

# Dakota College Course Syllabus

**Course Prefix/Number/Title:**

HIST 104 – United States History from 1877

**Course Description:**

This class explores the major themes in the political, social, technological and cultural development of the United States from the era just after the American Civil War, to the removal of U.S. armed forces from Vietnam. The student will study the time period of almost 100 years; as the United States would find itself becoming not only the main influence in the western hemisphere, but one of the two lone superpowers through the Cold War.

**Course Objectives:**

First, the student will have an accurate understanding of the forces leading up to and results from this historical era. Secondly, the student will be able to identify the key figures and influential actions made. Finally, the student will also have a greater knowledge of not only this time period, but how the study of history is directly related to almost every other discipline within a college course catalog. History is truly a cornerstone of learning, and this course is essential to any college student, no matter the major.

**Instructor:**

Steven J. Sathre

**Office:**

Thatcher Hall 2208

**Office Hours:**

MWF 1:00-2:30

**Phone:**

701-228-5456

**Email:**

steve.sathre@dakotacollege.edu

**Lecture/Lab Schedule:**

MWF 10:00-10:50  
1107 Thatcher Hall

**Textbook(s):**

*American Passages: A History of the United State -Volume 2*, Ayers, Gould, Oshinsky, Soderlund, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

Various Handouts

**Course Requirements:**

The formula for grades is as follows.

3 exams (non-cumulative), 40 pts. each = 120 pts.

10 quizzes, 3 pts. each = 30 pts.

2 essays (details to follow), 25 pts. each = 50 pts.

Total pts. available = 200 pts.

90-100% - 180-200pts. = A

80-90% - 160-179pts. = B

70-80% - 140-159pts. = C

60-70% - 120-139pts. = D

<59% - <119pts. = F

No Incompletes will be given.

Exams will be multiple choice and essay format. They are not cumulative. Closed book and notes. Assume you will be taking the final exam on Friday, May 13 - taking the exam early is not an option.

Quizzes will be 3 questions and given randomly. They cannot be made up under any circumstances. They cover material in that week's reading and are short answer in form.

The 2 essays are thesis-based, 1500 words at minimum and written in *Chicago Style* format.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

Week 1

Blood and Freedom, 1863-1867

Week 2

Reconstruction, 1867-1877

Week 3

The Rise of American Big Business, 1877-1887

Week 4

Urban Growth and Rural Problems, 1887-1893

Week 5

The Nation Expands to the West, 1893-1901

Week 6

The Progressive Era, 1901-1909

**Exam #1**

Week 7

The Progressive Era Continued

Week 8

WWI, 1914-1921

Week 9

The Roaring 20's, 1921-1927

Week 10

Spring Break

Week 11

The Great Depression, 1927-1933

**Essay #1 Due March 25**

Week 12

The New Deal, 1933-1939

**Exam #2**

Week 13

WWII, 1939-1945

Week 14

WWII Continued

Week 15

The Postwar World, 1946-1952

Week 16

The Eisenhower Era, 1952-1960

**Essay #2 Due May 4**

Week 17

Kennedy to Withdrawl in Vietnam, 1960-1975

Finals

Date and time to be determined

## **General Education Goals/Objectives**

### Goal 4: Demonstrates effective communication

#### Objective 1: Expresses ideas through effective writing

Skill 1: Uses the stages of the writing process to develop, organize, and present ideas in writing

Skill 2: Analyzes the demands and possible strategies of a writing task, based on topic, purpose, context, and audience, and then accomplish that task with clarity

Skill 3: Demonstrates competent writing that includes a clear, original thesis or claim, appropriate evidence and support, a logical structure, and a style of language that serves the writer's purpose and audience

Skill 4: Uses Edited Standard Written English in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and syntax, and presents written work in a style and format consistent with the demands of an academic setting

#### **Relationship to Campus Theme:**

A focus on the interaction between natural resources and the development of the United States.

Discovering how technological developments have affected the history of the American population.

Reviewing the political process of the United States and reflecting on how future events hinge on current decisions.

#### **Classroom Policies:**

Reading the assigned text is the student's responsibility, and is essential to success in this course. It should be noted though that it is in your best academic interest to read material *before* the week of lecture/discussion as to aid in your understanding. Any deadlines are final and your work is due on the day specified (11:59:59 PM). Any late work will not be accepted for full credit.

Please refrain from doing anything that might be disruptive and disturb other students or the instructor, such as chronically arriving late, leaving early, talking with neighbors, or texting. Turn all electronic junk off. This class does not require the use of a laptop computer, therefore they are not allowed to be operated in lecture periods.

This academic environment is an open and harassment free one. Participation within the classroom is highly encouraged and is an integral part of the higher education experience. Ask questions – comment on discussions.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

*Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary* defines plagiarism as: "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work." There will be *zero tolerance* of any form of academic dishonesty. If any evidence appears of students not doing their own work, plagiarism, or outright cheating on quizzes/exams, the matter will be investigated. If it is concluded that such dishonesty occurred, the student in question will receive an automatic "F" for the course. Furthermore, the matter will be reported to the appropriate university office and the instructor will participate in any proceedings against the guilty party.

**Disabilities and Special Needs:**

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.