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# JINAN UNIVERSITY

## U.S. History: Since the Civil War

**Lecturer:** TBA

**Time:** Monday through Friday (June 17, 2019-July 19, 2019)

**Office hours:** 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

**Contact Hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)

**Credits:** 4

**Location:** Huiquan Building

**Office:** Huiquan Building 518

**E-mail:** TBA

### Course Description

This class traces the story of United States history from the post-Civil War era to the recent past. It probes political, diplomatic, economic, social, and cultural developments of the past century and a half. During this time American life was transformed from primarily agricultural to industrial to technological. In its investigation of the industrial and post-industrial eras, the course gives special attention to the assertion of American economic and military power abroad and the roles of immigrants, minority races, and women in the social transformations of the times.

### Required Text

Mary Beth Norton, *A People and a Nation: A History of the United States*, Volume II, Ninth Edition.

ISBN-10: 0495915904 | ISBN-13: 9780495915904

**Internet Resources:**

Additional supplementary readings, provided by the instructor or from the internet, will be assigned periodically over the course of the semester.

**Course Hours**

The course has 25 sessions in total; each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

**Grading Scale**

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90-100
Good	B	80-89
Satisfactory	C	70-79
Poor	D	60-69
Failed	E	Below 60

**Grading Policy**

**Exam 1**(June 24<sup>th</sup>).....33.3%

**Exam 2** (July 8<sup>th</sup>).....33.3%

**Exam 3/Final Exam** (July 19<sup>th</sup>).....33.3%

Attendance and class participation *can affect borderline grades*

Attendance is required

**Examinations**

Students are required to take **THREE EXAMS**. **The four exams each worth 33.3 points**, will be based on the material covered in the lectures and on **the content of the reading assignments**. Study questions for the examinations will be distributed in class prior to the exams. If you answer the study questions, you can use those answers to help you with the exams. Each test may involve a combination of multiple-choice, identifying, and essay questions. The final exam will cover only material from the

required chapters that were not included in the other tests. The course will enforce Jinan University standards of academic integrity. You may not carry I-Phones or other electronic devices at the time of the examination.

### **Participation**

Participation is essential to building fundamental understanding of the subject matter. All students are expected to contribute actively to class activities by coming to class prepared. Being prepared means the following:

- not assuming that participation simply means showing up for class
- be motivated and take responsibility for your own learning.
- thoroughly reading and studying all material before arriving to class
- paying careful attention to what classmates and teachers have to say
- taking notes during lectures, videos, and discussion
- actively contributing to class discussions
- being alert and paying attention throughout the entire period
- completing assignments on current topics

### **Out-of-Class Time:**

The general guideline for class preparation has typically been to spend at least two hours outside class preparing for every hour spent in class. Please know that everyone in this class might make an A. I'll be thrilled if that happens, and I will feel immensely successful. Usually, however, given the normal distribution of students, some care more than others and some work harder than others (some are characterized by both qualities). Those who care more and work hard usually get an A. That does not mean that you receive a grade based on your effort.

### **Attendance**

I expect you to attend class regularly and to realize that failure to do so can affect borderline grades. You are expected to be in the classroom ready to work at the appointed hour. Please do not come late to class: this interrupts work already in progress.

### **Extra-Credit Activities**

You may receive extra credit for statements of one or two pages about what you learned from approved lectures or films.

Jinan University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students' own academic work or that compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e. misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; sabotaging another's work within these general definitions, however, Instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.

### **Classroom Decorum**

**RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY**-It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, and that the diversity that students bring to a class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. Your suggestions about how to improve the effectiveness of this course are encouraged and appreciated.

**CELL PHONES**- Please turn off your cell phones or turn them to the silent mode. Do not answer a call during class, if an emergency arises please step outside. Do not text message during class. Also, iPhones are great, but keep turned off and in your bag until after class.

### **Miscellaneous Insights**

**To Read or not to Read: That is the Question!** This is essentially a lecture class. However, required readings are not optional. Lecture notes alone, won't suffice! Students who fail to do the required readings, by the assigned due date, will have great difficulty keep up with the class.

**Procrastination:** Postponing the readings to the night before a test makes it virtually impossible to put the ideas and events mentioned in the text into their proper historical context—this is largely the purpose of the lectures. While this course will not emphasize memorization of names and dates, some memorization is unavoidable, and it is easier to memorize one thing per day than fifty things in one night.

### **Problems:**

If you are feeling overwhelmed, find yourself falling behind, or are having any problems outside of class that are adversely affecting your performance in class, be sure to let me know. Do not wait until the end of this very short semester when it will be too late. I am more than willing to work with you to insure you do well in this class, but I need to know you are having difficulties. Come to see me, leave a message in my voice mail or send an email as soon as a problem arises and we can work

something out. If you are struggling academically, I will gladly give you extra help.

**“Face-to-Face” Interaction:** I strongly urge all of you to come to my office hours even on the flimsiest of pretexts. I don’t think I’m too intimidating and I honestly enjoy getting to know students.

**Special Circumstances:** If you have a specific physical or learning disability and require accommodations, please let the instructor know early in the semester so that your needs may be appropriately meet.

**Course Schedule**

Week	Topics	Readings
Week 1: 06/17/-06/21	Introduction to the Course <b>Reconstruction: An Unfinished Revolution, 1865–1877, Chapter 16</b> <b>The Transformation of the American West, Chapter 17</b>	<b>Norton:</b> Chapter 16, 17
Week 2: 06/24/06/28  <b>EXAM#1</b> <b>(June 24<sup>th</sup>)</b>	The Transformation of the American West <b>(Continuation)</b> <b>The Machine Age, 1877–1920, Chapter 18</b> <b>The Vitality and Turmoil of Urban Life, 1877– 1920, Chapter 19</b>	<b>Norton:</b> Chapter 17, 18 & 19
Week 3: 07/01-07/05	<b>Gilded Age Politics, 1877–1900, Chapter 20</b> <b>The Progressive Era, 1895–1920, Chapter 21</b> <b>The Quest for Empire, 1865–1914, Chapter 22</b>	<b>Norton:</b> Chapter 20, 21, 22
Week 4: 07/08-07/12  <b>EXAM #2</b> <b>(July 8<sup>th</sup>)</b>	The Quest for Empire, 1865–1914 <b>(Continuation)</b> <b>Americans in the Great War, 1914–1920, Chapter 23</b> <b>The New Era, 1920–1929, Chapter 24</b> <b>The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929– 1941, Chapter 25</b>	<b>Norton:</b> Chapter 22, 23, 24, 25
Week 5: 07/15-07/19  <b>FINAL</b> <b>EXAM</b> <b>(July 19<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>Peaceseekers and Warmakers: Americans in the World, 1920–1941, Chapter 26</b> <b>The Second World War at Home and Abroad, 1941–1945, Chapter 27</b> <b>The Cold War and American Globalism, 1945– 1961, Chapter 28</b> <b>The Tumultuous Sixties, 1960–1968, Chapter 29</b>	<b>Norton:</b> Chapter 26, 27, 28