

Hunter College
History 361: America and the World in the Twentieth Century
(Spring 2022)

Professor Jonathan Rosenberg
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Office Hours: TBA

This class considers the interconnections between the United States and the twentieth-century world. In examining the trajectory of America's foreign engagement during the last century, we will focus on how and why the United States and its people interacted as they did with other nations and peoples in the last century. We will also explore the ways in which developments overseas helped shape aspects of American domestic life. Our goal, in short, is to reflect on America's impact on the world and, at the same time, to ponder how the wider world influenced life in twentieth-century America.

On Fridays, we will meet on Zoom, in real time (3:45-5:00 pm). At the Friday meetings, we will discuss the material that has been assigned for earlier in the week, which comprises a mixture of readings and pre-recorded lectures. These activities should be completed prior to the Friday meeting, which will allow for a stimulating and enlightening discussion. **To access the pre-recorded lectures, go to: link TBA.**

In addition to completing the readings and watching the recorded lectures, you will be required to write **two papers** based on the activities we have engaged in throughout the semester (readings, lectures, and discussions). Note that no additional reading will be required to write the two papers; that is, all papers will draw on material you have encountered in the class. **The first paper (approx. 4-5 pages) is worth 30% of your grade; the second paper (approx. 8-9 pages) is worth 60% of your grade. Class participation will count for 10% of your grade. To pass the course, students must submit both papers. If a student does not submit the two 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 or partial day that the paper is late. No papers will be accepted after a date specified for each assignment (typically 2 days after the due date).**

Short weekly assignment: For every Zoom meeting, I would like each student to write **one short paragraph (approx. 4 sentences)** on one or two things that you found to be **historically significant** in that week's reading. This is intended to help you to organize your thoughts for the class discussion. This does not need to be handed in, but I will typically ask a few students to read aloud their paragraph. Keep in mind that this short writing assignment is intended to help you reflect upon what you think is historically important in the week's reading.

Course Learning Outcomes for this class: Students will be expected to be able to periodize the history of twentieth-century U.S. foreign relations. They will be expected to know certain key themes and concepts in that history. Students will be expected to read critically and analyze in writing the assigned texts, and to know something about the important historiographical developments in U.S. foreign relations history. Students will learn how to use the required material (readings, lectures, and content of the class discussions) to write clear, persuasive, and grammatically correct essays. In so doing, the class will focus on the keys to good academic writing: conceptualizing a thoughtful historical essay; composing a clear introduction that includes an effective thesis statement; building an effective argument in the body of the essay; and writing a convincing conclusion.

Note on the availability of course readings: Readings marked with an * are accessible electronically through the Hunter Library. We will discuss how to access the other readings. There is one full-length book that is not available electronically, which you will need to purchase: Daniel Immerwahr, *How to Hide an Empire: A History of the Greater United States*. Here is the e-res link to access the course readings:

https://libguides.library.hunter.cuny.edu/er.php?course_id=82611

History 361 (Rosenberg-2)
Class Schedule

- January 28 – ZOOM Introduction: Course requirements, followed by a discussion:
Thinking about America and the twentieth-century world
- Week of January 31 The Dawn of American Power
Read: *Herring, *From Colony to Superpower*, 1-10, 265-336; skim 337-377.
Primary source: McKinley speech
Watch: Lecture on Spanish-American-Cuban-Filipino War
- February 4 – ZOOM Discuss: America's emergence on the world stage
- Week of February 7 The Era of the Great War – Overseas and at Home
ZOOM MEETING Read: *Herring, 378-435.
ON TUES FEB 8 *Rosenberg, *How Far the Promised Land?*, 15-50.
[TUES=FRI] Watch: Two lectures on the Wilson era: U.S. intervention; the peace settlement.
- February 11 No ZOOM meeting: Hunter closed
- Week of February 14 The Era of the Great War (cont.)
Read: Rosenberg, *Dangerous Melodies*, 3-85.
Primary source: Wilson's war address
- February 18 – ZOOM Discuss: World War I and American society
- Week of February 21 The Interwar Years
Read: *Herring, skim 436-483; read 484-537.
*Rosenberg, *How Far the Promised Land?*, 101-128.
Primary source: FDR speech
- February 25 – ZOOM Discuss: America between the wars
- Week of February 28 World War II
Read: *David Kennedy, *Freedom from Fear*, 746-797.
*Rosenberg, *How Far the Promised Land?*, 131-155.
Primary source: The war and race relations
Watch: Lecture on World War II
****Paper # 1 questions circulated****
- March 4 – ZOOM Discuss: World War II in America

History 361 (Rosenberg-3)

- Week of March 7 Origins of the Cold War
Read: *Campbell Craig and Fredrik Logevall, *America's Cold War: The Politics of Insecurity*, 1-138.
Primary source: Truman speech
Watch: Lecture on Cold War's Origins
- March 11 – ZOOM Discuss: The Cold War – origins and early years
- Week of March 14 American Race Relations and the Cold War
Read: *Mary Dudziak, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*, 3-115; 115-151 (optional).
Primary source: race relations and the Cold War
****Paper # 1 Due at 5:00 pm (via email)****
- March 18 – ZOOM Discuss: The Cold War and the struggle for racial Justice
- Week of March 21 The Cultural Cold War
Read: *Laura Belmonte, *Selling the American Way: U.S. Propaganda and the Cold War*, 1-158 (but skim 9-49).
Primary source: McCarthy speech
Watch: Lecture on the Second Red Scare
- March 25 – ZOOM Discuss: The Cold War at home
- Week of March 28 Cold War Cultural Diplomacy
Read: Rosenberg, *Dangerous Melodies*, 320-379.
Chapter by Neal Rosendorf, "Hollywood, Dictatorship, and Propaganda: Samuel Bronston's Special Relationship with the Franco Regime, 1957-1973," in *The United States and Public Diplomacy*, Kenneth Osgood and Brian Etheridge, eds.
- April 1 – ZOOM Discuss: fighting the Cold War with movies and music
- Week of April 4 The Vietnam War
Read: *Craig and Logevall, *America's Cold War*, 216-278.
James Fallows, "What Did You Do in the War, Daddy?" (*The Washington Monthly*, October 1975).
Watch two lectures: The Vietnam War; Civil Rights and the Vietnam War
- April 8 – ZOOM Discuss: America and the Vietnam War
****Paper # 2 questions circulated****

History 361 (Rosenberg-4)

Week of April 11 Begin reading Immerwahr, *How to Hide an Empire: A History of the Greater United States*

April 15 – Spring break: No ZOOM meeting

Week of April 18 – Spring break ---- Continue reading Immerwahr

April 22 – No ZOOM meeting

Week of April 25 Finish reading Immerwahr.

April 29 – ZOOM Discuss: America’s hidden empire?

Week of May 2 Read: *Mary Dudziak, *War-time*

May 6 – ZOOM Discuss: war in twentieth-century U.S. history

Week of May 9 No assigned reading. Work on final papers.

May 13 Final ZOOM meeting
We will discuss final papers and reflect on America and the twentieth-century world

May 16 ****Paper # 2 due by 6:00 (via email)****
Monday

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>

History 38267 (Rosenberg-5)

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: 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>

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>