

University of Calgary
Winter 2018
History 463:
The United States Since 1945

Dr. Chastko
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HTST 463 is a junior-level political, economic, and social history of the United States since the end of the Second World War.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, successful students will be expected to:

- Explain the key developments in United States history since 1945
- Critically read and assess primary and secondary literature and situate arguments within broader historical debates
- Debate historical problems by engaging with other students and scholarship
- Develop research, writing, and analytical skills through historical inquiry
- Communicate their ideas and understandings in written work and class discussion

Grades:

20% Term paper proposal and bibliography (around 2 pages) **Due September 27**

20% Participation in class discussions

20% 750 word (3-page) Book Review **Due November 1**

40% Term paper, 2500-3000 words (10-12 typed double spaced pages). **Due December 6.**

Required Texts:

Chafe, William H. *The Unfinished Journey America Since World War II*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Meacham, Jon, Timothy Naftali, Peter Baker & Jeffrey Engel, *Impeachment: An American History*. New York: Random House, 2018

Tyson, Timothy B. *The Blood of Emmett Till*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2017.

Note:

- All assignments should be submitted **electronically** via the Digital Drop Box on D2L in **Word** format or as a **PDF** file.
- Extensions for written assignments will normally not exceed one week and require that the student seek the instructor's permission before an extension will be granted.

Class Schedule:

The following is a **tentative** schedule of subjects covered by in-class lectures and students are responsible for ensuring that they are keeping up to date with their reading.

Week 1 (September 6) Introduction: The “Good War” and the Origins of the Cold War

Readings: Chafe, Introduction, Chapters 1-2.

Week 2 (September 9-13) “Man of the People” – Truman, the Fair Deal, and Post-War Liberalism

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 3

Week 3 (September 16-20) The Center Holds - Proxy War in Korea and the Return of the Republicans

Readings: Chapter 4

Week 4 (September 23-27) “A Cross of Iron” – The National Security State to the Space Race

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 5

Week 5 (September 30-October 4) Civil Rights **Class Discussion of *The Blood of Emmitt Till* – October 4**

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 6

Week 6 (October 7-11) “Getting America Moving Again” – JFK’s Thousand Days

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 7

Monday, October 14 – Thanksgiving – NO CLASS

Week 7 (October 16-18) The Apex of Post-War Liberalism – LBJ and the Great Society

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 8

Week 8 (October 21-25) Vietnam – At War at Home and Abroad

Readings: Chafe, Chapters 9-10;

Week 9 (October 28-November 1) The Center Breaks – Nixon and the Politics of Rage

Readings: Chafe, Chapters 11-13; Meacham, et al. Introduction and The Constitution

Week 10 (November 4-8) An Age of Limits – The 1970s and Post-Watergate America

Readings: Chafe, Chapters 14-15; Meacham, et al. Andrew Johnson and Richard Nixon

Reading Week – November 10-16 – No Classes

Week 11 (November 18-22) The Reagan Revolution and the End of the Cold War

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 16;

Week 12 (November 25-29) The Roaring '90s

Readings: Chafe, Chapter 17; Meacham et al. Clinton and Conclusion

Week 13 (December 2-6) Trial by Fire – The United States Since 9/11

Readings: Chafe, Chapters 18-Epilogue; Class discussion of **Impeachment – December 6**

Friday, December 6, Last day of Class

Written Assignments:

This class has a 10-12 page (including bibliography and endnotes/footnotes) essay assignment due on any subject covered by the time-period of this class and should include primary source material. Written assignments 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 the Department of History's Website (<http://hist.ucalgary.ca>).

Written assignments will be graded on the following criteria:

Organization: Are the ideas in the paper organized efficiently? Does the argument flow logically and coherently?

Writing style/Editing: How is the paper written? Are there any issues with passive voice, punctuation, tense agreements? Does the paper require any editing, or better word choices? Does each page have a number? This section will also evaluate adherence to footnote/endnote conventions as well as the structure of the bibliography and proper essay formatting.

Quality of Research: Evaluates both the quality of the sources consulted and their appropriateness for the subject as well as the extent to which those sources are used in writing the paper.

Originality/Quality of analysis: Does the paper present a standard interpretation/narrative or does it strive to go beyond the basic narrative to assess and analyze the material under consideration? Generally speaking, the better the analysis, the better the paper

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 encyclopedia, survey textbooks, or notes from in-class lectures.**

Classroom Policies:

Students are expected to arrive in class prepared to learn and discuss material when appropriate. **I encourage student questions!** 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/paging 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 exam or assignment **PLEASE NOTIFY ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE VIA EMAIL OR TELEPHONE** to make alternate arrangements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- **Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.**
- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or book an appointment with an ASC advisor at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>.
- For further information on academic advising and degree planning for arts students, see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees, and assistance with MyUofC, contact Enrolment Services in MacKimmie Library Block (MLB), call 403-210-ROCK (7625), or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.
- Registration changes and exemption requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

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.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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.

Writing:

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly referenced.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be dropped into 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. are date stamped 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 at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

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* <https://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history-students-handbook-2019.pdf>

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works
- Using 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 is reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar, Section K*. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Copyright:

Instructors in all University of Calgary courses strictly adhere to the Copyright Act regulations and educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. No copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, you may be required to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

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 contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) 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 contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Other Useful Information:

- Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health

- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Fall 2019