

UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877

Spring 2012

HY 135-502 W 6-8:30 HUMB 360

INSTRUCTOR: William Donald

Office Hours: (HUMB 386) W 5:30-6; 8:30-9; or by appointment.

Telephone: (251) 460-6210; **Email:** wdonald@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Web Page: <http://www.southalabama.edu/history/faculty/donald>

TEXTBOOK (Required):

Rourk, James J. *et al. The American Promise: A History of the United States. Volume I: To 1877.* Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2009.

Digital Copy: <http://www.coursesmart.com/IR/2327210/9780312452926>

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

This course will seek to analyze how this nation emerged, in spite of the numerous problems, conflicts, and changes. Through the use of readings, lecture, and discussion we will seek to understand the people, events, and ideologies impacting the first half of United States history. We will also seek to understand how our interpretation of these people, events, and ideologies continues to change according to the times.

ATTENDANCE:

Since this class will be primarily lecture and discussion driven, it is imperative that you attend each class. Attendance will be monitored by the use of a roll and your quiz grades. You will not be allowed to make-up any missed quiz. Since this is a weekly class, exams will be allowed to be made up, with a justifiable reason, by appointment only. If a problem persists that effects your attendance, it is the student's responsibility to contact and inform the instructor.

GRADING:

Your grade for this course will be determined by the following system:

Quizzes (Chapter and Outside Readings)	100 points
Journal Readings	100 points
Exam #1	200 points
Final Exam	200 points
Total	600 points

Grading Scale:

A	600-537
B	536-477
C	476-417
D	416-357
F	356- 0

READING QUIZZES

Reading quizzes will be administered throughout the semester. The quizzes are intended to insure that the students are reading the assigned chapters prior to our lecture and discussions. The readings will involve the assigned chapters and possibly some outside readings. If missed, the quizzes cannot be made up. However, the students will be allowed to drop their two lowest quiz grades.

JOURNAL READINGS

The students will be required to complete two journal readings during the course of the semester. The various journals, and the details on the format of the reviews, may be found on the instructors website. Each journal will be worth fifty points. Both reviews must be turned in by May 4th.

EXAMS

There will be two exams given during the course of this semester. The exams will include multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. The first exam will occur on Wednesday, March 2nd. The first exam will cover chapters one through eight inclusive. The final exam will occur on Wednesday, May 11th and will cover chapters nine through sixteen. Both exams will be worth two-hundred points. Missed exams, with a justifiable explanation, will be allowed to be made up by appointment with the instructor. If you miss an exam, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

As per University policy, the use of cell phones, including text messaging, is not permitted during class. Please have the courtesy to turn them off during class. Anyone guilty of using a cell phone during class will be asked to leave for the remainder of that class session. Any use of a cell phone during an exam or quiz will result in an immediate grade of a zero. Notebook computers are allowed during class for the purpose of taking notes. Any other use is prohibited and could result in the suspension of your computer privileges. Taping of the lectures/discussion is allowed.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of South Alabama is committed to maintaining a scholarly environment. Therefore, any type of cheating or academic dishonesty will be subject to repercussions. Any cheating on an exam or quiz will result in a grade of zero and the infraction will be referred to the appropriate agencies. If you have any questions about the universities policies please consult the Student Handbook (“The Lowdown”).

CLASSROOM CONDUCT

When participating in academic activities at this university, please refrain from any behavior that distracts your classmates and your instructor. This may include but is not restricted to: talking during the lecture; packing up your materials or making noise before the end of class; any cell phone use; eating/drinking in the classroom; any type of reading materials other than the assigned work for this class; leaving and returning to your class during a lecture or exam. If the disruptive behavior continues, the student will be asked to leave for the remainder of that class session. If the behavior continues, the students will be subject to referral to the appropriate agency as detailed in the “Lowdown.”

ACADEMIC DISABILITIES AND ASSISTANCE

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities will be afforded reasonable accommodation. The Office of Special Student Services will certify a disability and advise faculty members of reasonable accommodations. Contact the Special Services Office in the Student Center, room 270, (251) 460-7212 or visit their webpage at <http://www.usouthal.edu/dss/>

SPRING SCHEDULE

January 18	Introduction; Chapters One-Two
January 25	Quiz #1; Chapters Three-Four
February 1	Quiz#2; Chapter Five
February 8	Quiz #3; Chapter Six
February 15	Quiz #4; Chapter Seven
February 22	Quiz #5; Chapter Eight
February 29	Exam #1 (Chapters One through Eight)
March 7	Quiz #6; Chapter Nine
March 14	NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)
March 21	Quiz #7; Chapter Ten

March 28	Quiz #8; Chapter Eleven
April 4	Quiz #9; Chapters Twelve-Thirteen
April 11	Quiz #10; Chapter Fourteen
April 18	Quiz #11; Chapter Fifteen (Part One)
April 25	Quiz #12; Chapter Fifteen (Part Two)
May 2	Chapter Sixteen
May 9	Final Exam

SYLLABUS

If circumstances warrant, the policies outlined in this syllabus may be subject to modification. The students will be notified by email; announcements in class; or by written handouts.

STUDY SKILLS SEMINAR

Each semester the history department offers study skills seminars to the students. These seminars are voluntary and you must sign up for them in the History Department office. Any students who sign up and complete the seminar will receive bonus points in this class.

JAG SUCCESS

JagSuccess is a program intended to help students be successful in 100 and 200 level courses. If you are not doing well, you will get an email instructing you to see your professor along with instructions to access an online survey regarding class habits and study skills. Based on your survey score, you will receive recommendations for improving your performance. You will also be given a link to an online tutorial intended to help with common problems affecting academic performance. Watch for this email during week seven of this semester.

