

Syllabus for HIST 2112-B: History of the United States since 1877 (Spring 2021)

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Prerequisites: None. All students may take this course. It fulfills your mandatory Constitutional requirement and gives you 3 hours of Social Science credit.

Exams: THREE multiple-choice exams. Final exam is not cumulative. All exams will be open-book, open-note, open-electronic exams, which, on your Honor, you must take entirely on your own. For more on the exam process, see below.

Grade calculation: Average of the three exams. There will be an extra-credit opportunity.

Proctoring Exams: We will NOT be using any Proctoring programs, human or electronic.

Canvas: The course will be run through the Canvas learning platform. Most of the materials for our course will be found under “Modules.” These materials include the syllabus, the link to my “Media Gallery” lectures, documentary films, the course schedule (with reading assignments), and the textbook study guide.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will survey major themes in U.S. history since Reconstruction. Course material will include lectures, readings, and documentary films. Students must keep pace with assigned readings in order to benefit from class lectures. The course schedule, distributed separately, will list your reading assignments as they relate to the course and the Georgia Tech calendar.

COURSE GOALS:

Our three basic goals in the course will be: 1) to gain a better understanding of the American past and *how it continues to shape our lives*; 2) to sharpen our analytical skills through critical reading, critical listening, and objective testing; and 3) to learn how to *think historically* about the world and our place in it.

LECTURES ONLINE:

My videotaped lectures – including PowerPoint slides and documentary films – have been recorded by the Office of Professional Education. The videos will be available for downloading and viewing through Canvas>Modules>Media Gallery link, or through a direct click on the Canvas “Media Gallery.” If I speak too slowly for your taste, use the 2x feature to speed me up. Problems with video? Contact the Canvas helpline for students, and if they cannot help, email the GT Office of Professional Education: cdlops@pe.gatech.edu

THE EXAMS:

All exams will be open-book, open-note, open-electronic exams. Be prepared in advance. Be organized. Once you open your exam in Canvas, you will have 75 minutes to complete the exam.

You will not take the exam at a specific time on a specific day. Instead, I will give you a window of opportunity – five days – during which you may complete the exam through Canvas. Once you begin your exam, you will have 75 continuous minutes in which to complete the exam and click the “submit” button. For students working through ADAPTS, I will be in contact with you about your exam procedure after the first week of class.

The “Course Schedule,” a separate document in Canvas>Modules>Resources, gives the dates of the three exam windows.

All three exams will be multiple-choice exams, each consisting of 50 questions. Each will cover roughly one-third of the course material. Each will consist of two equal parts: Part I will cover textbook material; Part II will cover lecture material.

A study guide for the textbook material will be posted on Canvas>Modules>Resources. There will be no study guide for lecture material; just know everything. In your lecture videos, the PowerPoint slides are included.

COURSE GRADES:

A = 89 and above; B = 79 to 88.99; C = 69 to 78.99; D = 59 to 68.99; F = 0 to 58.99

These grade breaks are strict lines of demarcation. If keeping your scholarship requires that you make an “A” in the class, the time to worry about that is the beginning of the course, not the end.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty! An American History*, Volume 2, since 1865 (Sixth Seagull Edition, e-book). Link: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/givemeliberty6seagullv2>. It’s about \$30 for a 180-day “ownership.” Don’t buy the \$20 add on. If you prefer a hard copy, feel free to purchase one online.

HONOR CODE: Professor Flaming expects all students to abide by the Honor Code. The essence of the Honor Code is this: No student should take unfair advantage of another student. To specify beyond the basics, here are two specific codes for this course:

1. You must take the exams entirely on your own, with no help from anyone else.
2. During the exam window, you may not be in contact with other students in the course.