

FALL 2020

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1877

HIS 2020G

Dr. Camden Burd



Fall 2020

History 2020-001

Class Time: MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM

Class Location: Coleman 1255

Instructor: Dr. Camden Burd

Contact: crburd@eiu.edu

Office & Office Hours: Due to the nature of COVID-19 I will only be offering virtual office hours. I will have designated time on Mondays & Wednesdays from 12:00-2:00 pm, or Tuesdays from 11:00-12:00 pm. Please email me to establish a virtual meeting.

Email Response Policy: I will try to answer emails as quickly as possible. That being said, I cannot get to every message quickly. Therefore I will commit to responding to any email within 24 hours.

****The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus****

COVID- 19 Practices & Expectations on EIU's Campus

The University is asking all of us to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including wearing face coverings when we are in class together, walking around campus, in the library, or participating in office hours. EIU's policy is intended to protect all of us on campus, as well as the community, your roommates, and loved ones at home. Additionally, students are expected to not attend class if they are ill and to consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19 like symptoms. Needless to say, EIU's COVID-19 campus practices including face coverings, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing are based on the best available public health guidance. As a faculty member, I am responsible for ensuring students engage in practices that reduce risk. If you have a health condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, please contact Student Disability Services. If you are unable to follow EIU's COVID-19 guidelines, you may be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential. Students who experience any symptoms related COVID-19 or are asked to quarantine or self-isolate should not come to class. I will make proper accommodations to make sure those students receive material missed in class.

Course Overview

This course covers various topics of United States history from the era of Reconstruction through the modern day. We will read and discuss primary and second materials exploring the Reconstruction era, industrialization, progressivism, and the origins of our modern political landscape. In addition to a historical examination of key events and people, students will understand how Americans valued religion, family, gender, race, and the economy. Over the course of the semester we will explore several themes and questions. How did Americans experience industrialization? Whose voices were included? Who was left out? How did men and women navigate society? How was race conceptualized, legislated, and discriminated against? How did changes in finance, technology, and industrialization shape society, culture, and the natural environment? Primarily focusing on primary source material we will understand how historical actors experienced, shaped, and understood their contemporary world. The history of America is one of contested ideas, furious debate, as well as physical conflict. Students will walk away from this course with a historical understanding of many of today's political debates and the empathy to understand the competing visions for America's past, present, and future.

Required Texts

- [*The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook*](#) (free online)
- From time to time you will be asked to bring assigned primary sources to class. For this it may be best to print off the document so that you can write notes in the marginalia.

Course Objectives

- Explain historical significance of factual information
- Discuss historical and historiographical issues of interpretation
- Interpret and analyze primary and secondary sources
- Analyze origins and development of the United States history from the Reconstruction era to present day
- Develop transferable skills including critical thinking and visual literacy.

Assignments

Exams x3 (180 points): There will be three assessments over the course of the semester. These assessments will cover course content assigned in readings and discussed in class.

Film Response Papers x2 (140 points): Throughout the semester you will be asked to view and respond to two films that relate to class content. Your response essays will ask you to examine the source material, contextualize its contents in relation to the class, and reflect on its historical significance. Instructions for each Response will be posted in D2L.

Participation and Attendance (80 points): Because this class is a mixture of lecture, discussion, and in-class exercises, students must come ready to participate. Please come prepared to discuss assigned readings and share your insights, questions, and thoughts about them. Discussion is not optional in this course—it is required. You have important insights and opinions and the entire class benefits from hearing them.

Grading

- A = 400 – 360 points
- B = 359 – 320 points
- C = 319 – 280 points
- D = 279 – 240 points
- F = Below 240

Late Work and Missed Assignments

Late work will not be accepted. Due dates for writing responses, quizzes, and other assignments will be clearly marked in D2L and the syllabus. Exam dates and assignment deadlines are made clear at the beginning of the course which means there are few reasonable excuses for missing them. That being said, I want you to succeed in this course. If, for whatever reason, you miss an assignment or exam please reach out to me. Especially in the midst of COVID-19, I encourage you to practice safety and healthy choices rather than putting yourself and others at risk.

Technical Requirements and Skills

During this class you will be expected to use several digital and technical tools to access learning materials and complete assignments. You should feel comfortable in the following tasks:

- Using the learning management system
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats
- Copying and pasting

Technical Support

If you need assistance with D2L, call D2L Support toll free at 1-877-325-7778. Support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Email and Chat options are also available on the “My Home” page after logging into D2L. Other D2L resources including a D2L Orientation course for students are available in “My Home” page. If you are experiencing less than optimal D2L Brightspace performance, review the D2L Brightspace Performance Checklist to assess the issue.

For technical questions regarding other software, hardware, network issues, EIU NetID/password, or Panthermail, contact the ITS Helpdesk at 217-381-4357 during regular business hours or submit a help ticket at <https://techsupport.eiu.edu/>. If you have a question regarding course content, feel free to contact me.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU’s Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Academic Services Support

Booth Library offers a variety of access to resources including articles, encyclopedias, books, videos, and more. You can access those materials on their website or by using the “Booth Library Services” widget on the course homepage.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by McAfee Gym, Room 1210, email studentdisability@eiu.edu, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

Student Success Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call (217) 581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

Discussion Etiquette

Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is committed to open, frank, and insightful dialogue in all of its courses. Diversity has many manifestations, including diversity of thought, opinion, and values. We encourage all learners to be respectful of that diversity and to refrain from inappropriate commentary. Should such inappropriate comments occur, the instructor will intervene. In digital discussions such as D2L, faculty will request that inappropriate content be removed from the Course room and will recommend university disciplinary action. Learners as well as faculty should be guided by common sense and basic etiquette. The following are good guidelines to follow:

- Never post, transmit, promote, or distribute content that is known to be illegal.
- Never post harassing, threatening, or embarrassing comments. If you disagree with someone, respond to the subject, not the person. Conflicts of ideas are encouraged, while conflicts of feelings are discouraged.
- Never post content that is harmful, abusive; racially or culturally insensitive, or religiously offensive, vulgar; sexually explicit, or otherwise potentially offensive.

Course Schedule

August 24 – Introduction

August 26 – Presidential Reconstruction

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 15

Reading: “Freedmen discuss post-emancipation life with General Sherman, 1865.”

August 28 – Congressional Reconstruction

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 15

Reading: “Frederick Douglass on Remembering the Civil War, 1877.”

August 31 – Industrialization

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 16

Reading: “Andrew Carnegie’s Gospel of Wealth (June 1889).”

September 2 – The Transformation of the American West

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 17

Reading: “Chief Joseph on Indian Affairs (1877, 1879).”

September: 4 – Immigration and Urban America

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 18

Reading: “Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives (1890).”

September 7 – NO CLASS

September 9 – Labor in the Gilded Age

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 18

Reading: “Eugene Debs, “How I Became a Socialist” (April, 1902).”

September 11 – Wealth & Poverty

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 18

Reading: “Henry George, Progress and Poverty, Selections (1879).”

September 14 – The Environment in the Gilded Age

Reading: “John Muir, *Our National Parks* (1901).”

September 16 – The Agrarian Revolt

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 16

Reading: “The “Omaha Platform” of the People’s Party (1892).”

September 18 – The Rise of Jim Crow

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 18
Reading: “Ida B. Wells-Barnett, “Lynch Law in America” (1900).”

September 21 – American Empire

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 19
Reading: “William McKinley on American Expansionism (1903).”

September 23 – The Emergence of Progressivism

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 20
Reading: “Theodore Roosevelt on “The New Nationalism” (1910).”

September 25 – The Many Varieties of Progressivism

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 20
Reading: “Woodrow Wilson – The New Freedom: ‘What is liberty?’ (1912).”

September 28 – EXAM I

September 30 – America Goes to War

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 21
Reading: “Woodrow Wilson Requests War (April 2, 1917).”

October 2 – The War Comes Home

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 21
Reading: “Emma Goldman on Patriotism (July 9, 1917).”

October 5 – 1919

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 21
Reading: “W.E.B DuBois, “Returning Soldiers” (May, 1919).”

October 7 – The Roaring Twenties

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 22
Reading: “Hiram Evans on the “The Klan’s Fight for Americanism” (1926).”

October 9 – The Great Depression

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 23
Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=oNBHTM7hYCY&feature=emb_logo

October 12 – The First New Deal

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 23
Reading: “Huey P. Long, “Every Man a King” and “Share our Wealth” (1934).”

October 14 – The Second New Deal

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 23
Listen/Read: <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/april-28-1935-fireside-chat-7-works-relief-program-and-social>

October 16 – NO CLASS

October 19 – The Road to War

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 24

Listen/Read: <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/september-3-1939-fireside-chat-14-european-war>

DUE: FIRST FILM REVIEW

October 21 – Isolationism vs. Internationalism

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 24

Reading: “Charles A. Lindbergh, “America First” (1941).”

October 23 – The War Abroad and at Home

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 24

Reading: “Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga on Japanese Internment (1942/1994).”

October 26: The Cold War Abroad

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 25

Reading: “NSC-68 (1950).”

October 28 – The Cold War at Home

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 25

Reading: “Paul Robeson’s Appearance Before the House Un-American Activities Committee (1956)”

October 30 – EXAM II

November 2 – Affluent Society

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 26

Watch: <https://archive.org/details/IntheSub1957>

November 4 – Civil Rights Movement

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 26

Reading: “Fannie Lou Hamer: Testimony at the Democratic National Convention 1964.”

November 6 – Lyndon Johnson and the Great Society

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 27

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KuuEFTgodc8>

November 9 – The 1960s

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 27

Reading: “The Port Huron Statement (1962).”

November 11 – Conservatism in the 1960s

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 28

Reading: “Barry Goldwater, Republican Nomination Acceptance Speech (1964).”

November 13 – Vietnam

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 27

Reading: "Statement by John Kerry of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (1971)."

November 16 – The Seventies I

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 28

Reading: "Gloria Steinem on Equal Rights for Women (1970)."

November 18 – The Seventies II

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 28

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCOd-qWZB_g

November 20 – The Rise of the New Right

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 29

Reading: "First Inaugural Address of Ronald Reagan (1981)."

November 23 – NO CLASS

November 27 – NO CLASS

November 30 – The Reagan Years

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 29

Reading: "Statements from The Parents Music Resource Center (1985)."

December 2 – The 90's and the New Culture Wars

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 30

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2olwuAy3_og

DUE: SECOND FILM REVIEW

December 4 – A More Globalized World & Post-Industrial America

Reading: Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 30

Reading: "Bill Clinton on Free Trade and Financial Deregulation (1993-2000)

December 7 – September 11 and the War on Terrorism

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 30

Reading: "The 9/11 Commission Report, 'Reflecting On A Generational Challenge' (2004)."

December 9 – The Great Recession and the Obama Presidency

Reading: *The American Yawp*, Chapter 30

Reading: "Chelsea Manning Petitions for a Pardon (2013).

December 11 – Trump and the New(er) Right?

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xd3kr-QpeM>

December 16 – Final Exam DUE ONLINE BY 12:15PM