

1993

## History of the United States II Syllabus

Steven Alan Samson

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COURSE TITLE: HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES II  
COURSE NUMBER: AMH 1020  
CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the United States' development from the period of Reconstruction to the present; stressing politics, economics, geography, social issues, and reform as related to contemporary society.

II. PREREQUISITE

College level reading and writing skills required.

III. TEXTBOOK AND RELATED MATERIALS

- A. The Enduring Vision, Paul S. Boyer, et al., vol. 2 [B]
- B. Student Guide, Barbara Blumberg
- C. Lectures on American History, Part II, Steven Samson [S]
- D. Outline and Readings, Steven Samson

IV. INSTRUCTOR'S NAME Dr. Steven Samson PHONE 757-2192  
OFFICE ROOM NUMBER 2-142 BUILDING 2

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Provide the student with a historical framework for understanding and evaluating major figures, trends, and issues in the development of the American commonwealth.
2. Enable students to explore the role of ideological presuppositions that have helped shape historical social and political activity.
3. Examine areas of constitutional and political continuity and change within our federal system of government.
4. Develop skills in historical research and effective writing in fulfilling the Gordon Rule requirement.
5. Promote a mastery of the historical and political knowledge required of an educated citizen and voter.

VI. MATERIALS GIVEN TO STUDENTS

Syllabus; Four Exams; Two Quizzes; Outline Maps.

VII. ASSIGNMENTS

Major Assignments: Read prologue and chs. 15-31 in the textbook, chs. 1-33 in the lectures, and all the supplementary readings. Fulfill the Gordon Rule writing assignment (see XII below) by April 12. Each student is expected to make one class presentation on a selected research topic.

#### VIII. TEST INFORMATION

- A. Four regular exams will be given, along with quizzes on geography. The exams are composed primarily of objective questions, including true-false, multiple choice, and matching questions, that test students' knowledge of the assigned readings and lectures. Each exam is worth 33 1/3% of the grade. The lowest exam score is dropped. The quizzes are pass/fail. Students that miss more than 20% on a quiz lose one point.
- B. Make-up exams normally may be taken in the Test Center until the next class session. Completed tests will be discussed in class, then will be collected and kept by the professor.
- C. Test Center: The center is open during most of the day and evening, Monday through Friday, except from 1:00-2:00 PM.
- D. Testing Out: No provision has been made.

#### IX. LAB

This is not applicable.

#### X. GRADING

- A. The final grade is determined by averaging the scores of the four exams. The grading scale is 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, and 0-59=F. In the event that classes average less than 70 points after two exams, the scale will be proportionally lowered.
- B. An "I" grade may be requested by the student if an illness, job change, or similar circumstance makes it difficult to take the last exam on schedule.
- C. There is no provision for an "N" grade.
- D. Students who miss no more than two class sessions will earn one point extra credit.

#### XI. CLASS ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is required. Roll is taken at the beginning of class. Tardiness and leaving early are treated the same as absences. Allowance is made for occasional emergencies. Persistent absence (seven or more class sessions), especially if it is unexcused, will result in a lower or failing grade. One point is deducted for each class missed after a total of six.

Please note that April 12 is the last date for withdrawal.

## XII. OTHER

Gordon Rule: The state writing requirement for this course (1500 words) may be met through an essay on a selected topic, a series of short answers to study questions, or a combination of the two.

## XIII. COURSE CALENDAR/CLASS ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Weeks 1-5: prologue, B. 15-18; S. 1-11; First Exam

Weeks 6-10: T. 19-22; S. 12-23; Second Exam

Weeks 11-13: T. 23-26; S. 24-31; Third Exam

Weeks 14-16: T. 27-31; S. 33-34; Fourth Exam: May 3