

Three Rivers Community College
US History II CRN 11644
K202 G01
Wed: 6:30 – 9:15

Chuck Marcotte, Instructor
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Syllabus: Spring 2011

Required Texts:

Brands et al. American Stories: A Brief History of the United States Volume 2.
Garraty, John. Ed. Historical Viewpoints. 9th ed. Volume 2 since 1865.
Sinclair, Upton. The Jungle

In addition to the above texts a series of primary and secondary source handouts, assignments, sample papers and guidelines, will be provided on my **Blackboard** site.

Course Description: US History II traces developments in American history from 1865 to the present focusing on political, economic, social, and cultural developments.

Course Objectives: Lectures, selected readings (primary and secondary source) and assignments are designed to: provide the student with an understanding and appreciation of American History as well as enable the student to think critically and analytically in determining cause and effect relationships of historical movements.

Attendance: Lectures in this course complement and supplement the assigned readings they do not repeat them. As a consequence your attendance is, in this course, a requirement. Each class represents a full week of academic instruction. More than two missed classes will result in a reduced grade (one-full letter grade for each additional class). Chronic lateness will be treated as an additional absence. You must sign the attendance sheet prior to each class. See me about any anticipated unavoidable absence well before the date in question.

Assignments/Exams:

- An **analytical book review** (including a **5-10 minute** presentation in class).
- Five critiques** (about **one [+] page[s]** in length) on the articles assigned from the book *Historical Viewpoints*, from handouts that I give in class, or from articles of your own choosing that pertain to the topic.
- A series of **quizzes** on readings from the text. You will take these quizzes at the beginning of class. Quizzes should last no longer than 15 minutes.
- Test** on the book *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair.
- A **mid-term** and **final exam**.

In order to be successful in this class, you must read the assigned material carefully and participate regularly in class discussions. If classroom discussion is unusually weak or lacking, additional quizzes will take its place. The purpose of a quiz is to test that which would normally

be determined through vigorous class discussion; therefore, when discussion is weak or limited to only a few students, a quiz will surely follow.

Grading Policy: The five critiques, quizzes, the book review, and the test on The Jungle will represent 50% of the final grade. The mid-term and final exams will account for the remaining 50%.

Further Notes

- ❑ Quizzes and critiques missed due to absence or lateness cannot be made-up.
- ❑ Unless there are extenuating circumstances; absence from the mid-term exam must be made up prior to the next class. Absence from the final exam must be made up by May 16th. It will be your responsibility to make arrangements with me to make up exams.
- ❑ Late papers (i.e. book reviews, major essays, etc.) will lose one letter grade per day....**There will be no exceptions.** If you know you are going to be absent from class on the date a paper is due either turn in the paper a week before or e-mail me the paper as an attached file before the start of class on the due date.
- ❑ Each of the assigned papers must be typed. Papers must use 10 to 12 point Times New Roman font (or a similar type font). **MLA format** will be followed for headings, headers, in-text citations and works cited pages (when applicable)
- ❑ Cell phones and beepers are NOT to be used in class.
- ❑ Check your e-mail, topic outlines and articles may be sent as attached files in order to reduce paper use.

Please be advised that the instructor reserves the right to change or modify the syllabus.

College Withdrawal Policy:

Students may withdraw, in writing at the Registrar's Office, for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. From the end of the 11th week through the end of the 13th week, a student may withdraw with the signature of the instructor or advisor.

Disabilities Statement:

If you have a hidden or visible disability, which may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please be sure to notify Chris Scarborough, who is coordinating services to students with disabilities. Since Chris is available at TRCC only on Mondays, Tuesdays, and every other Friday, he should be contacted by phone at (860) 892-5751, or, if you prefer, by e-mail at CScarborough@trcc.commnet.edu

Assignments:

To supplement and complement the following reading assignments you will receive additional handouts dealing with the topics listed below. These handouts will include both primary and secondary sources.

Date	Assignment
January 26	Topics: Course overview, Reconstruction and Government to 1877 Readings: Brands: Chapter 16
February 9	Topic: Big Business and Organized Labor Readings: Brands: Chapter 18 Garraty "The Making of Men..."
February 16	Topic: Emergence of Urban America Readings: Brands: Chapter 19 and 22 Garraty "The Age of Bosses" and "Butte, America"
February 23	Topics: Politics of the Late 19 th Century and the Agrarian Revolt Quiz (Chapter 20) Critique 1 due Readings: Brands: Chapter 20 Garraty: "A Road They Did Not Know" and "Reluctant Conquerors"
March 2	Topics: The Progressive Era; Critique 2 due Readings: Brands: Chapter 23 Garraty "Jane Addams..." "Learning to Go to the Movies" and "Reforming College Football"
March 09	Mid-term Exam (Take home Jungle Test)
March 16	No Class Spring Break
March 23	Topics: An Emerging World Power Critique 3 due; Quiz (Chapter 21) (Jungle take home due) Readings: Brands: Chapter 21 Garraty "Our War with Spain..."
March 30	Topics: America and the Great War Quiz (Chapter 24) Readings: Brands: Chapter 24
April 6	Topics: Modern Times: The 1920s Quiz (Chapter 25) Readings: Brands: Chapters 25

Garraty "The Automobile"

- April 13 Topics: The Great Depression **Critique 4 due; Quiz (Chapter 26)**
Readings: Brands: Chapter 26
 Garraty "The Big Picture..." "The Case of the Chambermaid..." and "FDR..."
- April 20 Topics: World War II **Critique 5 due; Quiz (Chapter 27)**
Readings: Brands: 27
 Garraty "Pearl Harbor..." "The Holocaust" "Internment of the Japanese" and "Why
 We Had To Drop the Bomb"
- April 27 **Book Review Due** presentations and discussion
- May 04 Topics: Cold War America 1945-1960
Readings: Brands: Chapter 31 and 33
- May 11 **Final Exam**