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History 110
Spring 2008
Class time: TR 2-2:50
Office hours: TR 11-1:00, 3-4

Twentieth-Century America
(<http://tinyurl.com/8egfh>)

This is the fundamental course in American history. It helps students appreciate their national heritage and provides the context to explore intelligently our collective, alternative futures. This course seeks to equip students with an understanding of basic social and political issues such as economic and environmental policy, civil rights and welfare programs, constitutional interpretations and foreign policy, as well as the evolution of competing perspectives--conservative, liberal and radical--on these questions. It provides an informational foundation for the social sciences, and employs their techniques to describe and interpret the past.

Required Readings

Murrin, et al. *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Compact 5th ed. (2008)
Hoffman and Gjerde, *Major Problems in American History*, 2d ed., vol. 2 (2007)

Optional (recommended): ALecture Outlines@ (available at <http://tinyurl.com/8egfh>)

Assignments: See syllabus for schedule of assignments

Discussion sections (40%): Your grade is determined by a combination of class discussion, quizzes and writing assignments

Mid-term exam (20%): Tests your knowledge of lecture material and readings.

Final examination (40%) Tests you on material covered since the mid-term.

Extra credit: I will announce extra credit opportunities *in class*.

Course Objectives:

To help students develop: (a) an understanding of the processes by which social experiences, cultural traditions, ideologies and politics interact in this nation; (b) an understanding of the political vocabularies that have been and are still employed by Americans in this century; and (c) an understanding of how race, ethnicity, gender and class define the variety of American experiences and perspectives.

Suggestions to help you in the course:

1. If you do not understand a course requirement or course material, please ask about it. I am here to help and welcome opportunities to answer your questions.
2. If you do not understand the grading of your assignments, please seek clarification at the earliest opportunity.
3. Remember that the prime concern of history is to analyze change over time. When, why, and how the changes occurred and the significance of the changes to American history are concerns at the center of each question you will be asked. Try to use this framework as you read the assigned material and review your notes. When exam time comes, you then will be thinking along the right lines.

Warning: I will not tolerate academic misconduct in this class. I will report suspected cases of misconduct. The Student Conduct Code sets forth penalties for academic misconduct (www.siu.edu/~docedit/policies/conduct.html). Possible sanctions include failure of an assignment, failure in a course, disciplinary probation, or suspension from the university. Don't risk it.

You must research and write your papers yourself. You may not have a friend write your paper. You may not hire someone to write your paper (this includes Internet paper mills, which I *can* and *do* check). You may not turn in a paper previously used in a different class.

Avoid **plagiarism**. Plagiarism consists of using someone else's ideas as your own without properly acknowledging them. Changing a few words is not enough; it is still plagiarism. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, consult your teaching assistant or instructor.

Note: The syllabus is a tentative schedule of lectures and discussions. It may be changed at the discretion of the instructor.

Week 1	Jan.	15:	Introduction: The American Century@
		17:	The Rise of Big Business I
Week 2		22:	The Rise of Big Business II
		24:	Consumer Culture
Week 3		29:	<u>Movie</u> : A Mr. Sears Catalog@
		31:	Progressivism: The Search for Order
Week 4	Feb.	5:	World War I: Civil Liberties
		7:	The Roaring Twenties@
Week 5		12:	The Roaring Twenties@
		14:	MID-TERM EXAM
Week 6		19:	Great Depression: The Hoover Years
		21:	The First New Deal
Week 7		26:	The Second New Deal
		28:	Business Success During the Great Depression
Week 8	Mar.	4:	The Road to War
		6:	<u>Movie</u> , <i>The Century: World War II</i>
		11:	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
		13:	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
Week 9		18:	A The Organization Man@ (1950s)
		20:	The Cold War
Week 10		25:	The Vietnam War
		27:	The Vietnam War: Legacy, Losses, Lessons Learned
Week 11	Apr.	1:	Civil Rights and Civil Disorder
		3:	Civil Rights and Civil Disorder
Week 12		8:	<u>Movie</u> : <i>Eyes on the Prize</i> : Urban Riots of 1967
		10:	Feminism
Week 13		15:	A Sexual Revolution@
		17:	<u>MOVIE</u> : A Sex in the Twentieth Century@
Week 14		22:	The Conservative Challenge, 1950-2000
		24:	<u>MOVIE</u> : "Google Boys"
Week 15		29:	America and Political Islam, 1973-2006
	May	1:	REVIEW
		5	FINAL EXAM 7:50-9:50 a.m.

Schedule of Reading Assignments

The required readings total approximately 650 pages (43 pages/week), but the reading load varies over the course of the semester. Make sure that you complete the assigned readings by the dates listed below. Note: See weekly practice exercises for the textbook at <http://www.siu.edu/~histsiu/faculty/bean.html>. These exercises will appear on your mid-term and final examinations.

Weekly reading loads are estimates. Use them to manage your time wisely. After reading the textbook chapters, take the practice exercises online. If you do well on the exercises and weekly quizzes, you should perform well on those sections of the midterm and final. Quizzes and exams also include questions drawn from lectures—material *not* covered in the textbook.

Week 1 (46 pages)	Murrin, chapter 19 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 3 documents
Week 2 (32 pages)	Murrin, chapter 20
Week 3 (45 pages)	Murrin, chapter 21 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 4, document 7; <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 5 documents
Week 4 (87 pages)	Murrin, chapters 23-24 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 6-7 documents
Week 5-- Week 6 (60 pages)	Murrin, chapter 25 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 8 documents <u>and</u> essays (Kennedy and Higgs)
Week 7 (12 pages)	<i>E-Reserve</i> : selections by Keynes, Moley, Hamilton Fish, and H.L. Mencken
Week 8 (47 pages)	Murrin, chapter 26 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 9 documents
Week 9 (88 pages)	Murrin, chapters 27-28 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 10-11 documents
Week 10 (49 pages)	Murrin, chapter 29 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 13-14 documents (skip documents 7-8 in chapter 14)
Week 11 (40 pages)	<i>Major Problems</i> chapter 12 documents <i>E-Reserve</i> : Bean, "Burn, Baby Burn: Small Business in the Urban Riots of the 1960s" (http://tinyurl.com/4aulm); selections from Bean, ed., <i>Race and Liberty</i> .
Week 12 (15 pages)	<i>Major Problems</i> chapter 12 <i>essays</i> (Garrow and Skrentny)
Week 13 (32 pages)	Murrin, chapter 30
Week 14 (44 pages)	Murrin, chapter 31 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 15 documents
Week 15 (47 pages)	Murrin, chapter 32 <i>Major Problems</i> chapter 15 <i>essays</i> (Bernard Lewis and Thomas Friedman)