

HISTORY 102: U.S. HISTORY SINCE RECONSTRUCTION

Palomar College

Spring 2021

Online

Instructor: Dr. Catherine Christensen Gwin

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 11:00am-1:00pm/ Monday 5:00-6:00pm (Email to set zoom appointment.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to History 102, a survey course in the history of United States since Reconstruction. This class will examine the development of American society, culture, and politics between 1870 and 1990. We will explore how the dramatic transformations of those years shaped the world we live in today, specifically considering —the new industrial order, American imperialism and world wars, the expansion of the federal government, the upheavals in labor, morals, and civil rights activism, and more. We will also explore how such changes were felt differently among various groups of Americans, paying particular attention to how race, religion, class, ethnicity and gender structured one's opportunities and experiences of modern U.S. society.

Beyond our thematic focus, this course aims to cultivate historical thinking and analysis skills, such as:

- understanding context, multiple perspectives, and complex causation.
- reading and analyzing primary sources.
- evaluating diverse historical interpretations and arguments.
- expressing and supporting ideas in writing.
- writing an argumentative historical essay that synthesizes and integrates evidence from a variety of primary and secondary sources.

PALOMAR HISTORY 102 STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Accurately interpret American history through the use of primary and secondary sources.
- Identify, use, and cite reliable primary and secondary sources in American history.
- Demonstrate college level writing in assessing and interpreting American history.
- Demonstrate knowledge of nature and development of California's government and political system.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- *American Yawp* (On-Line History Textbook)
- Select readings on Canvas (All primary sources found here)

GRADING

Quizzes	100pts.
Readings Questions & Written Assignments	100pts.
Exams:	210pts
Extra Credit:	TBD

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course happens on Canvas. However, I still hope to create a “classroom” with an engaged and lively community of learners. As such, you still need to show up and participate, even if it’s on your own time and schedule. This means you must view lectures and complete assignments within the given time frame, respond to discussion posts when asked, and stay in good contact with me as the course progresses. Communication is vital to succeeding!

Drop Policy: If nothing is submitted within three weeks of the course (and I am unable to contact you) will be dropped from the course.

Modules: This course is structured with roughly 20 “modules,” or short units of study which typically include a lecture, readings, an assignment and quiz. Each week two modules will be available for you to complete. That means you can submit the work when you want, but it has to be done by the “due date” to avoid penalty. However, if “life” or extenuating circumstances are preventing you from completing assignments, contact me for an extension.

Reading: You will be using an online textbook, *The American Yawp*, for this class. Not only is this free, but the chapters are considerably shorter than a traditional text. Some weeks you will read two chapters, other weeks you will read four. You will also read excerpts from history monographs and academic journals. All readings have been posted onto Canvas, but you can also follow the *American Yawp* link to the live website. You can expect to do around 20-40 pages in reading a week. Readings should be completed before lecture. To make sure you understand the readings (or at least are trying to!), you will take a short quiz each topic on the chapter from your textbook readings. (This is instead of testing you on the information on an outrageously difficult midterm exam.) For more information, see “Quizzes” below. I also expect to see the excerpted articles and chapters in your exam responses. Even though some of those assignments do not have quizzes, the material is critical to doing well on the exams.

Written Assignments: You will complete a few written assignments that include primary analyses, response pieces, film reflections, discussion posts and other small tasks. You can drop or miss one of these assignments unless indicated as “required”. You must complete the “required” written assignments. (Although you can miss an assignment, you are still responsible for knowing

all course material for exams.) Two of the writing assignments will be worth 20/25 points and will take the place of writing a longer paper. You are welcome 😊

Lecture: All lectures are posted on weekly modules on Canvas. There are usually two lectures each week. (Yikes~That's a lot of listening to me!) These narrated power points are about an hour in length and the basis of information for both quizzes and exams. If you encounter any difficulties viewing the lectures, please contact me immediately.

Quizzes: Upon the completion of the lecture and reading, you will take a short (and pretty easy!) quiz. These quizzes are only worth 3-5 points, but this adds up and significantly improve/hurt your grade. You can retake the quiz three times if you do poorly and can drop or skip three quizzes over the semester. One exception to this format is the "California Politics Quiz." This is the only timed quiz without the opportunity to retake it.

Exams: There are three exams in this class. These tests include two parts: short answer response and two essay questions. Each covers about five weeks of class and they are not cumulative. The exams will assess material covered in class, and *no outside material will be allowed*.

Grading: Canvas will grade many of your assignments immediately. However, I'm not quite as fast and will grade written assignments within a week from submission.

Late Policy & Plagiarism: All assignments must be turned in on time, unless you've received an extension. Remember, plagiarism will not be tolerated. Before submitting any written assignments please make sure you understand Palomar College's Academic Honesty Policy. If you are not certain what plagiarism is, or need guidance about academic honesty, please visit the link on Canvas.

Extra Credit: You will have the opportunity to extra credit throughout the semester. For more information see Canvas.

Disclosure of Disability: If you have specific disabilities and require special accommodation, please let me know as soon as possible. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) will help provide appropriate support for course exams, assignments, etc.

If you have any trouble accessing lectures, quizzes, readings, assignments, films, etc., please notify me immediately.

Week 1: Introductions & Course Themes
February 1-February 7

“Course Introduction” Module

View Syllabus, Create a Profile, and View “How to Navigate H102 On-Line”

Module 1: What is Historical Thinking?

Lecture & Quiz: What is Historical Thinking?

Module 2: Reconstruction

Assignment: Reconstruction & Historians

Film: Clips from *Birth of a Nation* & Discussion Post

Week 2: American Expansion & Industrial Growth
February 8-February 14

Module 3: Railroads, Workers and Unions

Reading & Quiz: “Life in Industrial America” *American Yawp* Chapter 16

Assignment: View Analysis of William Graham Sumner on Social Darwinism

Module 4: Westward Expansion

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 17

Assignment: Excerpts from Turner’s Thesis; Richard White on “The Modern West” & Patricia Limerick’s *Legacy of Conquest* excerpt

Week 3: Race & Reform
February 15-February 21

Module 5: Populist Revolt

Reading & Quiz: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 16

Module 6: Jim Crow America

Assignment: Quiz on Excerpts *The Warmth of Other Suns*; “Work Songs, Negro Spirituals, And the Blues”; Excerpts from; Excerpts from *Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women’s Lives and Labors After the Civil War*; Discussion “*Black Culture, Black Consciousness*”

Film: Clips from *Thirteenth*

Week 4: Reform at Home & Abroad
February 22-February 28

Module 7: American Imperialism

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 19

Assignment: Read "Gendering Imperialism: Theodore Roosevelt's Quest for Manhood and Empire" by Gail Bederman

Critical Analysis #1 "Filipino's First Bath" Political Cartoon (Required)

Week 5: Progressivism and California Politics
March 1-March 7

Module 8: The Progressive Movement

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 20

Module 9: California Politics & Government

Quiz on California Government

Excerpts from *California Politics*

Week 6: World War I
March 8-March 14

Exam I

Module 10: World War I

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 21

Film: Clips from *All is Quiet on the Western Front*

Week 7: The Twenties
March 15-March 21

Module 11: The Turbulent & Roaring Twenties

Reading & Quiz: Chapter 22

Reading & Assignment: Excerpt "Coolidge & the Twenties"; *San Diego Union* 1923, "Crosses of Klan Blazes in City", "John Box on Mexican Immigration"; "The Governor of California Tells of the Japanese Problem"

Week 8: Race, Riots, Renaissance
March 22-March 28

Module 12: The Harlem Renaissance

Assignment: Claude McKay "If We Must Die," Langston Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"
Twenties Museum Activity Due (required)

Spring Break March 29-April 3

Week 9: The Great Depression & New Deal
April 5-April 11

Module 13: The Great Depression & New Deal

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 23

Reading & Assignments: Excerpts from *The Great Depression, America, 1921-1941*; "Assessing the New Deal"

Week 10: World War II
April 12-April 18

Module 14: World War II

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 24

Assignment: Excerpt, "Fog of War"; Letter from African American Soldier

Film: Clips from Zoot Suit Riot (Optional)

Week 11
April 19-April 25

Exam II Due

Week 12: Postwar America
April 26-May 2

Module 15: The Cold War & Red Scare

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 25

Critical Analysis #2 Posted

Module 16: Fifties Culture

Reading & Quiz: *American Yawp* Chapter 26

Assignment: The Goodwife Guide

Film: *Race: The Power of an Illusion*, "The House We live In" & Response

Week 13: Civil Rights
May 3-May 9

Module 17: Civil Rights and MLK

Reading & Quiz: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 26 & 27

Assignment: "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" & Questions
"March on Washington" clip

Module 18: An American Dilemma and Great Society

Reading & Quiz: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 27

Assignment: Black Panther Platform
Critical Response #2 Due

Week 14: Women, War & Protest
May 10-May 16

Module 19: Vietnam & The Counter Culture

Reading: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 28

Assignment: Letters from Vietnam

Module 20: Second Wave Feminism

Lecture Quiz

Assignment: Twitter response for *The Feminine Mystique*; NOW Statement of Purpose, Excerpts from Phyllis Schlafly

Week 15: Conservative Backlash
May 17-May 23

Module 21: Seventies Malaise

Reading: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 28

Assignment: Listen to Merle Haggard "Okie from Muskogee"; Jimmy Carter "Crises of Confidence"

Module 22: The Reagan Revolution

Reading: Excerpts *American Yawp* Chapter 29

Assignment: Jerry Falwell Calls America Back to the Bible, 1980; Milton Friedman on Capitalism

Week 16: Course Review & Final Exam
May 27: Final Exam Due