

History 102: U.S. History Since Reconstruction  
Class Number 50136  
Summer 2018  
Ramón Cornejo Veloso, Ph.D.

“I often think it odd that it should be so dull, for a great deal of it must be invented.”  
--Catherine Morland on History in Jane Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*, Chapter XIV

“A man may wear himself out just as fruitlessly in seeking to understand the past, if he is totally ignorant of the present...This *faculty of understanding the living* is, in very truth, the *master quality of the historian.*”  
--Marc Bloch, *The Historian’s Craft*

Instructor Information

- Ramón Cornejo Veloso, Ph.D.
- [rveloso@palomar.edu](mailto:rveloso@palomar.edu)
- Class Meetings: Tuesday/Thursdays 6:00-9:10pm
- Office Hours:
  - Tuesdays/Thursdays, 5:40-6:00pm in our classroom
  - If you cannot make it during these times, feel free to make an appointment for a time that will work for both of us.

Course Description

This course will survey some of the significant social, political, cultural, and economic issues and events of modern United States history from 1865 to approximately 1964 with focus given to the developments pertaining to class, race, and gender. The course is also an introduction to the study of history: the ways historians look at the past, construct and develop interpretations about the past, and think about how to marshal evidence in order to support these interpretations. Class discussions, exercises, and writing assignments are specifically designed to introduce students to the craft of history. I hope that as this semester progresses you will begin **thinking** like historians and **enjoy** being historians.

Student Learning Objectives & Assessment

- Accurately interpret American history through the use of primary and secondary sources
  - Assessed through class discussions, papers, and exams
- Accurately recall knowledge of major events and figures in American history since Reconstruction
  - Assessed through class discussions and exams
- Demonstrate college level writing in assessing and interpreting American history
  - Assessed through papers and exams
- Identify, use, and cite reliable primary and secondary sources in American history
  - Assessed through class discussions and papers
- Demonstrate knowledge of nature and development of California’s government and political system
  - Assessed through class discussions and exams

### Required Textbook

- Nancy Hewitt & Steven Lawson, *Exploring American Histories: A Brief Survey with Sources, Volume 2, Since 1865* (New York: Bedford St. Martin's Press, 2013).
  - You may purchase the bound, loose leaf, or digital versions of this text.
    - Bound Version ISBN: 9780312410018
    - Loose-Leaf Version ISBN: 9781457641961
    - Digital Version ISBN: Contact Palomar Bookstore
  - The text is available in the Palomar Bookstore San Marcos and Escondido campuses, Amazon.com, and on the website MacMillan Publishing.

### Class Policies

The assigned readings are indispensable for you to understand the course. You should be **active** rather than passive readers. Do not merely accept the claims of Hewitt, Lawson, myself, and your classmates; instead, interact with the readings by bringing something to the readings, such as questions to be answered, and tentative viewpoints to be confirmed, modified, or discarded. Class discussions will give you the opportunity to raise questions regarding the readings, discuss the readings with the class, and refine your points of view based on the discussions. It is **essential** that you read all the readings by the due dates assigned.

**Attendance** is mandatory in this class; you **must** attend the lectures in order to **pass** the course. You are allowed to miss **two** class meetings during the semester, and missing more than two meetings is grounds for failure in the course. Active **participation** in discussions and during lectures will benefit your overall course grade.

\*\*\*\*\***No late papers** will be accepted in this course. \*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*There will be **no makeup** for any of the exams. \*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*If you miss any exam, you will receive a zero for that exam. \*\*\*\*\*

There are four exceptions to the no makeup and no late paper policies:

1. If you are a Palomar student athlete, and you have a game scheduled on the due date of a paper, test, or exam.
2. If you are a member of a recognized Palomar College club or organization, and you are required to be absent on the due date of a paper, test, or exam.
3. If you are in the military, active duty or the reserves, and you have orders that require you to be absent on the due date of a paper, test, or exam.
4. If you are ill and your physician requires you to be absent on the due date of a paper, test, or exam.

If you fall under any of the above four categories, you are excused from the scheduled due dates for papers, exams, and tests if you provide written documentation from your head coach, club/organization's faculty moderator, commanding officer, or physician.

Students are responsible to avoid both dishonest practices and the appearance of dishonesty. Plagiarism and cheating are grounds for failure in the course. Students should make the necessary effort to ensure that other students do not use their work. For more information on what constitutes plagiarism, see the Palomar College Library's definition of *plagiarism* <http://www.palomar.edu/library/infocomp/handouts/plagiarism.pdf>, and watch the video titled "Lesson 1: Plagiarism" located on the top right of your monitor's screen at <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>.

### Taking Notes

All the Power Point slides are up on Canvas, so it is unnecessary to copy what is on the slides during the lecture; in fact, focusing on copying the information on the slides is probably counterproductive. Instead, **you should take notes on what I'm saying in class**, and use the

PowerPoint slides as mnemonic visual aids that will help you understand and remember what I'm asserting during the lecture. Check Canvas under the Note-Taking Module for other note-taking and study aides.

### Assignments & Exams

Remember to go to Canvas and read the prompts for each paper assignment and the directions for each exam. This is only a cursory summary of the paper assignments and exams, so be sure to read the paper prompts up on Canvas.

- Short Paper: This assignment will require you to do what professional academic historians do: assert, support, and develop an original interpretation based on a textual analysis of primary sources. This paper should be two to three double-spaced typed pages. See Canvas for the assignment prompt, and the Schedule of Assignments for the due date.
- Review Essay on Cold War Movie: This assignment will require you to analyze a movie produced during the Cold War and analyze it as a primary source; basically, the paper should address how the movie reveals Cold War culture. This paper should be two to three double-spaced typed pages. See Canvas for the assignment prompt, and the Schedule of Assignments for the due date.
- Midterm Exam: This will be a take-home essay, approximately two to three double-spaced typed pages in length. You will choose one of the essay questions from the list of Midterm Exam essay questions that are on Canvas. These essay questions will be accessible on Canvas on the very first day of class.
- Final: This will be divided into two sections—an open-notes in-class short answer section on the PBS documentary film *Freedom Riders*, and a take-home essay. The essay should be approximately two to three double-spaced typed pages. You will choose one of the essay questions from the list of essay questions for the Final Exam on Canvas. The Final Exam is not cumulative.
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignments: These are short reading and lecture comprehension questions on Canvas. These should take approximately ten to twenty minutes to complete.
- Canvas Primary Source Exercises: These are exercises on canvas to hone your causality and primary source analysis skills. Each should take about ten to twenty minutes.
- Participation: You are required to actively participate in class; this includes asking as well as answering questions. If you are shy, or just do not like speaking in class, you have another option. You may keep a short journal composed of five entries on five lecture topics that interest you. Each journal entry must be at least one paragraph long, and should address how the subject matter of a lecture, or a component topic of a lecture, is relevant to the contemporary United States. Each entry must be submitted to me seven days after I present the lecture to the class. The journal entries may be typed or handwritten, whichever works for you. See Canvas for more information on the journal option.
- Extra Credit for Midterm Exam: There will be one extra-credit opportunity that will replace the Midterm. This extra-credit will be a two to three page double-spaced essay. See Canvas for instructions on how to complete this extra-credit opportunity.
- Extra Credit for Papers: Each paper will have an extra-credit exercise that will raise each paper's grade by 2-10%. Each paper has its distinct exercise and the exercises cannot be interchanged. See the prompts on Canvas for directions. See the Schedule of Assignments below for the due dates.
- Extra Credit for Overall Course Grade: There will be a total of four extra-credit opportunities on Canvas that will be available for you to improve your overall course grade. See the Schedule of Assignments below for the extra-credit due dates.

## Grading

Below is the grade distribution for participation, exams, papers, and assignments. There will be a total of 100 points available, excluding the optional extra-credit opportunities. 90 points will earn an A, 80 points a B, 70 points a C, 60 points a D, and 59 points and below an F.

- Attendance, 5%, or 5 out of a 100 points (You are expected to attend all lectures, 3 absences are grounds for failure.)
- Participation, 10%, or 10 of a 100 points
- Take-Home Midterm Exam, 10%, or 10 of 100 points
- Final Exam, 10% (in-class portion 2%, take-home portion 8%), or 10 of a 100 points
- Paper 1, 2-3 pages, 15%, or 15 of a 100 points
- Paper 2, 2-3 pages, 15%, or 15 of a 100 points
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignments (4 total at 5% each), 20%, or 20 of a 100 points
- Canvas Primary Source Exercises (3 total at 5% each), 15%, or 15 of a 100 points

When course grades are assigned at the end of the semester, the grade point range above may be curved to **your advantage**. For example, the low end of an A grade may go down to 88 points, B grade to 78 points, etc. This all depends on the overall class average.

## Palomar College Services Offered to Students

- Writing Services, H-102, X2778
- Reading Services, H-114, X2568
- Tutoring/STAR Center, LL-105 (first floor of San Marcos Campus Library), X2448
- ESL, H-202L, X2273
- Other services linked on <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/studentresources/>

## Schedule of Assignments

The schedule below is subject to changes as the course progresses. If changes take place, assignments, readings, and lectures will be postponed to a later date. You will never be given more work than what is listed below, and you will never be told to submit any assignment, take any exam, or read any chapter earlier than the dates noted below.

### ***Nota Bene:***

The readings in the HCC Module in Canvas below, with the exceptions of the Veloso and Laws readings, are optional. These optional readings, however, will greatly aid you with regard to writing the assigned papers for this class as well as benefitting your writing in your other classes.

### Week 1

June 12

- Class Introduction
- Lecture: "Reconstruction"

June 14

- Reading
  - Ramon Veloso, "Historical Causality" in HCC Module in Canvas
- Lecture: "How the West Was Won: Westward Expansion & the Closing of the Frontier, 1865-1896"

### Week 2

June 19

- Reading
  - Richard Laws, "Analyzing Primary Sources" in HCC Module in Canvas
  - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American History*, Chapter 16

- Lecture: “The Gilded Age: American Industry & the Age of Organization”
- Week 3
- June 21
- Canvas Primary Source Exercise #1 Due
  - Reading
    - Elizabeth Losh, “Thesis Statements” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American History*, Chapter 17
  - Lecture: “Urban & Rural Workers in the Gilded Age: The Rise & Fall of Populism”
- June 26
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignment #1 Due
  - Reading
    - Elizabeth Losh, “Topic Sentences” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American History*, Chapter 18
  - Lecture: “The Age of Progressivism”
- June 28
- Canvas Primary Source Exercise # 2 Due
  - Reading
    - Patricia Hartz, “Paragraphing” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American History*, Chapter 19
  - Watch on your own time this short video on what constitutes plagiarism: “Lesson 1: Plagiarism” on <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>
  - Lecture: “United States Foreign Relations, 1898-1920”
- June 29 (Friday)
- Extra-Credit Opportunity #1 due in Canvas by 11.59pm
- Week 4
- July 3
- Take-Home Midterm Essay Due
    - See Canvas Module titled “Take-Home Exams”
  - Reading
    - Elizabeth Losh, “Integrating Quotes Logically” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 20
  - Watch on your own time this short video on instructions on how to avoid plagiarizing: “Lesson 2: Use Information” on <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>
  - Lecture: “A Return to Normalcy: Consumerism, Conservatism, & Pluralism”
- July 5
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignment #2 Due
  - Extra-Credit Exercise for Paper #1 Due
  - Reading
    - Eva Wessel, “Stylistically Integrating Quotes” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 21
  - Watch on your own this video on citing using MLA format style: “Lesson 3: Cite Right with MLA” on <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>
  - Lecture: “The New Deal & the Great Depression”
- July 6
- Extra-Credit Opportunity #2 due in Canvas by 11:59pm
- Week 5
- July 10
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignment #3 Due

- Reading
    - Ava Arndt, “What is Analysis?” in HCC Module in Canvas (Optional)
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 22
  - Lecture: “The New Deal & the Great Depression”
- July 12
- Paper #1 Due: Primary Source Analysis Essay to be submitted in class
    - Prior to submitting your papers be sure to watch these short videos on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid plagiarizing.
      - “Lesson 1: Plagiarism” on <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>
      - “Lesson 2: Use Information” on <http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dashboard/>
  - Reading
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 23
  - Lecture: “World War II: The Homefront”
- July 13 (Friday)
- Extra-Credit Opportunity #3 due in Canvas by 11:59pm
- Week 6
- July 17
- Canvas Primary Source Exercise #3 Due
  - Reading
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 24
  - Lecture: “World War II: A War without Mercy”
- July 19
- Reading
    - Hewitt & Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Chapter 26
  - Lecture: “The Origins of the Cold War Culture and Politics”
- Week 7
- July 24
- Canvas Reading-Lecture Assignment #4 Due
  - Lecture: “The Origins of the Cold War Culture and Politics”
- July 26
- Extra-Credit Exercise for Paper #2 Due
  - Lecture: “The Culture of Abundance”
- July 27 (Friday)
- Extra-Credit Opportunity #4 due in Canvas by 11:59pm
- Week 8
- July 31
- Paper Due: Cold War Era Movie Review Essay to be submitted in class
  - Lecture: “The Culture of Abundance”
  - In-Class Screening for Documentary Film: *The Freedom Riders*
- August 2
- Extra-Credit Essay Due
  - Final Exam
    - Take-Home Essay
    - In-Class Short Question Answer on documentary *The Freedom Riders*