

Spring 2-1-2018

HSTA 104H.80: Honors American History II

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HSTA 104: Honors American History II

Professor Jeff Wiltse

Office: LA 251 / Email: jeffrey.wiltse@umontana.edu

Office hours: W: 1:00-1:50; F: 11:00-12:20

Course Description and Objectives

This course is an introductory survey of United States history from 1877 to the present. It will acquaint you with some of the people, events, technologies, ideas, and choices that have shaped modern American history. Several overarching themes will guide our study: social conflict, economic consolidation, expansion of government function, the growth of consumerism and mass culture, America's rise as a global power, and diminishing social inequality. This class will also expose you to the practice of historical interpretation. You will not just read what others have written about the past; you will examine historical documents for yourself and be expected to articulate your own interpretation of them. The primary learning objectives of this course are:

- Learn the broad outline of United States history from 1877 to the present, including the major social, political, cultural, economic, and foreign policy developments
- Develop an in-depth understanding of several key topics, including the experiences of industrial laborers, the Civil Rights Movement, the role of the U.S. in the world, and the struggle for women's rights
- Improve your analytical thinking skills and your ability to communicate ideas verbally and in writing
- Enable you to understand why things are the way they are today in the United States

Readings

Copies of the following books are available at the bookstore. They are required texts for the course.

Rebecca Edwards, et al., *America's History, Volume 2*, Value edition, 9th Edition

Thomas Bell, *Out of this Furnace: A Novel of Immigrant Labor in America*

John Lewis, *Walking with the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement*

You will also be reading documents for discussion sections that are accessible on the course Moodle page or on the Internet. They are marked with an "(x)" in the course schedule below.

Assignments and Grading

You are expected to read all course materials, attend all class meetings, actively participate in discussion sections, and complete all assignments. The writing assignments for this course are:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Exam 1: | In-class exam covering Unit 1 on Monday, February 26 |
| Paper 1: | <i>Out of This Furnace</i> Paper (Due Wednesday, March 14) |
| Exam 2: | In-class exam covering Unit 2 on Friday, March 23 |
| Paper 2: | <i>Walking with the Wind</i> Paper (Due Monday, April 23) |
| Exam 3: | In-class exam covering Unit 3 on Wednesday, May 9, @ 10:10 am |

Your final grade will be the weighted average of your individual grades for the term. Final letter grades are figured at 90%=A, 80%=B, 70%=C, 60%=D. The dividing line for +s and –s is _7% for + and _3% for -. Late papers will automatically be reduced one full letter grade and must be turned in within one week of the due date. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Exam 1	20 percent	
<i>Out of This Furnace</i> Paper	10 percent	
Exam 2	20 percent	
<i>Walking wit the Wind</i> Paper	10 percent	
Exam 3	20 percent	
Discussion Section	20 percent	(10 participation & 10 quizzes)

*Discussion section attendance is required. More than two unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for that part of the course. Discussion section quizzes may not be made up.

**Make-up exams will only be given in the cases of documented medical emergencies, documented family emergencies, and for participation in required UM activities.

Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. The work you submit in this course must be your own. When you draw from the words or thoughts of others, acknowledge it in the footnotes. Plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade for the course. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, ask Professor Wiltse or your teaching assistant before submitting any written work.

DSS Accommodation

If you have a documented learning disability, please contact me so we can ensure you have suitable accommodation.

Drop Deadlines

The last day to drop this course using Cyberbear is February 9. The last day to drop with instructor and advisor signature is April 2. A WP or WF will appear on your transcript for courses dropped after this date. May 4 is the last day to drop by petition.

Course Schedule

Unit One: Birth of Modern America, 1877-1917

Week 1 Discussion:	Introduction
Mon, Jan. 22:	Introduction
Wed, Jan. 24:	Making Sense of Industrialization

- Read: *America's History*, 443-449, 470-484.
- Fri, Jan. 26: The Consequences of Industrialization
Read: *America's History*, 488-497.
- Week 2 Discussion: Immigrant Stories
Read: Bell, *Out of This Furnace*, 3-117.
(x) Immigration Document
- Mon, Jan. 29: Mass Immigration
Read: *America's History*, 484-488.
- Wed, Jan. 31: Rise of Cities
Read: *America's History*, 525-541.
- Fri, Feb. 2: Three Dilemmas of the New South
Read: *America's History*, 424-442.
- Week 3 Discussion: Indian Affairs
Read: (x) Indian Affairs Documents
- Mon, Feb. 5: Westward Expansion
Read: *America's History*, 450-457.
- Wed, Feb. 7: Dawes Act and Indian Education
Read: *America's History*, 457-469.
- Fri, Feb. 9: "Coney Island"
Read: *America's History*, 498-524.
- Week 4 Discussion: *Out of This Furnace* I
Read: Bell, *Out of This Furnace*, 119-258.
- Mon, Feb. 12: Interpreting the "Gilded Age"
Read: *America's History*, 549-563.
- Wed, Feb. 14: American Imperialism
Read: *America's History*, 582-594.
- Fri, Feb. 16: Jane Addams, Jacob Riis, and the Origins of Progressivism
Read: *America's History*, 541-548.
- Week 5 Discussion: Capitalism vs. Socialism
Read: (x) Capitalism vs. Socialism Documents

- Mon, Feb. 19: No Class (Presidents Day)
- Wed, Feb. 21: The 1912 Election and National Progressivism
Read: *America's History*, 563-573.
- Fri, Feb. 23: Paradoxes of Progressivism
Read: *America's History*, 573-577.
- Week 6 Discussion: Progressive Foreign Policy
Read: (x) Progressive Foreign Policy Documents
- Mon, Feb. 26: Exam #1

Unit Two: America in Crisis, 1917-1945

- Wed, Feb. 28: World War I: Diplomatic and Military History
Read: *America's History*, 594-599, 603-609.
- Fri, Mar. 2: World War I: The Homefront
Read: *America's History*, 599-603.
- Week 7 Discussion: *Out of This Furnace* II
Read: Bell, *Out of This Furnace*, 259-413.
- Mon, Mar. 5: 1920s Political Conservatism
Read: *America's History*, 610-617.
- Wed, Mar. 7: *Babbitt* and the Advent of Consumer Culture
Read: *America's History*, 617-620.
- Fri, Mar. 9: Triumph of Nativism
Read: *America's History*, 620-627.
- Week 8 Discussion: No Discussion Sections
- Mon, Mar. 12: 1920s Modernism
Read: *America's History*, 627-630.
- Wed, Mar. 14: Hard Times ***Out of This Furnace* Exam Due**
Read: *America's History*, 630-641.
- Fri, Mar. 16: The New Deal
Read: *America's History*, 641-664.
- Week 9 Discussion: World War II Homefront

- Read: (x) WWII Homefront Documents
- Mon, Mar. 19: World War II: Diplomatic and Military History
Read: *America's History*, 665-672, 683-693.
- Wed, Mar. 21: World War II: The Homefront
Read: *America's History*, 672-683.
- Fri, Mar. 23: Midterm 2
- Week 10 Discussion: No Discussion Sections (Spring Break)
*Begin reading Lewis, *Walking with the Wind*.
- Mon, Mar. 26: No Class (Spring Break)
- Wed, Mar. 28: No Class (Spring Break)
- Fri, Mar. 30: No Class (Spring Break)

Unit Three: Modern America, 1945-present

- Week 11 Discussion: *Walking with the Wind I*
Read: Lewis, *Walking with the Wind*, xv-xvii, 3-172.
- Mon, Apr. 2: Early Cold War
Read: *America's History*, 694-727.
- Wed, Apr. 4: Postwar Culture
Read: *America's History*, 728-739.
- Fri, Apr. 6: Postwar Society
Read: *America's History*, 739-753.
- Week 12 Discussion: *Walking with the Wind II*
Read: Lewis, *Walking with the Wind*, 175-299.
- Mon, Apr. 9: Video: "Eyes on the Prize"
Read: *America's History*, 754-769.
- Wed, Apr. 11: The Long Civil Rights Movement
Read: *America's History*, 769-784.
- Fri, Apr. 13: The Great Society
Read: *America's History*, 785-792.

- Week 13 Discussion: *Walking with the Wind* III
Read: Lewis, *Walking with the Wind*, 300-422.
- Mon, Apr. 16: The Vietnam War
Read: *America's History*, 792-801, 805-808.
- Wed, Apr. 18: Youth Revolt of the 1960s
No reading
- Fri, Apr. 20: The 1970s
Read: *America's History*, 801-804, 808-836.
- Week 14 Discussion: Modern Feminism
Read: (x) Modern Feminism Documents
- Mon, Apr. 23: Ascendance of Modern Conservatism ***Walking with the Wind* Paper Due**
Read: *America's History*, 837-853.
- Wed, Apr. 25: Reagan Presidency
Read: *America's History*, 854-867.
- Fri, Apr. 27: American in the Post-Cold War World
Read: *America's History*, 868-880, 889-895.
- Week 15 Discussion: The Politics of Climate Change
Read: (x) Coral Davenport & Eric Lipton, "How GOP Leaders Came to View Climate Change as Fake Science," *New York Times*, June 3, 2017.
(x) John Abraham, "American Leaders Should Read Their Official Climate Science Report," *Guardian*, November 27, 2017.
- Mon, Apr. 30: Recent Social Trends
Read: *America's History*, 880-889.
- Wed, May 2: Contemporary America
Read: *America's History*, 895-903.
- Fri, May 4: Course Review
- Final Exam: Wednesday, May 9, 10:10-12:10