

SYLLABUS FOR HISTORY 2223: AMERICAN HISTORY II

I. Preliminary Information

Instructor: Office:

Division:

Office Hours:

II. Required Text

The text for this course is Boyer, *The Enduring Vision* (volume 2, 8th edition). Read the next two sentences very carefully: (1) *The text is the key to success in this course.* (2) *You are responsible for mastering the text.* Proceed accordingly.

III. General Education Course Objectives

This course will help you to: (1) participate knowledgeably in the affairs of the world around you by drawing upon understanding shaped through reading, writing, and thinking about the past; (2) read and think critically and write and speak clearly and persuasively; (3) demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to human values in your own and other cultural traditions; (4) see yourself and your society from different perspectives at different times; (5) respect scientific and technological developments and recognize their impact on humankind; and (6) understand the connection between the past, present, and future--between history, contemporary events, and imminent developments. In particular you will gain from this course a better understanding of the people, ideas, and events of what is often called the "American Century," the period when the United States evolved from a relatively simple agrarian society into an enormously sophisticated industrial society with worldwide influence.

IV. Course Outline

Reading assignments. Dates and assignments are subject to change. Attend class regularly to receive current information.

February 5. Test ONE. Chapters 18, 19, 20.

Themes: These chapters encompass the Victorian Era following the Civil War. During this dynamic period the Industrial Revolution and unprecedented immigration from Europe and Asia

transformed the United States from a bucolic backwater to an urbanized economic giant. We shall examine the problems and opportunities experienced by Americans during this turbulent period of modernization.

March 5. Test TWO. Chapters 21, 22, 23.

Themes: These chapters present the story of the rise of the United States to enormous wealth and world power in the early twentieth century. We shall examine the incomplete reforms of the Progressive Era, the American role in World War I, the emergence of Communism, and the excitement and turmoil of the Roaring Twenties.

April 9. Test THREE. Chapters 24, 25, 26.

Themes: These chapters explore the impact of the Great Depression and the New Deal, the hard-fought triumph over the Axis Powers in World War II, and the origins of the Cold War with the Soviet Union. We shall examine the stresses engendered by a series of domestic and international challenges and how meeting those challenges laid the groundwork for the evolution of a military, economic, and cultural colossus.

May X. (Exam Week). Test FOUR. Chapters 27, 28, 29 (and maybe 30).

Themes: The final chapters deal with the prosperity of the Fabulous Fifties, the challenges of the Cold War, and the advent of the Liberal Era. We shall examine the Civil Rights movement, the trauma of the Vietnam War, dramatic economic and demographic changes at home, and the impact of the Space Race and other technological advances on everyday life.

V. Grading Policy

Attendance: Attendance is not required but is highly recommended. If you choose to attend class, be punctual. The instructor may refuse to admit students who are excessively tardy and disruptive.

Behavior: *You are expected to behave at all times in a decorous manner appropriate to a college classroom.* Disorderly conduct will adversely affect your grade and/or result in your expulsion from the classroom. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized use of electronic

devices; inattentiveness; rude, disrespectful, and disruptive activities; and the like. The instructor will provide additional information about decorum as the course progresses.

Grades: 100-91% is an A, 90%-81% is a B, 80%-71% is a C, 70%-61% is a D, and 60% or less is an F. Your final grade is based primarily on your four test scores, though behavior may be a factor as noted in the preceding paragraph. The four tests are of similar format and equal weight. There is no comprehensive "final exam." Tests are based on the text, classroom activities, and all other material assigned or presented to you. The instructor will provide additional information about the tests as the course progresses.

Makeups: You are permitted *one* makeup test. If you miss one of the first three tests you must take a makeup test or receive a zero for the missed test. If you miss a second or third test you will receive a zero for each missed test. If you miss the fourth test you will receive a zero for that test; no makeup is permitted for the fourth test. *Makeup tests will take place on April 28.* If you are found cheating on a test you will receive a zero for that test. Scantron answer sheets are required for each test; they can be purchased in the campus bookstore.

VI. General Information

And now a few words from the UAM bureaucracy

Drop Dates: The last day to drop a class with a W is March 19.

Conduct Code: Disorderly conduct is any behavior that disrupts the regular or normal functions of the UAM community, including behavior that breaches the peace or violates the rights of others.

Disability Statement: It is UAM policy to accommodate students with disabilities pursuant to Federal law and the university's commitment to equal educational opportunities. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any necessary accommodations at the beginning of the course. Any student requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Special Student Services located in Harris Hall Room 120. Phone: 870-460-1026; TDD 870-460-1626; FAX 870-460-1926.

Grades: UAM no longer mails grades except by request. You may access your grades through Campus Connect on the UAM homepage (<http://www.uamont.edu>). If you wish to have your grades mailed to you, complete a grade request form available in the Registrar's Office.

General Education: This course fulfills specific general education requirements. For more information consult the current UAM catalog.