

# AMH 2020: U.S. HISTORY SINCE 1877

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

*This American History course covers the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present time. We will be examining the social, cultural, and political history of America, including the exploration of themes like industrialization, labor, immigration, migration, government power, and national culture.*

*We will be learning about how different people saw events and examining what contributed to divergent opinions. We will take that up to the present by thinking about how history is commemorated through public sites, movies, museums, and all sorts of sites of memory.*

*It is important that you keep up on the assigned readings, as they supplement, not duplicate, class lectures and discussions.*

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
FLORIDA

FALL 2023

**Class Meeting:**  
Tuesdays Period 5 & 6,  
Thursdays Period 6  
Keene-Flint Room 0111

MEAGAN T.  
FRENZER, MA

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the influence of diverse historical forces – technological, social, political, cultural, economic – on human behavior, achievement, and ideas.
2. Analyze evidence, synthesize conflicting points of view, and evaluate assumptions and biases to attain a balanced historical perspective.
3. Develop the ability to effectively communicate critical thinking, both orally and in writing.
4. Learn key themes, principles, terminology, and methodology within the discipline of history.

THROUGH LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS, MULTIMEDIA, THE TEXTBOOK, & DOCUMENT-BASED READINGS, YOU WILL LEARN TO QUESTION AND EVALUATE HISTORICAL SOURCES AND, IN THE PROCESS, BECOME INFORMED THINKERS & CRITICAL READERS.

## REQUIRED READING

- 1) AMERICAN YAWP (AVAILABLE ON CANVAS)
- 2) FAREWELL TO MANZANAR, JEANNE WAKATSUKI HOUSTON (1973, CLARION BOOKS)



Email:

[mfrenzer@ufl.edu](mailto:mfrenzer@ufl.edu)



E-Learning:

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

## OFFICE HOURS

TBA

**& By Appointment**  
Keene-Flint Room 009

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## GEN-ED: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES & DIVERSITY

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This course satisfies the Social and Behavioral Science Gen-Ed Credit at the University of Florida. Social and behavioral science courses provide instruction in the history, key themes, principles, terminology, and underlying theory or methodologies used in the social and behavioral sciences. Students will learn to identify, describe, and explain social institutions, structures, and processes. This course emphasizes the effective application of accepted problem-solving techniques. Students will apply formal and informal qualitative or quantitative analysis to examine the processes and means by which individuals make personal and group decisions, as well as the evaluation of opinions, outcomes, and human behavior. Students are expected to assess and analyze ethical perspectives in individual and societal decisions. Students must earn a minimum grade of a C or higher in order to fulfill their general education credit. This course will also count towards the State of Florida's Civic Literacy requirement.

This course also satisfies the Diversity Gen-Ed Credit at the University of Florida. Diversity courses provide instruction in the values, attitudes, and norms that create cultural differences within the United States. This course will encourage you to recognize how social roles and status affect different groups and impact U.S. society. This course will guide you to analyze and to evaluate your own cultural norms and values in relation to those of other cultures, and to distinguish opportunities and constraints faced by other persons and groups. Students must earn a minimum grade of a C or higher in order to fulfill their general education credit.

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### LATE WORK & MAKE-UP POLICY

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Unless stated otherwise, late papers or assignments will be penalized one-third-letter grade for each day they are late. Missed exams or quizzes cannot be made up unless you have an university excused absence and that you notify your instructor of beforehand. After a week, late work will not be accepted. If you have an unforeseen emergency, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. No Late finals will be accepted.

Attendance in lectures and sections will be taken throughout the semester. You are **permitted three absences without penalty**, but on the fourth and each subsequent absence, your final grade for the course will be reduced by a third of a letter grade (i.e., from an A to a A-, an A- to a B+, etc.).

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### GENERAL CLASS BEHAVIOR

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- o Treat the class, your fellow students, and the instructor respectfully.
  - o Use computers responsibly—stay off shopping websites, Facebook, Netflix, and so forth. If it appears that computer use is being abused, I will institute a no-computer policy.
  - o Turning off cell phones prior to class; No cell phones out during class.
  - o Arrive at class on time; Late arrivals will negatively affect your participation & attendance grade.
  - o No eating/food in class.
  - o No sleeping in class.
  - o Remain in class until class is over; No packing up early.
  - o Engage in discussion properly: good listening is as important as good talking!
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### CORRESPONDENCE

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I will send important course announcements and other correspondence to you via your UF email account and Canvas. If you do not use this as your primary account, please make sure that you have your UF email forwarded to you and check your email regularly!

When emailing with the instructor, please remember that correspondence should be formal and include your name, section number, and address your instructor formally. All correspondence must come from your UF email in order to ensure student identification.

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## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting an accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Testing accommodations must be submitted to the DRC with at least 4 days notice before the exam.

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## ACADEMIC HONESTY

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The University, as well as your instructor, values and expects academic integrity. All students will be expected to adhere to the UF Student Conduct Code and Honor Code. Ethical violations include cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and academic misconduct (including turning in the work of others as your own and reusing old assignments). These will not be tolerated and will result in a failure of the assignment and the risk of an automatic failing grade in the course, and possible expulsion from UF. To avoid plagiarism, you must not copy the words, phrases, arguments, ideas, or conclusions of another person or source (including Internet sources) without properly crediting the person or source with both quotation marks and a footnote. Make sure that you properly cite direct quotations, paraphrased information, and facts that are not widely known. I will provide you with guidelines for proper citations and formatting prior to your submission of all written work, but you may contact me at any time for clarification.

For more information on how UF's Judicial Affairs processes cases of plagiarism, see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php>.

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## ASSIGNMENTS

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- o **Weekly Participation:** The important aspect here is not necessarily the *quantity* of oral and online discussion, but the *quality*. Students should strive, at a minimum, to make at least one comment per discussions. Primary emphasis should be given to participation that encourages the thinking of your classmates and stimulates mutual interaction.
  - o **Journals:** Students will respond to weekly **Journals** based on the text. You should prepare for these by keeping up with the course readings and lectures. The lowest assignment score for one of the Journals will be dropped at the end of the semester.
  - o **Analytical Essay on Japanese Internment:** Students will write one 1,000-word essay based on the book, *Farewell to Manzanar*, as well as the readings and documentary on Japanese Internment. This essay, which should be posted on Canvas no later than the due date and should be analytical in nature. *Further instructions regarding format and content will be distributed before the paper is due.*
  - o **Exams:** There will be **one midterm** and **a final exam**. The exams are not cumulative, essentially a second midterm for the final. These tests will cover all reading and discussion up to that point, and the final will cover the last portion of the course since the midterm.
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## GRADES

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Your grade in this class will be determined largely by your performance on a variety of written assignments as well as class participation. These exercises will allow you to hone your critical thinking and writing skills and allow you to reflect thoughtfully on key themes of the course.

- Final Exam—25 percent
  - Midterm Exam—20 percent
  - Essay—20 percent
  - Journals—20 percent
  - Participation— 15 percent
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## GRADING SCALE

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100- 94	93-90	89-86	85-83	82-80	79-76	75-73	72-70	69-68	67-66	65-64	Below 64

# COURSE SCHEDULE

The Instructor reserves the right to alter this syllabus at any time during the semester. Any changes in schedules and deadlines will be announced on Canvas and an updated version will be uploaded.

## **Week One (August 23) and Week Two (August 29-31): The Civil War's Aftermath**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 14: The Civil War (Start at War for Emancipation Section) & Chapter 15: Reconstruction
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 15: Primary Documents

## **Week Three- The West (September 5-7)**

### **NO CLASS ON MONDAY (Labor Day)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 17: The West
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 17: Primary Documents
- View Graphics on Westward Expansion

## **Week Four- Labor and Life in the Industrial Age (September 12-14)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 16: Capital and Labor & Chapter 18: Life in Industrial America
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 16: Primary Documents & Chapter 18: Primary Documents

## **Week Five- American Empire and Immigration (September 19- 21)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 19: American Empire
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 19: Primary Documents
- Watch Videos
  - Spanish American War video:
    - <https://youtu.be/IU5l4yQCpMM>
  - The Boxer Rebellion
    - <https://youtu.be/94Nsk6XJO5g>

## **Week Six- The Progressive Era (September 26-28)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 20: The Progressive Era
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 20: Primary Documents

## **Week Seven- World War I and its Aftermath (October 3-5)**

### **MIDTERM Week**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 21: World War I and its Aftermath
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 21: Primary Documents
- Additional Reading:
  - PBS table of Great War casualties:
    - [http://www.uwosh.edu/faculty\\_staff/henson/188/WWI\\_Casualties%20and%20Deaths%20%20PBS.html](http://www.uwosh.edu/faculty_staff/henson/188/WWI_Casualties%20and%20Deaths%20%20PBS.html)
  - "Killer Flu that Swept the World"
    - <https://www.kansas.com/news/state/article200880539.html>
  - Smithsonian Magazine, "Compare the Flu Pandemic of 1928 and COVID-19 with Caution"
    - <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/compare-flu-pandemic-1918-and-covid-19-caution-180975040/>

## **Week Eight- The Twenties (October 10-12)**

### **Begin Reading Farewell to Manzanar**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 22: The New Era
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 22: Primary Documents
- Watch selected videos
  - The Smithsonian Channel: America in Color, the 1920s
  - <https://youtu.be/N23S3YyBh8E>

## **Week Nine- Depression and New Deal (October 17- 19)**

### **Finish Reading Farewell to Manzanar**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 23: The Great Depression
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 23: Primary Documents

## **Week Ten- World War II (October 24-26)**

### **Essay Prep: Outline Prep & Bibliography Due Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 24: World War II
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 24: Primary Documents

### **Helpful Readings for Essay:**

- Article from Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment
- An American Contradiction Documentary
  - <https://vimeo.com/138564229>
- Video of George Takei's Ted Talk, Why I Love the Country that Once Betrayed Me (2014)
  - <https://youtu.be/LeBKBFPwNc>
- Primary Sources: On American Yawp and Canvas
  - President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Executive Order No. 9066 (1942)
  - Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga's Interview on Japanese Internment (1942/1994)

### Additional Reading:

- Read Article on FDR's Four Freedoms painted by Norman Rockwell
  - <https://www.nrm.org/2012/10/collections-four-freedoms/>
- Read Americans and the Holocaust by the US Holocaust Memorial Museum
  - <https://exhibitions.ushmm.org/americans-and-the-holocaust/main>

## **Week Eleven- The Cold War (October 31- November 2)**

### **Essay Prep: Draft Due Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 25: The Cold War
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 25: Primary Documents
- Watch Videos
  - Winston Churchill's Iron Curtain Speech
    - [https://youtu.be/X2FM3\\_h33Tg](https://youtu.be/X2FM3_h33Tg)
  - Bert the Turtle, Duck & Cover
    - <https://youtu.be/IKqXu-5jw60>

## **Week Twelve- The 1950s (November 7-9)**

### **Essay Due Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 26: The Affluent Society
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 26: Primary Documents

## **Week Thirteen- The Revolt of the Sixties (November 14-16)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 27: The Revolt of the Sixties & Chapter 28: The Unraveling
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 27: Primary Documents
- Watch Videos
  - 1965 March from Selma to Montgomery
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3fq79yKGaQ&t=6s>
  - Watch the Video about Ella Baker "The God Mother of the Civil Rights Movement"
    - <https://youtu.be/McneFCdHUn0>

#### **Week Fourteen- Thanksgiving Break**

- Documentary
  - Eyes on the Prize (PBS)
- Watch Videos
  - 1965 March from Selma to Montgomery
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3fq79yKGaQ&t=6s>
  - Watch the Video about Ella Baker "The God Mother of the Civil Rights Movement"
    - <https://youtu.be/McneFCdHUn0>

#### **Week Fifteen & Sixteen- The Rise of Modern Conservatism and The End of the Cold War (November 28-30, December 5)**

- Read American Yawp - Chapter 29: The Right & Chapter 30: The Recent Past
- Read American Yawp Reader - Chapter 29: Primary Documents & Chapter 30: Primary Documents

**Final Exam: Week of December 11<sup>th</sup>. Final Exams Due Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 PM**

**NO LATE FINALS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**