**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**
This 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, the end of liberalism, 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: Short Introduction to the course and to each other; Expectations and Requirements

Jan 28: Reconstruction: Rebuilding the Nation in the post-Civil War era

   **Reading:** Ch. 15

Jan 30: The Wild West and the Closing of the Frontier

   **Group Meetings:** Meet in groups to prepare for first Group Presentations

   **Reading:** Ch. 16, pp. 602 - 614
Feb 4:  Gilded Age American and the triumph of the machine  
Reading: Ch. 16, pp. 591 - 601; pp. 615 - 633

Feb 6:  The Farmer Revolt: Populism  
QUIZ #1: On all previous Powerpoint lectures  
Reading: Ch. 17, pp. 637 - 645

Feb 11:  1st Informal Class Discussion: 19th Century Industrialists: Captains of Industry or Robber Barons?  
Group Meetings: Meet in groups to prepare for first Group Presentations

Feb 12:  1st Group Presentations: Knights of Labor / Molly Maguires / 1877 RR Strike / 1886 Haymarket Riot / 1892 Homestead Strike

Feb 13: (Tue)  The New South: Post-Reconstruction Southern culture and politics  
1st Group Presentations (cont): 1894 Pullman RR Strike / Western Federation of Miners / Industrial Workers of the World  
Reading: Ch. 17, pp. 646 - 653

Feb 18:  The City and Mass Immigration  
QUIZ #2: On Progressive Era, Ch. 18, pp. 676 – 685 (stop at ‘The Working Woman’)  
Reading: Ch. 17, pp. 654 – 660; Ch. 18, pp. 674 – 685 (stop at ‘The Working Woman’)

Feb 20:  The Progressive Era: 1900 – WWI  
Reading: Ch. 18, pp. 674 - 715

Feb 25:  American Imperialism and the 1898 Spanish American War  
Reading: Ch. 17, pp. 661 - 673

Feb 27:  Film: The Spanish American War

Mar 3:  Film: The Spanish American War, cont

Mar 5:  World War I  
FIRST BOOK REPORT DUE  
Reading: Ch. 19, pp. 716 - 738

Mar 10:  Postwar America: Red Scares and the Red Summer  
Reading: Ch. 19, pp. 739 - 761

Mar 12:  MIDTERM

Mar 17/19/24:  SPRING BREAK

Mar 26:  The Roaring Twenties  
Reading: Ch. 20, pp. 762 - 777

Mar 31:  Film: The Harlem Renaissance  
Reading: Ch. 20, pp. 778 - 789

Apr 2:  The Great Depression  
Group Meetings: Meet in groups to prepare for second Group Presentations  
Reading: Ch. 20, pp. 790 - 799
Apr 7:  FDR’s New Deal for America  
   **Reading:** Ch. 21, pp. 800 - 841

Apr 9:  **2nd Informal Class Discussion:** The Road To War  
   **QUIZ #3:** On all Powerpoint lectures following midterm  
   **Group Meetings:** Meet in groups to prepare for second Group Presentations  
   **Reading:** Ch. 22, pp. 842 - 878

Apr 14:  **World War II & Korean War**  
   **Reading:** Ch. 22, pp. 887 – 885

Apr 16:  **Film:** *Cold War Begins*  
   **Reading:** Ch. 23, pp. 886 - 923

Apr 21:  **Vietnam War:**  
   **Reading:** Ch. 23, pp. 924 - 966

Apr 23:  **2nd Group Presentations:** Free Speech Movement / SDS / Black Panthers / Young Lords / Brown Berets  
   **QUIZ #4:** On Ch. 25, pp. 979 (start at ‘Voting Rights Act’) – 985 (stop at ‘Vietnam and the New Left’)  
   **Reading:** Ch. 25, pp. 967 - 995

Apr 28:  **LBJ’s Great Society and the unraveling of Liberalism**  
   **SECOND BOOK REPORT DUE**  
   **Reading:** Ch. 25, pp. 996 - 1007

Apr 30:  **Film:** Chicago 1968  
   **Reading:** Ch. 26, pp. 1008 - 1021

May 5:  **FINAL EXAM** (non-cumulative)

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

- **Knights of Labor:** Jennifer Archer / Frances Buckley / Kristen Calli / Melissa Cassas
- **Molly Maguires:** Nicholas Cerda / Sung Hee Choe / Daniel Costello / Kristina DeCarlo
- **1877 Great RR Strike:** Vincent Doran / Marlaina Frank / Laura Galante / Kelly Gianchinta
- **1886 Haymarket Riot:** Daniela Giacomarra / Dennis Harding / Laura Hooghuis / Kaitlyn Iaquinta
- **1892 Homestead Strike:** Andrew Irwin / Naomi Lima / Charles Magos / Kelly McDonald
- **1894 Pullman Strike (Amer. RR Union):** Samantha McMahon / Julie Ann Montserrato / Jillian Ochner
- **Western Federation of Miners (WFM):** Kaitlyn Sassone / Richard Scalzo / Michele Song
- **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW):** Melissa Tiburcio / Kenia Velazquez / Kristina Walker
Topics for Second Group Presentations (Radicalism in the 1960-70s):

Free Speech Movement: Jennifer Archer / Frances Buckley / Kristen Calli / Melissa Cassas
Students for a Democratic Society (SDS): Nicholas Cerda / Sung Hee Choe / Daniel Costello / Kristina DeCarlo
Black Panthers: Vincent Doran / Marlaina Frank / Laura Galante / Kelly Gianchinta
Young Lords: Daniela Giacomarra / Dennis Harding / Laura Hooghuis / Kaitlyn Iaquinta
Brown Berets: Andrew Irwin / Naomi Lima / Charles Magos / Kelly McDonald
American Indian Movement: Samantha McMahon / Julie Ann Montserrat / Jillian Ochner / Kristy Rant
Kent State shooting/Jackson State shooting: Kaitlyn Sassone / Richard Scalzo / Michele Song
Weathermen: Melissa Tiburcio / Kenia Velazquez / Kristina Walker

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

Dr. Glenn Reynolds

US HIS II

BOOK REPORT

Drawing upon Kathy Peiss’s *Cheap Amusements*, write a three page essay (typed, double-spaced, using 10-12 point font) answering the following questions:

What new forms of recreation appeared around 1900, and how did they alter working women’s behavior? Were these amusements liberating or confining? What new ‘dangers’ lurked in these new spaces of sociability?