

University of Calgary
Winter 2016
History 361
The United States since 1877

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Office Hours: MWF 11-11:45pm, or by appointment

This course covers the main political, social, cultural, and economic trends that shaped the emergence of the modern United States since 1877. HTST 361 is the second in a two-part sequence of survey classes in U.S. history. Completion of the first part of the survey is not necessary to complete this course.

Course objectives:

- Introduce students to the major problems, themes, and interpretations of U.S. history since 1877
- Train students how to “think like a historian”
- Develop the student’s soft skills - research, writing, and analytical skills
- Encourage students to effectively communicate their understanding both verbally and in writing
- To continue the development of student’s facility with historical inquiry

Required Texts:

James Oakes et al, *Of the People: A History of the United States*. Second Edition.
Volume 2: Since 1865. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Grades:

30% Midterm Examination **In-class, Wednesday, February 24**

35% Written assignment (10-12 pages, 2,500-3,000 words) **Hard copy due by end of class March 23.**

35% Final Examination **Scheduled by the Registrar.**

Note:

- Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary’s Non-Academic Misconduct policy
- Late assignments will be penalized half a grade point (0.5 on a 4.0 scale) per day unless an extension is granted before the assignment due date.
- Extensions for term papers will normally not exceed one week and require that the student seek the instructor’s permission before an extension will be granted.

- Grades will be calculated according to the University of Calgary's Undergraduate Grading System. Grades and their descriptors are as follows:

A+	4.00	Outstanding
A	4.00	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.70	
B+	3.30	
B	3.00	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.70	
C+	2.30	
C	2.00	Satisfactory - basic understanding of the subject matter.
C-	1.70	
D+	1.30	
D	1.00	Minimal pass - marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	Fail

Class Schedule:

The following is a *tentative* schedule of lecture topics. Please note that some days have more suggested readings than others.

Week 1: January 11-15 Course introduction The End of the Civil War and Reconstruction, 1865-1871

Readings: Chapter 16

Week 2 January 18-22 Triumph and Challenges of Industrial Capitalism

Readings: Chapters 17-18

Week 3 January 25-29 Politics of the Gilded Age, 1870-1892

Readings: Chapter 19

Week 4 February 1-5 Empire and "A Splendid Little War," 1892-1900

Readings: Chapter 20

Week 5 February 8-12 The Progressive Era, 1900-1914

Readings: Chapter 21

February 14-21 Reading Days – No Classes

Week 6 February 22-26 "Over There:" The United States and the Great War

Readings: Chapter 22

Wednesday, February 24 – 30% Midterm Exam

Week 7 February 29-March 4 A Return to Normalcy: 1919-1929

Readings: Chapter 23

Week 8 March 7-11 The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1939.

Readings: Chapter 24

Week 9 March 14-18 The Second World War, 1939-1945

Readings: Chapter 25

Week 10 March 21-23 Cold War and the Culture of Conformity, 1946-1959

Readings: Chapters 26-27

March 23 – 35% Term Paper Due at end of class

March 25 – Good Friday, University Closed

Week 11 March 28-April 1 Liberalism Ascendant and the Collapse of the New Deal Consensus, 1961-1968

Readings: Chapter 28

Week 12 April 4-8 From “The State of the Union is not Good” to “Morning in America:” 1969-1989

Readings: Chapters 29-30

Week 13 April 11-13 The New World Order, 1991-2008

Readings: Chapter 31

April 13 – LAST DAY OF CLASS

Final Exam – SCHEDULED BY REGISTRAR (35%)

Classroom Policies:

Students are expected to arrive in class prepared to learn and discuss material when appropriate. If you have a question about lecture material, or simply need to have a point clarified, please do not hesitate to ask.

- Please **set all cell phones/wireless devices to manner mode** when attending lectures.
- Demonstrate respect for your colleagues’ learning environment by refraining from engaging in private conversations during lectures or using laptop/notebook computers for any other purpose than taking notes.
- If you must leave the class during the lecture for whatever reason, please do so quickly and quietly to minimize the distraction to other students.
- It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that they know the date, time and location of the Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Sometimes absences from class are unavoidable. If such an absence happens to fall on the date of a scheduled quiz or assignment **PLEASE NOTIFY ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE VIA EMAIL** to make alternate arrangements.

Written Assignment:

This class has a 2500-3000 word (10-12 pages not counting bibliography and endnotes/footnotes) written assignment on any subject covered by the time-period of this class. For most students, the assignment will assume the form of a traditional essay. In all cases topics for the paper must be approved by the instructor **before** the due date. This is done to help students identify an appropriate topic and also to identify useful materials.

Papers are expected to be typed and double-spaced using standard fonts and margins and should conform to the standards identified in the Department of History's Essay Writing Guide. The Essay Writing Guide can be purchased at the University of Calgary bookstore or a copy is available online at <http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook1.pdf>

The essay will be graded according to the following rubric:

Organization:

- Does the assignment clearly articulate a thesis or a problem to be solved?
- Are ideas in the assignment clearly expressed and organized efficiently?
- Does the argument flow logically and coherently from one part to another?

Presentation:

- Is information presented appropriately?
- Is the presentation clear and concise?
- Do written elements require additional editing?

Quality of Research:

- Were enough sources consulted for the assignment?
- Are the sources appropriate for the topic?
- Does the assignment adhere to proper citation methods (i.e. footnote/endnote conventions)?
- Does the assignment provide a bibliography?

Originality/Quality of analysis:

- Does the assignment present a standard interpretation/narrative or does it strive to go beyond the basic facts to assess and analyze the material under consideration?
- Generally speaking, the better the analysis, the better the assignment.

General comment on sources for written assignments: When students submit a written assignment that calls for the use of external materials, bear in mind that it is expected that **academic** sources will be consulted. These include scholarly journal articles, books, and sources – **not encyclopedias, survey textbooks, or notes from in-**

class lectures. As a 300-level history class students should also be aware that the expectation is that they will consult an appropriate number of sources. The minimum number of books I expect to see in your bibliography is 10; please note a general rule of thumb is that 3 journal articles count as 1 book.

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Need help coming up with a thesis statement? Confused about the proper way to use footnotes? Just want to ask someone about your written assignment for this or any other history class? The Department of History offers small-group and individual writing support for all students registered in a History class from some of our top graduate students. Check with your instructor for the scheduled weekly drop-in times, sign-up for one of the writing workshops, or arrange to meet with our writing tutors individually. More information about this program will be posted on the Department of History web site: hist.ucalgary.ca.

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more

information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Other Useful Information:

Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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