

History 2112
United States History Since 1865
Joe Anderson, Instructor

Section 03, 8:00-9:15, T-TH, TLC 1203
University of West Georgia
Fall, 2007

Course Description: This course is a broad survey of US history. Topics include politics, society, economy, technology, diplomacy, and warfare. Students will learn how Americans dealt with change in the period after the Civil War.

Purpose: There are three goals for this class. The first is for students to understand important people events, trends, ideas, and movements in the United States since 1865. The second goal is for students to recognize how these developments in American society relate to their lives today. The third goal is for students to improve their academic skills, particularly reading, writing, and listening. Students demonstrate their understanding through exams and occasional quizzes.

Instructor and Office Hours: Joe Anderson is the instructor for the course. Office hours will be held Mondays from 1-4 PM and Wednesdays 1-4 at 207 Pafford or by appointment at 3221 TLC.

Phone: 678-839-6043
Email: jlanders@westga.edu

Attendance: *Students who want to succeed come to class.* Class meetings will consist of lecture, discussion of reading materials, opportunity for questions, and exam review. The instructor does not provide copies of lecture notes to students who miss class. Students who need to miss an exam should contact the instructor in advance. A period for make-up exams will be scheduled during the week before finals.

Academic Courtesy: *Students expect respect from their instructor and fellow students during class meetings.* Students show respect by raising their hands to indicate that they have a question or comment, turning off cell phones during class meetings, refraining from conversation when another person is speaking, and paying attention during class. Please do not come to class to read the newspaper, use the internet, sleep, or to work on other assignments.

Students need to plan ahead to arrive on time, pay attention, and stay for the entire fifty minute period.

Academic Honesty: *Academic honesty is expected of all students.* Students who are caught cheating will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Most importantly, students should not hand in assignments that are plagiarized from historians or copied

from other students. Students should consult the University Honor Code for more information.

Required Reading: There are four books for this course.

- *Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People since 1863*, by John M. Murrin *et al.* concise 4th edition, volume II.
- Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*
- Russell Baker, *Growing Up*
- Alex Haley and Malcolm X, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.

Use the textbook as a reference and narrative. It covers far more information than we will be able to discuss in class meetings. It is valuable to check facts and gain context for each period or topic discussed in class. The other books, a novel and two memoirs, are used to provide students with a more in depth understanding than the textbook provides. There will be specific exam questions based on the required readings.

Grades and Examinations: There are three exams and a paper in the course.

Paper	100 points
Exam I	100 points
Exam II	100 points
<u>Exam III (final)</u>	<u>100 points</u>
Total	400 points

Exams and final course grades will be on a ten point scale: 100-90% A; 89-80% B, 79-70% C; 69-60 D; 59-0% F.

Each exam will include an essay and short answer section. The essay will cover a broad topic relating to the material covered between each exam. The short answer will cover one of the assigned books for each exam. Exams are worth 100 points. *Students will need to bring an unmarked bluebook to class to each exam.* Bluebooks are available at the University Book Store.

Students may take make-up examinations if they contact the instructor in advance of the test. However, all make-up examinations will be administered during the last week of classes before finals week at a time and place to be announced.

The paper will be a 1,000 word analysis of either *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair or *Growing Up* by Russell Baker. Students will relate the events, characters, and themes of the book to the historical material from the textbook and lectures. These reviews will be:

- double spaced
- 12 point font
- standard margins
- staple bound
- Papers must be free of typographical and grammatical errors.
- No cover sheets, please.

- *No electronic copies will be accepted—plan ahead to avoid last minute computer problems!*

Papers turned in after 8:00 AM on the due date will receive half credit; that is to say that a student who earned 80 points would receive a 40 point penalty.

Students will choose which book they want to review, but most note that there are different due dates for each book. Students who choose to write on *The Jungle* must turn their paper in no later than September 20, at 8 AM. Students who choose to write on *Growing Up* must turn in their paper no later than 8 AM, Thursday, October 18.

There may be unannounced quizzes. Quiz points will be considered extra credit.

Email communication: *Students and faculty must use University of West Georgia email accounts for all electronic communication (i.e., jstudent@westga.edu).* This is for the protection of students and faculty.

Email can enhance communication, but it is not a substitute for face-to-face communication. Plan a meeting with the instructor if you have concerns about any class-related issues.

WebCT: The instructor plans to utilize WebCT for posting a copy of the syllabus and student grades. It is not, however, set up as of the first day of class. The instructor will make an in-class announcement as soon as the account is established.

Class Schedule and Assignments

Week of August 13 Course Introduction: America in 1865

Week of August 20 Reconstruction
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, chapter 17

Week of August 27 Westward Expansion and Rural Rebellions
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 18, and pp. 497-502 in Chapter 19
Sinclair, *The Jungle*, Chapters 1-16

Week of September 3 Industrialization and Urbanization
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 19-20
Sinclair, *The Jungle*, Chapters 17-31

Week of September 10 America and the World
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 22
EXAM I, Thursday, September 13

Week of September 17 Progressive America
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 21
***The Jungle* PAPER DUE:** Students who wish to write on *The Jungle* must turn

in papers before **8:00 AM, Thursday, September 20.**

- Week of September 24 World War I
Liberty, Equality, Power, Chapter 23
- Week of October 1 The 1920s
Liberty, Equality, Power, Chapter 24
- Week of October 8 The Great Depression
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 25; Baker, *Growing Up*, Chapters 1-6
NO CLASS, October 11-Fall Break
- Week of October 15 The Great Depression
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 25; Baker, *Growing Up*, Chapters 7-18
***Growing Up* PAPER DUE:** Students who wish to write on *Growing Up* must turn in papers **before 8:00 AM, Thursday, October 18.**
- Week of October 22 World War II
EXAM II, Tuesday, October 23
- Week of October 29 World War II
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 26
- Week of November 5 Politics and Foreign Policy, 1945-1960
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 27; *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Chapters 1-10
- Week of November 12 The 1950s at Home
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 28; *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Chapters 11-14
- Week of November 19 JFK and LBJ: Domestic and Foreign Policy
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 28; *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Chapters 15-19
- Week of November 26 Nixon Years, 1968-1975
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapter 29
- Week of December 3 America since 1975 and Review
Reading: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Chapters 30-31
- Week of December 4
*****EXAM III (FINAL) Tuesday, December 11, 8-10 AM**