mechanics:** Sentences should be constructed with due regard for proper grammar. The paper should remove all doubt that it has been carefully proof read. **There is no such thing as a paragraph composed of less than three sentences in a scholarly paper.**