Spring 2008

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The course is an introduction to United States history since the Civil War, 1865 to the present. Together we will look at the critical social forces and individuals responsible for creating our world of today. Primary topics include Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, the Progressive Era, Imperialism and the Spanish-American War, WWI, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, the New Deal, WWII, the Cold War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the 1960s, and the New World Order.

REQUIRED TEXTS: (The texts for this class can be found at the campus bookstore):
Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!* (Second Edition) This is the TEXT for the class
Kathy Peiss, *Cheap Amusements*
Paul Bass & Douglas Rae, *Murder in the Model City*
Students may also have to access online websites for further readings

ATTENDANCE:
Each student is permitted two absences free of charge; each unexcused absence thereafter will result in a 2 point reduction from the student’s final grade.

PLAGIARISM:
Mount Saint Mary adheres to a Zero Tolerance Policy regarding plagiarism. Plagiarism will result in an ‘F’ for the assignment, with possible further disciplinary action taken by the college administration. Plagiarism includes copying on a test, and will be treated accordingly. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please contact your professor.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Mount Saint Mary College conforms to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Your professor will make every effort to accommodate students with special needs that have been recognized by the Counseling Office.

COURSE STRUCTURE:
This course will utilize several strategies for learning, including lectures, quizzes, papers, class discussions, student presentations, and films.

STUDENT OUTCOMES:
Upon completion of this course, students will have a greater sense of the general trajectory of United States history, and be able to identify the major figures and forces that have shaped our society from the Civil War to the present.
COURSE EXPECTATIONS:
Take-home assignments should be typed, double-spaced, using 10-12 point font, and include a bibliography of all sources utilized (MLA or Chicago style OK; use either footnotes or endnotes).
Late assignments will be downgraded 5 points for each class period late.

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INFORMAL CLASS DISCUSSIONS:
Students will choose from a list of topics for this assignment. The assignment is simple, and is not graded. Students must download or copy an article on one topic, read it, bring it to class with their name on top, and hand it in at the end of class. This will facilitate informal class discussion. Failure to bring in the assignment will result in a student writing a 2 pp. essay on the topic, or accepting a 3 point reduction in their final grade. See list of topics at the end of the syllabus.

QUIZZES:
There are four quizzes in this course. Two will be on material already presented on Powerpoint; the other two will be on material from the text that has not yet been covered in class.

BOOK REPORTS:
There are two book reports in this course. The first will be on Cheap Amusements, the second on Murder in the Model City. The book reports should each be 3 pp. in length, typed double-spaced, using 10-12 point font. Your professor will hand out questions for these assignments.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:
Twice during the semester, students will present topics in group form to the class. The first topic is Early Labor Struggles. The second topic is Radicalism in the 1960-70s. Groups are encouraged to utilize Powerpoint, with images, maps, etc. Each group should hand out an outline to every student on their topic. At the bottom of the sheet, include a question and answer, which may appear on the Midterm or Final. In addition, each student will write, individually, a 2 pp. paper on their topic. The paper will be graded, but the presentation will not. However, failure to participate in a presentation will result in a 7 point reduction in a student’s final grade. Papers are due at the time of presentation. See the end of the syllabus for a list of topics, and group assignments.

CLASS SCHEDULE: (Reading for Cheap Amusements and Murder in the Model City is not reflected below. Students should budget adequate time accordingly)

Jan 23: Intro to the class and to each other; Expectations and Requirements

Jan 25: Reflecting back on the Civil War; Moving forward with Reconstruction

Reading: Begin Ch. 15

Jan 28: Reconstruction

Group Meetings: Meet with groups to plan First Group Presentations

Reading: Finish Ch. 15
Jan 30: The Wild West
   **Reading:** Ch. 16, pp. 602 - 614

Feb 1: The New South: Post-Reconstruction Southern Culture and Politics
   **Reading:** Ch. 16, pp. 646 - 653

Feb 4: Populism: The Revolt of the Farmer
   **Reading:** Ch. 17, pp. 637 - 645

Feb 6: The Gilded Age and the Triumph of the Machine
   **Film:** Begin *Expo: Magic of the White City*
   **Group Meetings:** Meet with groups to plan First Group Presentations
   **Reading:** Ch. 16, pp. 591 – 601

Feb 8: The Gilded Age
   **Film:** *Expo: Magic of the White City*

Feb 11: The Gilded Age
   **Film:** *Expo: Magic of the White City*

Feb 12: (Tue): First Informal Class Discussion: Captains of Industry or Robber Barons?
   **FIRST QUIZ:** On all previous Powerpoint lectures
   **Reading:** Ch. 16, pp. 615 - 633

Feb 13: **Group Presentations:** Knights of Labor / Molly Maguires / 1877 Great RR Strike / 1886 Haymarket Riot

Feb 15: **Group Presentations:** 1892 Homestead Strike / 1894 Pullman Strike / Western Federation of Miners / Industrial Workers of the World

Feb 18: The City and Mass Immigration
   **Reading:** Ch. 17, pp. 654 – 660

Feb 20: The 1898 Spanish-American War and American Imperialism
   **Film:** *The Spanish American War: Birth of a Superpower*
   **Reading:** Ch. 17, pp. 661 – 673

Feb 22: **Film:** *The Spanish-America War: Birth of a Superpower*

Feb 22: The Progressive Era, 1900 – WWI, part one
   **Reading:** Ch. 18, pp. 674 - 699

Feb 25: The Progressive Era, 1900 – WWI, part two
   **Class Discussion of Cheap Amusements**
   **FIRST BOOK REPORT DUE**
   **SECOND QUIZ:** Text - From p. 724 (‘America and the Great War’) through p. 735
   **Reading:** Ch. 18, pp. 700 - 718

Feb 27: World War I
   **Reading:** Ch. 19, pp. 716 - 738

Mar 3: Postwar America: The Red Scare; Female Suffrage
   **Reading:** Ch. 19, pp. 739 - 748
Mar 5: Postwar America: The Red Summer of 1919, and postwar race riots
  **Film:** Begin *Rosewood*
  **Reading:** Ch. 19, pp. 749 - 761

Mar 7: **Film:** *Rosewood*

Mar 10: **Film:** *Rosewood*

Mar 12: Review for Midterm

Mar 14: **MIDTERM**

**MAR 17/19/21/24: NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK**

Mar 26: Prohibition and the Roaring Twenties
  **Reading:** Ch. 20, pp. 762 - 777

Mar 28: 1920s and the Harlem Renaissance
  **Reading:** Ch. 20, pp. 778 - 789

Mar 31: **Film:** *Against the Odds: The Artists of the Harlem Renaissance*

Apr 2: Great Depression
  **Reading:** Ch. 20, pp. 790 - 799

Apr 4: FDR and a New Deal for America
  **Reading:** Ch. 21, entire

Apr 7: **Second Informal Class Discussion:** The Road to War: WWII and global power
  **Group Meetings:** Meet with groups to plan Second Group Presentations

Apr 9: World War II, part one
  **QUIZ #3:** On all Powerpoint lectures from Midterm through FDR/New Deal lecture
  **Reading:** Ch. 22, entire

Apr 11: World War II, part two
  **Reading:** Ch. 23, pp. 886 - 923

Apr 14: 1950s Postwar America: Domestic Bliss / International Turmoil?
  **Group Meetings:** Meet with groups to plan Second Group Presentations
  **Reading:** Ch. 24, pp. 924 - 940

Apr 16: Korean War
  **Film:** *Korean War*
  **Reading:** Ch. 24, pp. 941 - 966

Apr 18: **Film:** *Korean War*
  **QUIZ #4:** Text – From p. 987 (‘America and Vietnam’) to p. 995 (stop at ‘The New Movements…’)
  **Reading:** Ch. 25, pp. 967 - 1007

Apr 21 Vietnam War and LBJ’s Great Society
  **Reading:** Ch. 26, pp. 1008 - 1021
Apr 23: **Group Presentations**: Free Speech Movement / Students for a Democratic Society / Black Panthers / Young Lords

Apr 25: **Group Presentations**: Brown Berets / American Indian Movement / Kent State & Jackson State
The Weathermen

Apr 28 **Film**: *Chicago 1968*

Apr 30 The End of Liberalism and The New World Order
*Class Discussion* of *Murder in the Model City*

**SECOND BOOK REPORT DUE**

**Reading**: Ch. 26, pp. 1029 – 1066

May 2: Review

May 5: Final Exam

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**Topics for First Group Presentations (Early Labor Struggles):**

- **Knights of Labor**: Catherine Aguirre / Milton Baker / Stephanie Brockway / Allison Caine
- **Molly Maguires**: Mark Cardinale / Brian Carr / Michael Catalo / Michael Conklin
- **1877 Great RR Strike**: Dana Conroy / Gregory Diamond / Michael Dubaldi / Joed Esperance
- **1886 Haymarket Riot**: Christopher Gage / Jacqueline Governale / Jacqulyn Hobbs
- **1892 Homestead Strike**: Jennifer Houman / Danielle Kehoe / Jillian Kunz / Robert Monte
- **1894 Pullman Strike** (Amer. RR Union): Joseph Mugnal / Sarah Nicolato / Matthew Paci / Christopher Repetti
- **Western Federation of Miners (WFM)**: Claudia Simicic / Anthony Spano / Jessica Spinelli
- **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)**: Virginia Steiner / Maureen Stevens / Teresa Wisniewski

**Topics for Second Group Presentations (Radicalism in the 1960-70s):**

- **Free Speech Movement**: Catherine Aguirre / Milton Baker / Stephanie Brockway / Allison Caine
- **Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)**: Mark Cardinale / Brian Carr / Michael Catalo / Michael Conklin
- **Black Panthers**: Dana Conroy / Gregory Diamond / Michael Dubaldi / Joed Esperance
- **Young Lords**: Christopher Gage / Jacqueline Governale / Jacqulyn Hobbs / Sierra Hotaling
- **Brown Berets**: Jennifer Houman / Danielle Kehoe / Jillian Kunz / Robert Monte
- **American Indian Movement**: Joseph Mugnal / Sarah Nicolato / Matthew Paci / Christopher Repetti
- **Kent State shooting/Jackson State shooting**: Claudia Simicic / Anthony Spano / Jessica Spinelli
- **Weathermen**: Virginia Steiner / Maureen Stevens / Teresa Wisniewski
1st Informal Class Discussion topics:

19th Century Industrialists: Captains of Industry or Robber Barons?
Andrew Carnegie (Steel)
John D. Rockefeller (Oil)
Jay Cooke (Finance)
J.P. Morgan (Finance)
Henry Flagler (RR/Oil/Hotels)
Leland Stanford (RR)
Cornelius Vanderbilt (RR/Shipping)
James Hill (RR)

2nd Informal Class Discussion topics:

The Road to War: World War II and global power (What was the motivation for going to war?)
Germany
Italy
Japan
United States
France
Britain
USSR