

History 2620.002  
United States History from 1865

## Fall 2012

MWF 9 – 9:50 am  
LIFE A204

Dr. Donald K. Mitchener  
Office: Wooten Hall Room 228  
e-mail: donaldkeithmitchener@verizon.net

### Required Books:

TEXT: Murrin, et al. *Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People*, Compact 6<sup>th</sup> ed., Vol. II.  
READER: *University of North Texas Department of History Reader in American History*, Vol. II.

### Purpose of Course:

To provide the student with an understanding of the political, economic, and social development of the United States since the end of the Civil War. It is hoped that each student also will learn to apply this knowledge in the making of contemporary political, economic, and social decisions.

### Course Requirements and Grading Policies:

There will be two (2) tests and a final. All will be graded on a strict 100-point scale.

The final will **NOT** be comprehensive.

### The grades will be assigned as follows:

A = 90 - 100 points  
B = 80 - 89 points  
C = 70 - 79 points  
D = 60 - 69 points  
F = 59 and below

### Tentative Calendar (Subject to Change)

The major exam schedule is as follows:

Test 1	Monday, October 1
Test 2	Friday, November 2
Final	Monday, December 10 (8 – 10 am)

**The Final will include an extra credit question. No other extra credit work will be assigned or accepted.**

Students will take three (3) tests. All points from tests will be added together and divided by the number of tests (3).

### Structure of Major Exams:

Major exams will consist of one (1) 30-point essay question, two (2) 15-point short answer questions, and twenty (20) 2-point fill-in-the-blank sentences. Students will be allowed 50 minutes each for Test 1 and Test 2. Students will be allowed 2 hours for the Final. Students will be given a review sheet at least one week before each exam that contains questions and terms from which those on the exam will be chosen. It is expected that each student will use the review sheet to prepare for the test. Student essays are expected to be responsive to the questions asked, coherently constructed, and grammatically sound. The most important objective when answering essay questions should be the **demonstration** of what the student knows about the subject being addressed. Exam essays will be graded with these criteria in mind.

### Punctuality and attendance:

Students are expected to be on time for all class meetings and examinations. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Attendance will be used, at the instructor's discretion, to determine whether or not the student receives the instructor's "benefit of the doubt" when grades are assigned at the end of the semester.

**Office Hours:**

Monday and Wednesday 12 noon – 4 pm in Wooten Hall Room 228.

**Contacting Your Instructor:**

It is best to contact your instructor via email. I am not in my office outside of office hours very often, but I check my email regularly. I will get back with you as soon as possible.

**Information Concerning Grades:**

FERPA rules require that information concerning grades be communicated directly to students by the instructor. This means that I cannot communicate information concerning a student's grades via email or telephone. The instructor and student must meet face-to-face.

**Handout and Test Return Policy:**

Those students missing class when instructional items and graded tests are distributed can pick up missed materials and graded tests during office hours.

**Class Notes:**

Unless special circumstances require it, the instructor will not furnish class notes or copies of the presentations to students. If you miss a lecture, get the notes from one of your fellow students in the class.

**Student Behavior:**

Students are expected to act like responsible adults in class. This means no talking or engaging in any other disruptive activity once class has begun. Students may speak when called upon by the instructor or, within reason, when reacting to something done or said by the instructor. Students who fail to comply with this standard of behavior will receive a warning. If a second warning proves necessary, then the offending student/students will be told to leave the classroom.

Persons who are late getting to class on the day of a test or on the day of the final will not be allowed to take the test/final if they arrive after any students have completed and handed in their tests. Know what day your tests are being given and get to class on time.

If you leave class while a test is being administered with your books or any other materials in your possession, your test will be taken and graded based upon what you have completed.

**Cell Phones:**

Cell phones will be turned completely off. If a student needs to have the cell phone on vibrate for some reason, he or she must see the instructor before class for permission.

***During tests, cell phones must be put away so that they are not visible to the student. No text messaging allowed. Sending or receiving text messages during an exam will be considered prima facie evidence of cheating and will be handled according to the policy stated in this syllabus.***

**Use of Computers in Class:**

Students may use computers to take notes in class. However....

While the instructor understands the popularity and convenience of laptops for this purpose, he also knows that far too often students use their computers to play games and surf the Internet. The misuse of a computer during class in this manner not only harms the student engaged in the activity, but it also is a distraction to others around the student who might actually be in class for the purpose of taking notes in preparation for the tests. To protect the studios, students who misuse their computers in this way will, when caught, be told to shut off their computer.

### **Make-up Policy for Major Exams**

A student missing one of the first two exams must make up the exam within one week (Example: an exam administered on a Monday must be made-up before the start of class the following Monday). A make-up exam will be placed in the History Help Center for students who **meet with the instructor** and arrange to take the make-up. Make-up exams will not be automatically placed in the Help Center nor will they be placed in the Help Center as the result of an emailed request. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that a missed exam is made up within the specified one-week period. Unless other arrangements are made with the instructor, and at the discretion of the instructor, all students who do not make up a test within the one-week make-up period will receive a "0" ["zero"] for that exam. **THE MAKE-UP EXAM IS ONE ESSAY QUESTION FOR 100 POINTS.** The instructor's advice is that the student should not miss the exam in the first place.

This is a **MAKE-UP EXAM**, not a retest. Once you have taken a major exam, you cannot take it again in order to try to make a better grade.

The Final is the Final. There are no make-ups for the final. Know what day and time the final is being given and make sure you get to class on the correct day and at the correct time.

### **Disability Accommodation (ADA):**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323. The ODA liaison for the Department of History is Dr. Pomerleau (Wooten Hall Room 234; phone 940-565-4214).

### **Academic Ethics (Cheating and Plagiarism):**

Students will be held accountable for acts of cheating, dishonesty, or plagiarism as defined in the student handbook. This includes, by the way, the use of cell phones to text answers to one another during an exam. Any student found to be engaging in any form of dishonest conduct during the taking of an exam will be expelled from that particular class period and will receive a "0" ["zero"] for that exam.

### **History Help Center:**

Located in Wooten Hall, Room 220, the History Help Center provides assistance to students enrolled in history courses at UNT.

***The Instructor reserves the right to add to and to make changes to any and all of the forgoing descriptions, instructions and/or information at his discretion.***

# Lectures and Readings

(chapters from the compact 6<sup>th</sup> edition of *Liberty, Equality, Power*, Vol. II)

1. Reconstruction (1863 – 1877)	17
2. West and New South	18
3. Second Industrial Revolution (1877 – 1901)	19
4. Urbanization (1877 – 1901)	20
5. Late 19 <sup>th</sup> -century Social and Political Movements	19 & 20
6. Populism to Progressivism (1865 – 1901)	21
7. American Imperialism (1860 – 1900)	22
8. Roosevelt / Taft (1901 – 1912)	21
9. Woodrow Wilson / World War I (1912 – 1920)	21 & 23
10. The Roaring Twenties (1920-1928) and the Republican Resurgence	24
11. Herbert Hoover and the Great Depression (1928-1932)	25
12. Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal (1932-1939)	25
13. World War II (1939 – 1945)	26
14. Cold War America (1945 – 1992) [emphasis on 1945 – 1960]	27-28
15. 1960s	28-29
16. Nixon and Carter (1968 – 1980)	29-30
17. Reagan (1980 – 1989)	30
18. George Bush and Bill Clinton (1989 – 2001)	30-32
19. September 11, 2001, and After	30-32