

Hunter College
History 152: The United States Since 1865
(Fall 2020)

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This course surveys some of the major developments in United States history from 1865 to the 1970s. Among the subjects to be covered are the struggles for justice of African Americans and women; the expanding scope and power of the federal government; and the increasing engagement of the United States with the world.

Course Requirements

There will be **three class meetings** each week. There will be **two pre-recorded lectures available on the course website**. The **third meeting (check your schedule for the day and time) will be a discussion section in real time on Zoom led by one of the four teaching assistants**. The weekly discussion sections in which students will get together (virtually) in small groups to discuss the assigned readings are an integral part of the course. The discussion sections provide the opportunity to consider closely many of the key topics and themes that are presented in the lectures. Sections will also focus on the skills necessary to write the three short papers. Students are expected to attend the discussion sections and to contribute to the conversation. Readings should be completed prior to the section meeting.

You will be required to write **three short papers** based on the material covered in the lectures, discussion sections, and the course readings. (No additional reading is required to write the three papers.) **The first paper (2 pages) will be worth 20% of your grade; the second paper (2 pages) will worth 30% of your grade; the third paper (3-4 pages) will be worth 50%. To pass the course, students must submit all three papers. If a student does not submit all three papers, it will not be possible to pass the course. Papers submitted after the due date and time will be penalized 10 points per day.**

Note the Learning Outcomes for this class: Students will be expected to be able to periodize the history of the United States from the era of Reconstruction through the Vietnam War and be familiar with key themes and some of the leading groups and individuals active during those years. Students will be expected to analyze and interpret primary sources. Students will be expected to understand and write about the different ways in which historians have interpreted the period covered by the course.

Required Text

Elizabeth Cobbs Hoffman and Edward Blum, eds., *Major Problems in American History*, vol. II: since 1865 (4th edition).

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Lecture and Discussion Schedule

- August 28 Introduction: Course requirements and themes -- and the death of a president.
No Friday discussions sections
- September 1 Reconstructing America
Discussion (no reading this week): Why study history? History and contemporary America
- September 4 Reconstructing America and Race Relations in the South
- September 8 Race Relations in the South (cont.)
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, xxi-xxiv, ch. 1.
- September 11 The Industrialization and Incorporation of America
- September 15 Industrialization (cont.)
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 3.
- September 18 No classes
- September 22 An Urban Nation: The City in Turn-of-the-Century America
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 3.
Paper number 1 question circulated
- September 25 Americans All? -- Immigration
- September 29 No class or sections: Monday schedule
- October 2 The Age of Reform: The Progressive Era
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 5.
Paper number 1 due by 5:00 pm
- October 6 The Age of Reform (cont.)
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 5.
- October 9 The Age of Reform (cont.)

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- October 13 An American Empire? The War with Spain
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 4.
- October 16 "Safe for Democracy": Woodrow Wilson and the Great War
- October 20 Woodrow Wilson and the Peace Settlement
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 6.
- October 23 The 1920s: Society and Culture
Paper number 2 questions circulated
- October 27 Hard Times: The Crash of '29, the Great Depression, and the New Deal
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 8.
- October 30 FDR and the New Deal (cont.)
- November 3 New Deal (concluded)
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 8.
Paper number 2 due by 5:00 pm
- November 6 FDR and the Road to War
- November 10 On the Home Front: The Second World War in America
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 9.
- November 13 From War to Insecurity: Origins of the Cold War
- November 17 Suburbanites and Consumers in Postwar America
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, chs. 10 (not Lawrence essay).
- November 20 Suburbanites and Consumers (cont.)
- November 24 Struggles for Justice: The African-American Freedom Campaign
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 11.
Paper number 3 questions circulated
- November 25 Struggles for Justice: The African-American Freedom Campaign (cont.)
Classes follow Friday schedule

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- December 1 Struggles for Justice (cont.)
Read for all discussion sections: *Major Problems*, ch. 12.
- December 4 Struggles for Justice (cont.)
- December 8 The Vietnam War (final lecture)
No discussion sections this week
- December 11 **Paper number 3 due by 5:00 pm**

Policies on Accommodations, Academic Integrity/Plagiarism, and Sexual Misconduct

1. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: “In compliance with the ADA and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational access and accommodations for all its registered students. Hunter College’s students with disabilities and medical conditions are encouraged to register with the Office of AccessABILITY for assistance and accommodation. For information and an appointment contact the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, or call (212) 772-4857 or (212) 650-3230.”

E-mail: AccessABILITY@hunter.cuny.edu Web: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/access>

2. Hunter College/CUNY and the History Department’s Statement on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: “Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

Note that any student in this course who is found to have plagiarized a paper will receive an F for the course.

"Plagiarism is a very serious academic offense which will result in penalties ranging from reduction of class grade to failure in the course. Plagiarism occurs when the ideas and words, published or unpublished, of others are presented as one’s own without citing the original source. Plagiarism also occurs when the papers, research, or works of another person are presented as one’s own work."

Please see the full Statement on Plagiarism on the Department's website:
<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/history/departmental-policy-on-plagiarism/>

The CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity can be found here:

<http://catalog.hunter.cuny.edu/content.php?catoid=32&navoid=7677>

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Please see the RWC explanation of Documentation Citation and Plagiarism:

<http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/rwc/repository/files/the-documented-essay/guides-to-research-and-writing-from-sources/Quotation-Paraphrase-Plagiarism.pdf>

3. Hunter College's Policy on Sexual Misconduct: "In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- a. Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).
- b. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) or Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1123.

The CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct can be found here:

<http://catalog.hunter.cuny.edu/content.php?catoid=32&navoid=7602>