

History 2020-014: US since 1877

Fall 2014, Tuesday/Thursday 11:20 AM-12:45 PM, Mitchell Hall 200

Professor:

Dr. Sarah Potter

Mitchell 111

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Office hours: Thursdays, 1:30-2:30, and by appointment

Graduate Assistants:

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Course Description:

This course introduces students to the major social, cultural, political, and economic changes in the United States since 1877. We will pay particular attention to the United States' growing power in world affairs, the emergence of the corporate consumer economy, the changing role of the state in society, and the shifting meanings of gender, race, and class. This course has two primary goals: 1) Students will be able to describe the key events and transformations in American life since 1877. They will be able to articulate the significance of the material we cover in class in relation to both the past and present. 2) Students will also gain practice and skill analyzing primary sources in this course.¹ Students will learn to think critically about primary sources in historical context, and will construct arguments and counterarguments using primary sources.

Books and Supplies:

You will need the following items, which you may purchase at the campus bookstore or elsewhere online. Just be sure you purchase the correct version, size, edition, etc.

REQUIRED "CLICKER":

20% of your grade is based on clicker participation. If you are uncomfortable with this technology, you should switch to a different section of this class. You may use a physical clicker or you may purchase an app for your smartphone, tablet, and/or laptop. Here are your options:

- If you have used a Turning Technologies brand clicker in a previous course, you may use it in this one. You will need to make sure that it is registered with eCourseware. We will go over this the first day of class.
- Turning Technologies Responseware: If you do not already have a clicker, but you own a smartphone, laptop, or tablet, I encourage you to use Responseware -- it is easier to use and cheaper to buy. You must first download the app for free from the appropriate app store for your device. Then you must purchase an activation code. Codes can be purchased at store.turningtechnologies.com (\$15 for a 12 month license). Our School Code is 9mem. (Activation codes might also be available for purchase at the campus bookstore.)
- Turning Technologies' RF-LCD Clicker: Purchase this clicker if you do not already have a Turning Technologies clicker or a smartphone, laptop, or other device you can use regularly in class. It is available at the campus bookstore or at store.turningtechnologies.com (\$32). Our School Code is 9mem.
- You should purchase and register your clicker/Responseware as soon as possible, as I will start counting your clicker participation on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. You will need to register

¹ "Primary sources" are documents produced during a particular time period and used for historical analysis. They are the evidence that historians use to understand, interpret, and construct arguments about the past. Primary sources can be political documents, government records, personal journals, photographs and films, and much more. "Secondary sources" are the books and articles written by scholars about the past. When you read a book about history, you are reading a secondary source.

your Clicker Device or Responseware ID on eCourseware. There is a link on your eCourseware homepage that says “Register your Turning Technologies device here.” Click this link, enter your Device ID, and submit it. See the clicker materials on eCourseware for more information about registering and using your clicker.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

- Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!: An American History* (4th Seagull edition), Volume 2 (Norton, 2013), ISBN: 978-0393920314

YOU WILL ALSO NEED:

- Three 8.5”x11” scantron cards (this is the big size – they are labeled #4521).
- A #2 pencil on quiz days.

I regularly post primary sources, handouts, and assignments on this class’s eCourseware website. These are required reading in this course and I expect you to print these documents and bring them to class on the dates noted in the syllabus.

In addition, before our Tuesday lecture each week I will post on eCourseware an outline of the coming week’s lecture. I encourage you to bring this outline to class to help you organize your notes.

Assignments and evaluation:

Five Homework Assignments: 30% of total grade, all weighted equally

You will have 5 graded homework assignments this semester. One will be an online quiz about plagiarism, and the rest will be writing assignments. The writing assignments are designed to provide you the skills and practice you need to write a good final paper in the course. We will go over the specifics of each homework assignment on the dates noted below on the course schedule. ***Your written assignments must be handed in as Word documents. Other formats will not be accepted and will be given a zero. These assignments are due at 11:20 AM on: September 5, September 16, October 7, October 23, and November 18. Late assignments will not be accepted and hard copies will not be accepted. If you fail to turn in your homework on time, you will receive a zero on the assignment.*** You know about these deadlines in advance, so plan accordingly and submit your assignments on time or suffer the consequences. I will only waive my “no late assignments policy” in extreme and documented circumstances, such as proof of hospitalization.

One 5-page paper: 25% of total grade

The final paper assignment will be announced in class nearly one month before the final paper is due, and homework assignment 5 will help you to write your final paper. The final paper will ask you to analyze primary sources in context. ***Your papers must be handed in as Word documents. Other formats will not be accepted and will be given a zero. Papers will be due to the online dropbox at 2:00 PM on Friday, December 5, 2014. Late papers will not be accepted; hard copies will not be accepted. If you fail to turn in your paper on time to the online dropbox on time, you will receive a zero.***

Three quizzes: 25% of total grade, all weighted equally

There will be three quizzes in this course. They will be comprised of a mixture of 30 T/F and multiple choice questions, which you will answer on a scantron sheet. These quizzes will assess your knowledge and comprehension of the material we are learning in this class, and you will do well on them if you keep up with ongoing assignments and activities. There will be ungraded study quizzes posted on eCourseware to give you practice with the kinds of multiple choice and T/F questions that will be on the quiz, and many of the questions will be drawn from the clicker questions posed during our class lectures. More information about these quizzes will be provided to help you prepare as each quiz approaches. ***The quizzes will be on September 25, October 30, and December 2 during our regularly scheduled class time.*** I will only offer make-up quizzes in extreme (and documented) circumstances. Mark these dates and times on your calendars now!

Clicker points: 20% of final grade

You are required to participate in this class by using a “clicker.” You will need to use your clicker every single day, so you must bring it to class. We will go over their use on the first day of class. I will ask all kinds of clicker questions during class: some will be straightforward multiple choice or true/false questions, some will have multiple correct answers, some will test your comprehension of the assigned readings by giving you only a short time to respond, and some will be used to prompt discussion. You will be awarded one point for every clicker question you answer incorrectly and two points for every question you answer correctly. Some questions will be designed to prompt discussion and do not have a correct answer; you will be awarded 2 points responding to those questions. You will need to pay attention and keep up with the work in the course to do well in this category. Your lowest five clicker scores will be dropped. In addition, I will add 20 points to everyone’s semester clicker scores to account for any problems you have with the clicker that causes you to miss a question or two in class (a question not loading, briefly losing your internet connection, etc.). I will start counting the clicker points immediately after the Registrar’s last date to add a course, so you should purchase a clicker immediately.

Extra credit: up to 5 points on a quiz, you may only earn this extra credit once

Occasionally during the semester (usually 2-3 times) I will announce lectures or events on campus that you may attend for up to 5 points of extra credit in the quiz category. To earn this extra credit you must attend the event and write 1-2 pages describing the event and how it relates to the material we are covering in this course. Your paper is due to the online dropbox within a week of the event and it will be graded for up to 5 points. Each student may only submit one extra credit assignment during the semester, so you should do your best work on the paper to maximize your attempt. Further, I cannot guarantee when these opportunities will be offered, so I recommend you complete this assignment early in the semester if you wish to take advantage of the extra credit points.

All grades will be posted on eCourseware as we go through the semester. It will take us around a week or so to grade each assignment. We will use the following grade scale to calculate your final letter grade in this course: A: 93-100%; A-: 90-92%; B+: 87-89%; B: 83-86%; B-: 80-82%; C+: 77-79%; C: 73-76%; C-: 70-72%; D+: 67-69%; D: 60-66%; F: 59% and below.

Contract:

We both have rights and responsibilities in this course.

By taking this class you agree to:

- Always be respectful to your colleagues and the instructors in all of our interactions. We are on this intellectual journey together, and we will treat each other fairly and kindly to make this a rewarding experience for everyone. We will penalize rude or disrespectful behavior in your grade and remove you from this class if necessary.
- Attend class regularly and on time, and stay in class once you arrive. You are responsible for making up any material you miss while absent. Please refer to the course website, and contact the instructor or your GA if you have questions about the material we covered in class.
- Stay on top of all deadlines, etc., for this course. It is your responsibility to register and bring your clicker to class, turn in assignments on time, bring the required reading and note-taking materials you need for class that day, and take the quizzes when they are given. This syllabus outlines the readings, assignments, and deadlines for the entire semester—you must use it. There are too many students in this course for us to provide individual reminders for each assignment.
- Use your laptops, tablets, and phones in this course responsibly. You are allowed to use these devices to take notes and as your “clicker” device, but we will ask you to leave the classroom for the day if we notice you engaging in other activities on your device, as it is distracting to other students. We reserve the right to answer and/or take any cell phone that rings during class. We will require you put away all devices during quizzes. If you have a learning disability or need

special accommodations for test taking or note taking, please talk to me.

- Check the course website and your University of Memphis email account regularly. Emails to the instructors should be from your University of Memphis account. They are professional correspondence, and should include a salutation (Dear or Hi Dr. Potter) and your reason for writing in complete, grammatically correct sentences. Emails should close with a “Thank you,” your name, and the number/name of this course.
- Adhere to the University of Memphis Code of Student Conduct regarding academic misconduct, which “defines academic misconduct as all acts of cheating, plagiarism, forgery and falsification.” For the details of this policy, please see the “University of Memphis Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities” online at <http://www.memphis.edu/studentconduct/pdfs/csrr.pdf>. For more information and for guidelines on how to appropriately cite materials written by other authors in your work, please see the History Department’s policy on academic misconduct (http://www.memphis.edu/history/misconduct_policy.htm) and the Department’s “Advice about plagiarism and using sources” (http://www.memphis.edu/history/misconduct_plagiarism.htm). You should also feel free to talk to us if you have questions about our policies and expectations for writing assignments, papers, or quizzes. If you commit academic dishonesty, we will report the infraction.

By teaching this class, we agree to:

- Do our very best to make this course worth the time and energy you put into it. We will be organized, provide clear instructions, and give the most interesting and thought-provoking lectures and discussions we can.
- Pose interesting and meaningful questions that will challenge you to think critically and creatively about the material we are learning and will teach you the skills of an historian.
- Respect your opinions and listen to your feedback.
- Be available to answer your questions, provide prompt and constructive feedback on your work, and address your concerns to the best of our ability. We want to help you succeed in this course, so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Disabilities: Any student who anticipates physical or academic barriers based on the impact of a disability is encouraged to speak with me privately. Students with disabilities should also contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS) at 110 Wilder Tower, 901-678-2880. DRS coordinates access and accommodations for students with disabilities.

University Statement on Turnitin.com: “Your written work may be submitted to Turnitin.com, or a similar electronic detection method, for an evaluation of the originality of your ideas and proper use and attribution of sources. As part of this process, you may be required to submit electronic as well as hard copies of your written work, or be given other instructions to follow. By taking this course, you agree that all assignments may undergo this review process and that the assignment may be included as a source document in Turnitin.com's restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. Any assignment not submitted according to the procedures given by the instructor may be penalized or may not be accepted at all.” (Office of Legal Counsel, October 17, 2005)

Struggling or confused? Here are ways to get help:

- **Contact your GA:** it’s their job to answer questions and to help you improve your work in this class.
- **The HERC – The History Educational Resource Center** is the department’s comprehensive undergraduate center offering academic advising, internship information, career counseling, and history writing tutoring. We are open in Mitchell 147 from 10-2 every weekday for tutoring, or if you are just looking for a quiet place to study. Please see our website for a list of our services and

to get information on what to bring if you would like to see our writing tutor:
<http://www.memphis.edu/history/herc/> We also offer information sessions on student opportunities and success. To keep up with our events, please check our website calendar and like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/memphisherc. If you have questions, please email Dr. Chrystal Goudsouzian at cdykes@memphis.edu

- **Tutoring@ESP** offers FREE support for History students. Students who talk about what is being learned in History are likely to earn better grades on quizzes and tests, and **Tutoring@ESP** offers environments conducive to studying staffed with knowledgeable tutors. We have three locations that cater to the needs of successful History students: (1) Mitchell 207 where focus is placed on reading comprehension, note taking, and test preparation; (2) Patterson 225 to work on any History writing assignment; and (3) Residence Halls to continue studying during evening hours in a convenient location. Visit www.memphis.edu/esp or call (901)-678-2704 for more information.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Below is the schedule of assignments for the course. These may change over the course of the semester, and the GAs and I might make substitutions or additions to this syllabus. We will announce all changes in class and post them on this class' eCourseware website.

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION , RECONSTRUCTION

Tuesday, Aug. 26: Introduction: What do historians do? (And what will we do in this class?)

Thursday, Aug. 28: Reconstruction, Discussion of clickers and note taking in class

- Required reading: "Note Taking Tips" handout, available under "Handouts" on eCourseware
- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 15
- Bring your clicker if you have it. You will be able to use it today, although you will not start earning points and it is not required until next week. But using it today will help you make sure that your clicker is working appropriately. You must have read the appropriate instructions for your clicker and set up your account before class.

WEEK 2: GILDED AGE AMERICA

Tuesday, Sept. 2: Lecture, How to Read in this Class

- Required reading: "Tips for Reading Primary and Secondary Sources" handout, available under "Handouts" on eCourseware
- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 16
- Bring clicker and the handout to class. Clicker points start counting as of today.

Thursday, Sept. 4: Discussion of plagiarism and Homework Assignment 1, Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading

- Required reading: Adams, "Resisting 'Civilization': Native American Opposition to the Federal Education Program" (Chapter 2 of *Private Lives/Public Moments*); Wavoka's "The Messiah Letter," (1896) (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!
- We will go over Homework Assignment 1 today.

WEEK 3: AMERICA IN THE 1890S

Tuesday, Sept. 9: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 17
- Bring clicker.
- **Homework Assignment 1 Due Today:** Take online quiz on plagiarism by 11:20 AM today.

Thursday, Sept. 11: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading, Discussion of Paragraph Writing and Homework Assignment 2

- Required reading: Hoganson, "American Manhood and Declaring War on Spain in 1898" (Chapter 3 of *Private Lives/Public Moments*); Speech by Rev. Charles Ames on the Anti-Imperialist movement (1898) (on eCourseware)
- Required reading: "Tips for Writing a Good Paragraph" handout, available under "Handouts" on eCourseware
- Bring clicker, handout, and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!
- We will go over Homework Assignment 2 today.

WEEK 4: PROGRESSIVE ERA

Tuesday, Sept. 16: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 18
- Bring clicker.
- **Homework Assignment 2 Due Today:** Writing assignment due today at 11:20 AM to the online dropbox.

Thursday, Sept. 18: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading, Discussion of Quiz 1

- Required Reading: Peiss, “Life and Leisure for Turn-of-the-Century New York City Immigrants” (Chapter 6 of *Private Lives/Public Moments*); Rose Gallup, *A Young Immigrant in New York City* (1918) (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!
- We will go over what to expect on Quiz 1 today.

WEEK 5: WORLD WAR I, QUIZ 1

Tuesday, Sept. 23: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 19
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Sept. 25: Lecture, Quiz 1

- Bring clicker.
- Bring large scantron sheet and a #2 pencil. You will not be able to refer to any notes, laptops, etc., when taking the quiz.

WEEK 6: THE 1920S AND THE START OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Tuesday, Sept. 30: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 20
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Oct. 2: Discussion of assigned reading, Discussion of Homework Assignment 3

- Required reading: “Don’ts and Be Carefuls,” Report of Sub-Committee on Eliminations, Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America (1927) (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!
- We will discuss Homework Assignment 3 today.
- We will also go over Quiz 1 today.

WEEK 7, THE NEW DEAL

Tuesday, Oct 7: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 21
- Bring clicker.
- **Homework Assignment 3 Due Today:** Writing assignment due today at 11:20 AM to the online dropbox.

Thursday, Oct. 9: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading

- Required reading: Letters from rural people during the Great Depression (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!

WEEK 8: FALL BREAK, WRITING A GOOD HISTORY ESSAY

Tuesday, Oct. 14: Fall Break

Thursday, Oct. 16: Writing a Good History Essay, Discussion of Homework Assignment 4

- Required Reading: “Writing a Good History Essay” handout, available under “Handouts” on eCourseware.
- Required Reading: All documents in the “Sources for Week 8” folder in eCourseware.
- If possible, bring a device on which you can review these sources to class – we will use them in class today.
- Bring clicker. Be prepared for clicker questions on the sources!
- We will go over Homework Assignment 4 today.

WEEK 9: WORLD WAR II

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 22
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Oct. 23: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading, Discussion of Quiz 2

- Required reading: Tuttle, “Children and Conflict on the Home Front during World War II” (Chapter 12 of *Private Lives/Public Moments*); Diary excerpt from Stanley Hayami (1942-44) (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!
- We will discuss how to prepare for Quiz 2 today.
- **Homework Assignment 4 Due Today:** Writing assignment due today at 11:20 AM to the online dropbox.

WEEK 10: THE COLD WAR, QUIZ 2

Tuesday, Oct. 28: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 23
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Oct. 30: Lecture, Quiz 2

- Bring clicker.
- Bring large scantron sheet and a #2 pencil. You will not be able to refer to any notes, laptops, etc., when taking the quiz.

WEEK 11: THE 1950s

Tuesday, Nov. 4: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 24
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Nov. 6: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading, Discussion of Homework Assignment 5 and Final Paper Assignment

- Required viewing: watch *Redbook*’s “In the Suburbs” 1957 marketing demo (link on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker. Be prepared for clicker questions on the video!
- We will go over Homework Assignment 5 and your final paper assignment today.
- We will also go over Quiz 2 today.

WEEK 12: THE 1960S

Tuesday, Nov. 11: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 25
- Bring clicker.

Thursday, Nov. 13: Lecture, Discussion of Assigned Reading

- Required reading: Excerpts from Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* (1963) and The Kerner Commission Report (1968) (links on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!

WEEK 13: THE NEW RIGHT

Tuesday, Nov. 18: Lecture

- Required reading: *Give Me Liberty!*, Chapter 26
- Bring clicker.
- **Homework Assignment 5 Due Today:** Writing assignment due today at 11:20 AM to the online dropbox.

Thursday, Nov. 20: Lecture, Discussion of assigned reading

- Required reading: Critchlow, "Against the Women's Movement: The Defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment and the Rise of the New Right" (Chapter 17 of *Private Lives/Public Moments*); primary sources on the ERA (on eCourseware)
- Bring clicker and the assigned reading. Be prepared for clicker questions on the reading!

WEEK 14: QUIZ AND PAPER HELP SESSION, THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, Nov. 25: Help session for Quiz 3 and final paper

- We will be available in MI 200 during our usual class time to help you prepare for quiz 3 and work on your final papers.

Thursday, Nov. 27: THANKSGIVING

WEEK 15: QUIZ 3

Tuesday, Dec. 2: Quiz 3

- Bring large scantron sheet and a #2 pencil. You will not be able to refer to any notes, laptops, etc., when taking the quiz.

Final Papers due Friday, December 5, 2014, at 2:00 PM. Your paper must be posted as Word documents to the online dropbox by 2:00 PM today. The dropbox will close promptly at 2:00 PM. No late papers will be accepted. No hard copies or other formats will be accepted.

Final papers will be graded and your scantron quizzes will be available for pick-up from 3-5:00 PM on Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, outside of Mitchell 111.