AMERICAN HISTORY FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO THE PRESENT

Texts:
- Mary Beth Norton, et al., A PEOPLE AND A NATION (3d ed., vol 2)
- Norman K. Risjord, INSIGHTS ON AMERICAN HISTORY (vol 2)
- Upton Sinclair, THE JUNGLE
- John Steinbeck, GRAPES OF WRATH
- THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X

Examinations and Assignments:

We have scheduled two examinations during the course; each will be in a format of essay and short "identify and give the significance of" questions. There will be a required mid-term (scheduled for October 24th) and a final examination (scheduled by the College for December 16th at 7:25 P.M.)--rooms to be announced.

In addition to examinations, there will be one required writing assignment. This will be a short (3-5 double-spaced, typewritten pages) essay review (format to be given in discussion sections) of a book mutually agreed upon by the student and the Teaching Assistant. The writing assignment will be due no later than December 10. We will grant no exceptions to the due date.

All reading assignments will be given in discussion sections. Students should begin their reading with Chapter 15 on "Reconstruction" in the textbook.

Viewing, Discussing and Grading:

Students who miss viewing or taping a lecture, or who do not regularly have access to cable television may view lectures at one of the following locations/times: Room 254 Van Hise Hall, 4:30-5:30 M,W (room seats 40-50 students); individual viewing, Learning Support Services Lab, Room 274 Van Hise Hall, 8:30 A.M.-8:00 P.M., Mon. through Thurs.; 8:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M., Fri.; or Room 225 Helen C. White Library, 8:30 A.M.-11:45 P.M. Sat. through Thursday, 8:30 A.M.-9:45 P.M. on Fridays.
Students will attend one required discussion section (50 minutes) per week. A Teaching Assistant will lead the discussion sections which normally will focus on the reading assignments for the course and questions arising from lectures.

Grades will depend on performance on the examinations, the essay review, and attendance at and participation in the discussion sections. Steady improvement over the semester will find its reward in the final grade. We will evaluate your work on its blend of necessary factual information and thoughtful analyses of the major issues.

COURSE OUTLINE AND LECTURE TOPICS

LECTURE TOPICS

I. THE RECONSTRUCTION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1865–1920s

Reconstructing the Nation
The "New South"? Promises and Propaganda
Which "Old West" and Whose?
The Gilded Age
Businessmen and "That Creature" the Corporation
Labor and the Workers' Search for Power
Foreign Immigrants in Industrial America
The Great Migration: Blacks in White America
How 'Ya' Gonna' Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?: Populism
The Dawn of Liberalism: Progressivism
The Policeman of the World
The Morality of Power
Women, Feminism, and Sex in Progressive America
The Politics of Prosperity: the 1920s
The Politics of Frustration: the 1920s

** MID-TERM EXAMINATION **

OCT. 24th

II. THE REORDERING OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, 1930s–PRESENT

Crashing Hopes: The Great Depression
Liberalism at High Noon: The New Deal
The New Deal Becomes a Different Game
"Dr. New Deal" Becomes "Dr. Win-the-War"
From New Deal to Fair Deal: New Game?
The Coils of Cold War
The Affluent Society: the 1950s
The Politics of Tranquility
The Thousand Days of Knight's: The Kennedy Years
Civil Rights in an Uncivil Society
The Almost "Great Society": The Johnson Years
The Asian Connection: The Road to Vietnam
The Twilight of Liberalism: The Nixon Years
America Sinking Through a Watergate
Lost in America: The Reagan Years