Survey of the History of the United States Since 1877
Fall 2020

HIST 122-004 (MWF 9:05-9:55am) STRONG 203

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. John Gram
EMAIL: JohnRGram@MissouriState.edu
PHONE: 417-836-5378 (office)
OFFICE: Strong 436
OFFICE HOURS: MW 11am-12:30pm; T 1:30pm-3pm
(I am not available for student appointments on Thursdays this semester)

Email is ALWAYS the best way to reach me. I usually stop checking my email around 6pm on weekdays; I check it rarely on weekends. During the week, I respond to all emails within 24 hours (usually much sooner). On the weekends or during holiday breaks, it may take 48 hours or longer. If I have not responded to an email (during the week) within 24 hours, please email me again. It’s not nagging. Also, if you discuss something with me right after class, please always send a follow up email!

A FEW NOTES ON EMAIL ETIQUETTE

1) Please include something in your subject line to give me an idea of what the email is going to be about. Something like “Question about Document 3.1” or “Question about My Grade on Exam 2” is very helpful.

2) Please include a proper introduction in the initial email of a correspondence: “Dear Dr. Gram,” “Hi Dr. Gram,” etc. Remember, emails between professors and students are almost always professional communications. “Hey!” or “Hello!” by themselves are not sufficient greetings in a professional setting. This is good practice for the kinds of emails you will send out in the professional world after graduation—whether to bosses, co-workers, or clients.

3) In the first sentence of your email, please include your name, your class, AND your section. This will help me to look up any information I might need to answer your question more quickly. Something like “This is Bob McBobberstein in your HIST 122-004 class” saves me quite a bit of hassle in answering your question.

4) Please make sure that your question has not already been answered elsewhere. “What did I miss in class today?” “When is such-and-such due?” “What is the reading for class on Monday?” All of these common questions are clearly answered in the syllabus.

5) Please do not email to ask if something has been graded yet. My goal is always to get assignments graded and returned to you within two weeks or less. If I am not going to make
that deadline, I will let you know. Otherwise, if the grade is not on Blackboard yet, it’s not graded.

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**WHAT WILL THIS CLASS LOOK LIKE IF WE HAVE TO GO ONLINE?**

**We will NOT have live classes.** If we have to go virtual, it will mean that there may suddenly be many more changes to your life: work schedule, child care, times of the day that you have computer and internet access, etc. Therefore, I do not believe it is reasonable to assume that you will always be free at the time our class meets now. **Instead, I will release course work a week at a time for you to complete during the week at your own pace.** This will consist mainly of power point slides with audio recordings, but it may include other supplemental materials to make up for the lost class time together, as well.

**You WILL need to have consistent internet access.** We will continue to submit assignments through blackboard, and blackboard is also how I will deliver course material to you. **That said, I will try to make any internet requirement for the course as low-tech as possible.**

**Assignment due dates and details MAY change.** Any changes would be designed to make the course easier to complete in the online format. I would not make the course harder, nor would I add additional work to just keep you “busy.” Due dates would not be moved up; if they changed, it would only be to give you more time to complete assignments, if I think that is necessary.

**Office hours MAY change, but I will DEFINITELY still have them.** I will continue to make myself accessible to you through the week, most likely through Zoom appointments. My “virtual office hours” may not be the same as those at the beginning of the semester, but I will make sure that I am available to you the same number of hours throughout the week.

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**STATEMENT ON REQUIRED FACE COVERING**

In accord with the MSU Mask and Face Covering policy (https://www.missouristate.edu/Coronavirus/masking-policy.htm), Greene County Health Department (https://www.springfieldmo.gov/5140/Masks-and-Face-Coverings), and the Springfield City Ordinance (https://www.springfieldmo.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/14780?fileID=203417), masks or face coverings must be worn at all times during a traditional (seated) class. This measure is being implemented to reduce COVID-19 related health risks for everyone engaged in the educational process. **Masks or face coverings must be worn over the nose and mouth**, in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html). Face shields are not considered masks or face coverings for purposes of this
requirement. **Students who cannot wear a mask or face covering due to a disability must contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) ([https://www.missouristate.edu/disability/](https://www.missouristate.edu/disability/)) to initiate the interactive accommodation process.**

In the absence of an approved accommodation, a student’s refusal to wear a mask or face covering will be considered a classroom disruption, consistent with Op3.04-11 Class Disruption, and may result in the student being administratively dropped from the class section.

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**A NOTE ABOUT ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**
I do not tolerate cheating in my course. The most common forms of cheating I see are: using prohibited sources on assignments, copying other students’ assignments, and plagiarism – usually, but not always, in the form of representing someone else’s work or ideas as your own. This list is not exhaustive, and you are responsible for being familiar with MSU’s Academic Dishonesty Policy (see information below in syllabus).

You are all adults now, and I will hold you to adult standards. If I suspect academic dishonesty has occurred, I will certainly give you a chance to explain your side. However, if I still believe cheating has occurred, I will report it to the university -- as I am required to do. **You will most likely automatically receive a zero on any assignment where I believe cheating took place. You will have no opportunity to make up the work or improve that grade. If it is a particularly egregious example of cheating, the first time you are caught may have additional consequences. If you are caught cheating a second time, you will most likely automatically fail the course – probably with an XF (yes, this has happened multiple times before).** The University provides you an opportunity to protest an accusation of academic dishonesty. Hopefully, I will never have a need to discuss this process with any of you, but we will certainly go over this as part of discussing any alleged incident of cheating.

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**MANDATORY ATTENDANCE POLICY:**
*(Please Note: If you have to be quarantined because of Covid, or if we have to go online for a portion of the semester, I will adjust this policy accordingly.)*

Attendance in this course is mandatory. Each day I will circulate a sign-in sheet, starting at the beginning of class. **It is your responsibility to make sure you sign the sheet to demonstrate your attendance.** If there is no signature, I will count you as absent. Please note that signing for someone else will be viewed as an act of academic dishonesty and disciplined as such.

You may miss up to **FOUR (4) class periods with no penalty. Absences for participating in school-sanctioned activities (e.g. travel for a club or athletic event) do NOT count toward these four.** Keep in mind that missing four days is the equivalent of over a week of class! In
other words, this is a pretty generous policy. **Your FOUR (4) allowed absences include unexcused AND excused absences.** An absence is an absence is an absence. **Because I do not make any distinction regarding why you have missed, you do not need to provide any sort of documentation for class absences – the exception being school-sanctioned absences.** It also means, though, that the fifth absence gets a penalty, period – even if you think it might qualify as an excused absence. So, **save these absences for true sickness or emergencies!** Certainly, if there are extraordinary circumstances involved, such as a multi-week hospital stay, we can discuss how that might affect enforcement of this policy and what sort of documentation might be needed at that point.

I will deduct **15 points from your final grade (out of 650 total points in the course)** for each absence after the fourth – again, regardless of why you missed from the fifth absence onward. Don’t burn through your absences recklessly!

Just because you have these absences available doesn’t mean you have to use them! **Regular attendance is both expected and highly advised.** Each lecture we will cover some material not covered by the textbook, yet you will still be responsible for this material on the exams. Thus, **regular attendance is crucial for success in this course.** If you miss class, I would recommend getting notes from a classmate. **I do not give out my notes to students under any circumstances, nor do I post power point slides on Blackboard from my survey courses.** My notes and my slides represent my intellectual property. In recent years, various websites have started encouraging (even paying) students to post these things online without the professor’s permission. Unfortunately, this has been a problem at Missouri State, as well. Thus, I have made it my policy not to provide students with copies of my notes, nor to make my slides available outside the classroom.

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

1) **You cannot eat or drink anything in class.** This is a university policy designed to keep masks from going up and down all class.

2) **Do NOT text during class.** If your significant other can’t wait 50 minutes to hear back from you … you’re in a Lifetime move, not a relationship. That said, some of you have children or family with medical conditions. If you need to step out during class to take a phone call, that is fine.

3) Recent studies have shown that we retain information FAR better if we write it down, than if we type it. Thus, I would encourage you to take handwritten notes. That said, you MAY use computers to take notes or for other class-related business. I am not going to police computer activity in my classroom, but if I become aware that you are distracting others with your computer usage (e.g. watching a movie in class), you will lose computer privileges.

4) **If you feel the need to record or tape lectures, you need to speak to me first.**
5) Please do NOT talk in class, unless it is to ask a question or to participate in class discussion. There are a bunch of us in the room, and it will be difficult for other students to hear the lecture if there is unnecessary noise.

Course Description:

In this course, we will examine the major social, economic, political, and cultural developments in US history following the Civil War. We’ll examine how Americans of every race, gender, and class grappled with the promises and perils of the Second Industrial Revolution. We’ll watch as the United States completes its conquest of the American West, then looks outward to ponder what sort of role it should have in the larger world. We’ll study how the United States emerged from a crushing international depression and two world wars to become a global power. We’ll see America struggle to survive in and shape a new world constantly living under the threat of nuclear war, and examine how Americans responded to the challenges of the Cold War era--both internationally and on the home front. Finally, we’ll follow the United States as it emerges into a new post-Cold war world, and we'll watch Americans strive to find a new understanding of who they are and what America should be.

General Education Learning Outcomes:

Successful completion of HIST 122 should help students to:

1) Identify the rights and responsibilities they have in their own communities and the broader society

2) Recognize the ways in which they can exercise their rights and responsibilities

3) Understand, critically examine, and articulate key similarities and differences between their own cultural practices and perspectives and those of other cultures, past and present

4) Analyze the role that different languages, cultures, institutions, and beliefs have in shaping individual and collective behavior.

Required Texts:

(Make sure it is SIXTH edition, Volume TWO!)  

3) Immerwahr, How to Hide an Empire  

4) Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door  

**Class Assignments:**  
Essay on Birth of a Nation 100  
Essay on Red Nightmare 100  
Midterm Exam 150  
Final Exam 200  
Primary Source Analyses 100  

650  

**CALCULATING FINAL GRADES:**  
610+ = A  
520-544 = B-  
435-454 = D+  
585-609 = A-  
500-519 = C+  
390-434 = D  
565-584 = B+  
480-499 = C  
(MSU does not assign D-)  
545-564 = B  
455-479 = C-  
<390 = F  

**Explanation of Assignments:**  

**EXAMS (350 pts total; 150 pts for midterm, 200pts for final exam)**  
We will have both a midterm and a final exam in this course. Both exams will be take home, and you will actually design each exam yourself (with guidelines from me). We will talk about this in more detail closer to time.  

**ESSAYS (200 pts total; 100 pts each)**  
You will write two essays in this course. Each time I will give you the prompt several weeks before the due date. Each essay will require you to engage with an important cultural artifact (a move in one case, a short film in the other) and provide an analysis. We will talk about this in more detail closer to time.
PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSES (100 pts total; 20 pts each)
Most weeks, I will assign you several primary documents to read, along with our selections from our other books. For five different weeks over the course of the semester, you must choose ONE of the assigned documents and write a brief analysis. We will go over this assignment in more detail together in class. There will also be details on Blackboard.

RELIigious Accommodation
The University may provide a reasonable accommodation based on a person’s sincerely held religious belief. In making this determination, the University reviews a variety of factors, including whether the accommodation would create an undue hardship. The accommodation request imposes responsibilities and obligations on both the individual requesting the accommodation and the University. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their sincerely held religious belief shall be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious observances on which they will be absent by submitting a Request for Religious Accommodation Form to the instructor by the end of the third week of a full semester course or the end of the second week of a half semester course.

STATEMENT OF GRADING POLICY
Faculty have the choice to utilize either the standard grade policy or the plus/minus grading option but are required to indicate their grading scale on their syllabus. The University’s plus/minus grading system can be found at http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/grades.html

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. Students are responsible for knowing and following the university’s student honor code, Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures and also available at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION
Missouri State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible
discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, 417-836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor’s Department Head. Please visit the OED website at www.missouristate.edu/equity/.

**STATEMENT ON DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

If you are a student with a disability and anticipate barriers related to this course, it is important to request accommodations and establish an accommodation plan with the University. Please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (https://www.missouristate.edu/disability/), Meyer Library, Suite 111, 417-836-4192, to initiate the process to establish your accommodation plan. The DRC will work with you to establish your accommodation plan, or it may refer you to other appropriate resources based on the nature of your disability. In order to prepare an accommodation plan, the University usually requires that students provide documentation relating to their disability. Please be prepared to provide such documentation if requested. Once a University accommodation plan is established, you may notify the class instructor of approved accommodations. If you wish to utilize your accommodation plan, it is suggested that you do so in a timely manner, preferably within the first two weeks of class. Early notification to the instructor allows for full benefit of the accommodations identified in the plan. Instructors will not receive the accommodation plan until you provide that plan, and are not required to apply accommodations retroactively.

**DROPPING A CLASS**

It is your responsibility to understand the University’s procedure for dropping a class. If you stop attending this class but do not follow proper procedure for dropping the class, you will receive a failing grade and will also be financially obligated to pay for the class. For information about dropping a class or withdrawing from the university, contact the Office of the Registrar at 836-5520. See Academic Calendars (www.missouristate.edu/registrar/acad_cal.html) for deadlines.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

Reading on your own outside of class is a normal expectation for college courses, where we spent only three hours a week together. Because we spend so little time together, this also means that lectures in this course are designed to supplement your assigned readings, not recap them. You must do the reading outside of class time in order to succeed in this course. All reading assignments are to be completed BEFORE the beginning of the class period under which they appear below.
WEEK 1
M, Aug 17: Course Introduction
(No assigned readings; read ahead!)

W, Aug 19: How to Write a College-Level Essay
(No assigned readings: read ahead!)

F, Aug 21: How to Read and Analyze Primary Sources
Read the Declaration of Independence (available on blackboard); you will need to either bring a printed-out copy or an electronic device with which to view it to class

WEEK 2
M, Aug 24: Reconstruction: Overview
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 15 (578-591)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 98, 100, 101

W, Aug 26: Reconstruction: Life in the New South
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 15 (563-578; 591-601)
Voices of Freedom: Document 99

F, Aug 28: Completing the Conquest of the West
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 16 (626-642)
Voices of Freedom: Document 103, 108
How to Hide an Empire: Introduction; Chapters 1-2

WEEK 3
M, Aug 31: Incorporating the West into the Nation
(no assigned readings; read ahead!)

W, Sept 2: The Gilded Age: The Rise of New Wealth
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 16 (603-618)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 104-105

Give Me Liberty Chapter 16 (618-626)
Voices of Freedom: Document 106

WEEK 4
M, Sept 7: LABOR DAY (no class)
W, Sept 9: The Gilded Age: The Impact of Urbanization and Immigration
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 17 (658-675)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 107, 109
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapter 1

F, Sept 11: The Gilded Age: Politics and Protest
Give Me Liberty, Chapter 16 (642-646); Chapter 17 (648-658)
Voices of Freedom: Document 111

WEEK 5
M, Sept 14: WORK DAY (no class)
(Birth of a Nation Essay due by 11:59pm)

W, Sept 16: American Imperialism
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 17 (676-687)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 116, 117
How to Hide an Empire: Chapters 3-7

F, Sept 18: The Progressive Era: Overview
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 18 (689-722)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 120, 122
How to Hide an Empire: Chapters 8, 9

WEEK 6
M, Sept 21: Progressivism in Action
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 18 (723-732)
Voices of Freedom: Document 124

W, Sept 23: The Limitations of the Progressive Era
Voices of Freedom: Documents 112, 113, 123

F, Sept 25: World War I: Overview
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 19 (735-745)
Voices of Freedom: Document 126
WEEK 7
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 19 (745-777)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 129, 130, 131

W, Sept 30: Politics and Economics in the Roaring Twenties
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 20 (779-793)
Voices of Freedom: Document 137

F, Oct 2: The Culture Wars of the 1920s
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 20 (793-809)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 134
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapter 2

WEEK 8
M, Oct 5: The Great Depression and the Beginning of the New Deal
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 20 (810-816), Chapter 21 (819-835)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 145, 146
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapter 3

W, Oct 7: The New Deal’s Impact and Legacy
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 21 (835-858)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 148, 149

F, Oct 9: FALL BREAK (no class)

WEEK 9
M, Oct 12: Explanation of Midterm Assignment
(no assigned readings)

W, Oct 14: Dr. Gram at Conference (no class)
(work on your midterm)

F, Oct 16: Dr. Gram at Conference (no class)
(work on your midterm)

WEEK 10
M, Oct 19: WORK DAY (no class)
(midterm due by 11:59pm)
W, Oct 21: World War II: Overview
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 22 (861-873)
Voices of Freedom: Document 150
How to Hide an Empire: Chapters 10-13

F, Oct 23: World War II: Homefront
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 22 (873-904)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 156, 157
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapters 4-5

WEEK 11
M, Oct 26: The Cold War Begins
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 23 (906-917)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 159, 161
How to Hide an Empire: Chapters 14-17

W, Oct 28: America at Mid-Century: Two Feelings
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 23 (918-940)
Voices of Freedom: Document 164
How to Hide an Empire: Chapters 18-21

F, Oct 30: Watch the Film Red Nightmare in class
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 24 (942-970)
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapter 6

WEEK 12
M, Nov 2: The Beginnings of the Mid-Century Civil Rights Movement
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 24 (970-983)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 169, 173

W, Nov 4: The Emergency of Identity Politics
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 25 (985-1005; 1014-1019)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 175, 180

F, Nov 6: More Examples of Identity Politics
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 25 (1019-1022)
Voices of Freedom: Document 181
**WEEK 13**
M, Nov 9: Reviewing the Heights and Limitations of Modern Liberalism
(no assigned readings: read ahead!)

W, Nov 11: The Rise of the New Left
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 25 (1005-1014; 1022-1030)
Voices of Freedom: Document 178

F, Nov 13: The End of Vietnam and New Directions in Foreign Policy
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 26 (1041-1055)
Voices of Freedom: Document 186

**WEEK 14**
M, Nov 16: WORK DAY (no class)
(Received Nightmare Essay due by 11:59pm)

W, Nov 18: The Conservative Resurgence
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 26 (1032-1041; 1055-1062)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 184, 187, 188

F, Nov 20: The Reagan Revolution
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 26 (1063-1074)
Voices of Freedom: Document 190

**WEEK 15**
M, Nov 23: Explanation of Final Exam Assignment

W, Nov 25: Thanksgiving Break

F, Nov 27: Thanksgiving Break

**WEEK 16**
M, Nov 30: Living in the Shadow of Reagan
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 27 (1076-1105)
How to Hide an Empire: Chapter 22 and Conclusion
Guarding the Golden Door: Chapters 11, 12, Epilogue
W, Dec 2: US History Since 2000
Give Me Liberty: Chapter 27 (1105-1116); Chapter 28 (all)
Voices of Freedom: Documents 196, 197, 199, 201

FINAL EXAM: WED, DEC 9 BY 5PM VIA BLACKBOARD