

University of Calgary
Fall 2018
History 458
The United States in War and Depression, 1893-1945

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The history of the United States from the dawn of the twentieth century through World War II, a turbulent period of wars and economic depression at the end of which the U.S. had emerged as a global superpower. Major themes include the rise of liberal reform; the experience of the U.S. in two world wars; the interplay of race, class, and gender in shaping American identity; and the economics of boom and bust culminating in the Great Depression and wartime boom of the 1940s.

Course objectives:

- Introduce students to the major problems, themes, and interpretations of U.S. history between the Gilded Age and World War II
- 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:

David Kennedy. *Freedom From Fear: The American People in Depression and War* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999)

Jackson Lears, *Rebirth of a Nation: The Making of Modern America, 1877-1920* (New York: Harper Perennial, 2009)

Grades:

10% Assignment proposal including proposed bibliography (Maximum 3 pages) **Friday, September 28**

30% Midterm Examination **In-class, Monday, October 15**

30% Written assignment **Due Monday, November 19.**

30% Final Examination **Scheduled by the Registrar.**

Note:

- 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 work will normally not exceed one week and require the instructor’s permission before an extension will be granted.

- Grades will be calculated according to the University of Calgary's Undergraduate Grading System.

Class Schedule:

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

Week 1: September 7 Course introduction

Readings:

Week 2 September 10-14 The Shadow of Appomattox: Politics of the Gilded Age, 1877-1892

Readings: Lears, 1

Week 3 September 17-21 Jim Crow and the Robber Barons: Race and Business

Readings: Lears, 2-4

Week 4 September 24-28 Empire and "A Splendid Little War"

Readings: Lears, 5-7

Week 5 October 1-5 TR and the Progressives

Readings: Lears, Conclusion. Daniel T. Rodgers, "In Search of Progressivism," *Reviews in American History* 10 (1983): 113-132. Available at <file:///F:/HTST%20458%20United%20States%201900-1945/Rodgers%20-%20In%20Search%20of%20Progressivism.pdf>

Monday October 8 – Thanksgiving – No Class

Week 6 October 10-12 The Election of 1912 and Wilson

Readings: Alexander Kraig, "The 1912 Election and the Rhetorical Foundations of the Liberal State," *Rhetoric and Public Affairs*, 3 (2000). 363-395. Available at <http://web.b.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=11&sid=285544bf-119b-41db-ae19-89de11c289e2%40sessionmgr104>

Monday, October 15 – 30% Midterm Exam

Week 7 October 15-19 From Neutrality to War: The First World War

Readings: H.W. Brands, "Woodrow Wilson and the Irony of Fate" *Diplomatic History* 28 (2004). 503-512. Available

at <http://web.b.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=8&sid=285544bf-119b-41db-ae19-89de11c289e2%40sessionmgr104>

Week 8 October 22-26 "100% Percent Americanism:" Nativism, the First Red Scare, and the Second Coming of the Klan

Readings: Mark Gruenter, "Red Scare Scholarship, Class Conflict, and the Case of the Anarchist Union of Russian Workers," *Journal for the Study of Radicalism* 12(2017) 53-82. Available

at <http://web.b.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=5&sid=9eb7ea59-988f-4cbe-a960-70dda9540663%40sessionmgr102>

Week 9 October 29-November 2 The Republican Ascendency and The Politics of “Normalcy:” in the 1920s

Readings: Kennedy, Prologue & Chapters 1-2

Week 10 November 5-9 The Great Depression and the Early New Deal, 1929-1935

Readings: Kennedy, Chapters 3-5

November 11-17 Reading Week – No Classes

Week 11 November 19-23 Second New Deal and the End of Reform, 1936-1938

Readings: Kennedy, Chapters 9-12

Week 12 November 26-30 The Arsenal of Democracy: The United States and World War II, 1939-1942

Readings: Kennedy, Chapters 13-15

Week 13 December 3-7 “The Good War?”

Readings: Kennedy, Chapters 16-17, 21-22 and Epilogue

December 7 – LAST DAY OF CLASS

Final Exam – SCHEDULED BY REGISTRAR (30%)

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 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.

The assignment 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.

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, 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 (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

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:

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 (TFDL). 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 course pack 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 (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name** and 4) **your student number**. 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

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), 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 (USRI):

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction 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.

Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Campus Resources for Mental Health:

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

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
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- 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>