

History H106 (Class # 5926):

Fall, 2007

### U.S. History Since 1865

Location: BS-2000

Time: M W 1:30-2:45

Instructor: Robert Barrows  
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Phone: 274-2457/3811

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Office Hours: M W 12:00-12:30, 4:00-5:00,  
and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Ron Withers  
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Office Hours: M W 12:00-1:00  
and by appointment

**REQUIREMENTS:** Regular class attendance; completion of assigned reading; two mid-term exams and a non-comprehensive final exam (essays and short-answer IDs, covering both reading assignments and lectures); two short written assignments based on the supplemental reading. Completion of all exams and all written assignments is required of all students, including those taking the class on a Pass/Fail basis. **If you do not take all three exams and submit both written assignments, you will fail the course.**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Lectures, reading and writing assignments, and exams are designed, in part, to convey and test factual knowledge. But they also ask students to comprehend and analyze historical texts, synthesize information, and effectively communicate facts and ideas to others in a variety of written formats. And, of course, History H106 should deepen your understanding of the society and culture of modern America. These objectives are consistent with several of the goals enunciated in IUPUI's "Principles of Undergraduate Learning." The text of the "Principles" may be found at:  
<[www.jaguars.iupui.edu/gened/gnedprin.htm](http://www.jaguars.iupui.edu/gened/gnedprin.htm)>

**GRADING:** Each exam will count for one-fourth of the final grade; the written work will comprise the other fourth. Improvement counts. So does literacy. In cases where the semester grade comes down to a borderline decision (between a C+ or a B-, for example), regular attendance and improvement will be taken into account.

Papers are due, and exams will be given, on the dates indicated. Unless prior arrangements have been made, we will schedule make-up exams or accept late papers only in cases of **documented** illness or other unanticipated emergency.

University policy is that grades of "Incomplete" should be assigned only to students who have successfully completed most of the course work and who have been prevented by significant and unanticipated circumstances from finishing all requirements. Removal of "Incomplete" grades is often troublesome for both student and instructor, and I shall be reluctant to assign them.

Plagiarism (**which includes the use without attribution of materials found on the Internet**), cheating on exams, and other forms of intellectual dishonesty will result in a failing grade on the work in question and may lead to disciplinary action by the university. Consult the IUPUI Campus Bulletin, 2006-2008, p. 36.

**ATTENDANCE:** During the first two class periods, I will call the roll. Thereafter, an attendance roster will circulate during the class. (Should you arrive late it is your responsibility to see the teaching assistant at the end of the class in order to sign the roster.) Not counting the first class and the two midterm exams, there are 27 class periods. Although not recommended, you may miss up to 7 of these classes for any reason—weather, illness, car trouble, funeral, vacation—without penalty. **If you miss more than 7 classes, however, your semester grade will be lowered by one increment.** For example, a student whose three exams and two papers averaged out to a B-, but who missed 8 classes, would receive a C+ for the semester.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** The ability to take good notes is a useful skill, and one that improves with practice. I therefore ask that students not record my lectures. If a hearing impairment or physical disability prevents you from taking notes without a tape recorder, please visit the office of Adaptive Educational Services in CA-001E and have them contact me.

Both of us have voice mail that is on twenty-four hours a day. You are welcome to call either or both of us should you need to do so. Note, however, that we will not play "phone tag." If you leave a phone message, speak slowly and clearly, provide a phone number where you can be reached, and state when you will be at that number.

Class begins promptly at 1:30 p.m. Please be on time. In this classroom it is particularly difficult to arrive late and find a seat without interrupting the proceedings and disrupting other students.

I welcome questions at any time (although I may sometimes put you "on hold" until I conclude a particular point or topic). **I do not, however, welcome private conversations between class members while I am lecturing.** In addition to being rude, such conversations are distracting for other members of the class.

Unless you anticipate receiving a call that qualifies as a true emergency, please turn off or mute cell phones and pagers before class begins.

### **TEXTS:**

BRINKLEY Alan Brinkley, The Unfinished Nation, vol. 2 (5th ed.)  
ROBERTS Roberts/Olson, American Experiences, vol. II (6th ed.)  
RIIS Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives (Dover edition)  
TERKEL Studs Terkel, Hard Times  
KENNEDY Robert Kennedy, Thirteen Days

## **Tentative Course Outline and Assignments**

### August

- 22 Introduction to the Course
- 27 Reconstruction (Brinkley, 393-415)
- 29 The "Wild" West (Brinkley, Ch. 16; Roberts, 15-22)

### September

- 3 NO CLASS (Labor Day)
- 5 The "New" South (Brinkley, 415-422; Roberts, 4-12)
- 10, 12 The Rise of Industry (Brinkley, Ch. 17, Roberts, 78-87)
- 17, 19 The Rise of the City (Brinkley, Ch. 18; Riis, do same reading as for Writing Assignment #1)  
**{Writing Assignment #1 due September 19. Remember to add cover sheet.}**
- 24 Gilded Age Politics (Brinkley, Ch. 19; Roberts, 26-57)
- 26 **EXAM #1**

### October

- 1 Progressivism - I (Brinkley, Ch. 21 + 581-593)
- 3 Progressivism - II (Roberts, 89-96;  
begin Terkel, do same reading as for Writing Assignment #2)

## October

- 8 America's Rise to World Power (Brinkley, Ch. 20 + 593-600; Roberts, 70-77)
- 10, 15 World War I & Its Aftermath (Brinkley, Ch. 23; Roberts, 108-117)
- 17, 22 Prosperity Decade/Depression Decade (Brinkley, Ch. 24, 25;  
Roberts, 158-178; Terkel, any 200 pages)
- 24 New Deal - I (Brinkley, Ch. 26)  
**{Writing Assignment #2 due October 24. Remember to add cover sheet.}**
- 29 New Deal - II (Roberts, 179-190)
- 31 **EXAM #2**

## November

- 5 Interwar Diplomacy (Brinkley, Ch. 27)
- 7 World War II (Brinkley, Ch. 28; Roberts, 206-219)
- 12 Cold War: At Home and Abroad (Brinkley, Ch. 29)
- 14 The Affluent Society (Brinkley, 785-804, 808-810, 819-825;  
Roberts, 247-256)
- 19 Foreign Policy, 1960s-1980s (Brinkley, 810-815, 832-835; Kennedy, entire)  
**{Writing Assignment #3 due November 19. Remember to add cover sheet.}**
- 21 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)
- 26 Civil Rights (Brinkley, 805-808, 825-832; Roberts, 222-232)
- 28 Vietnam (Brinkley, 835-847)

## December

- 3, 5 Vietnam (Brinkley, 851-856, 867-872)
- 10 **FINAL EXAM**

### Writing Assignments

Each student will complete two short written assignments for this course, both based on the supplemental reading. The two assignments (you choose two from the three possibilities below) will combine for one-fourth of your grade, the equivalent of one of the exams. The two assignments combined will be worth 200 points. The grading scale will be the familiar 90=A-, 80=B-, etc.

Please print/type double-spaced with 1" margins on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. Add the attached cover sheet and staple in the upper left-hand corner. **Do not put the paper in any sort of binder, folder, or cover.** It is expected that papers will be neatly typed/word processed and employ correct English spelling and grammar. Save all papers on your hard drive and a diskette/CD until the hard copy is returned to you

#### Writing Assignment #1 (due September 19)

Read the following in Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives:

Introduction (pp. 1-2), chapters 1, 2, 6, 12, 17, 20, 24, 25 plus any other four chapters. In 2 1/2-4 double-spaced, typewritten pages, discuss this classic description of slum life in New York City. Begin by briefly summarizing the volume. Then you should address several of the following questions: Is Riis's work an accurate representation of late 19th century American urban life? What solution(s) does Riis propose to alleviate the conditions he describes? Does Riis reflect any biases in his text? (If so, against whom and why?) Why do you think this book achieved such renown?

#### Writing Assignment #2 (due October 24)

Read any 200 pages of your choice in Hard Times (they need not be the first 200 pages) and then prepare a 2 1/2-4 page, double-spaced review of the book. The first one-third should be a summary that tells the person reading the review what the book is about. The remaining two-thirds of the review should be an analysis of the book in which you give your opinion of what Terkel has done and how well he has done it. **You should state explicitly your evaluation of oral interviews as a technique for historical research.**

#### Writing Assignment #3 (due November 19)

Read Robert F. Kennedy's Thirteen Days. (You are only required to read RFK's text; you may, of course, read the "Foreword" by Schlesinger and the "Afterword" by Neustadt and Allison if you wish.) In 2 1/2-4 double-spaced, typewritten pages, discuss the response of the United States--particularly the President and the "Ex Comm"--to the introduction of offensive nuclear missiles in Cuba. Was the response appropriate? What do you think should have been done differently (if anything)? What lessons, according to Kennedy, were learned from this thirteen day period when the nation's leaders "peered over the precipice?"

#### Option

Students who wish to do so may complete all three of the writing assignments, rather than just the two that are required. In that case we will average the two highest grades in order to determine your overall grade on the written work. Papers remain due on the date indicated for that particular writing assignment. You do not need to decide until toward the end of the semester whether you wish to exercise this option. **Note, however, that if you wish to preserve this option you must complete Writing Assignment #1.**

## Fatal Errors

The following errors are not acceptable. (Lots of other things are not acceptable either, but we have to start somewhere.) If we encounter these errors in your papers (not exams), we will circle them and return the paper ungraded for correction and resubmission within one week.

Improper use of **its** or **it's** (or the nonexistent **its'**)

Improper use of **to** or **too** or **two**

Improper use of **there** or **their** or **they're**

Improper use of **who's** or **whose**

Any use of **would of** or **could of** or **should of**  
(If you don't understand why these are never correct, please ask for an explanation.)

Any use of **alot** (as if it were one word)

If you know you have problems with these usages, we strongly recommend a visit to the University Writing Center (Cavanaugh Hall 427) for a quick review.

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PRINT YOUR NAME

**Writing Assignment Cover Sheet**

Circle one: Writing Assignment #1(due 9/19) #2 (due 10/24) #3 (due 11/19)

Quotations from the books being discussed

Quotations from the books you are writing about are not required, but are certainly permitted. (Be careful not to over-quote, however; most of the paper should be in your own words.) If you do quote from the book, formal footnotes are not necessary. Simply put the appropriate page number(s) in parentheses at the end of the quotation. For example:

As Riis observes in his concluding chapter, "there is abundant evidence . . . that it can be made to pay to improve and make the most of the worst tenement property, even in the most wretched locality" (p. 224).

Statement on Plagiarism

If you quote from, or even paraphrase, a source other than the book you are writing about, **you must provide a footnote/endnote that indicates the source**. Not to do so is intellectual theft. It also amounts to lying, since you are implicitly telling us that the work you are submitting is your own. This rule includes the use of materials found on the Internet. And note that simply changing a few words in a sentence or passage is not adequate, since you are still using the main thrust of someone else's work.

Here is the plagiarism explanation from the IUPUI All-Campus Bulletin, 2006-2008 (p. 36):

"A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, words, or statements of another person without an appropriate acknowledgment. A student must give due credit to the originality of others and acknowledge an indebtedness whenever he or she does any of the following:

- a. Quotes another person's actual words, either oral or written;
- b. Paraphrases another person's words, either oral or written;
- c. Uses another person's idea, opinion, or theory; or
- d. Borrows facts, statistics, or other material, unless the information is common knowledge."

Mark Hellstern et al., in The History Student Writer's Manual (p. 121) put it this way:

"Plagiarism is the use of someone else's words or ideas without proper credit. While some plagiarism is deliberate, produced by writers who understand that they are guilty of a kind of academic thievery, much of it is unconscious, committed by writers who are not aware of the varieties of plagiarism or who are careless in recording their borrowings from sources. Plagiarism includes

- >> Quoting directly without acknowledging the source
  - >> Paraphrasing without acknowledging the source
  - >> Constructing a paraphrase that closely resembles the original in language and syntax."
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I have read and understand the statements above regarding quotations and plagiarism.

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SIGN YOUR NAME