JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

HST104

U.S. HISTORY II FROM RECONSTRUCTION

3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
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Arts and Science Education
Mindy Selsor, Dean
HST104 U.S. History II from Reconstruction

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisite: none

B. 3 semester hours credit

C. U.S. History II from Reconstruction shows the development of the United States reconstruction to the present. It is designed to help students understand and function in their society. U.S. History II partially meets the history and political science requirement for the AA and AAS degrees. It does not meet constitution requirements. (F, S, Su)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES WITH ASSESSMENT MEASURES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Understand the historical process as an academic discipline and apply the perspectives, knowledge, and tools of the discipline.

B. Use critical thinking skills including problem, solving, analysis and synthesis and to develop these critical thinking skills both orally and in writing.

C. Understand the basic concepts, ideals, values, institutions, traditions, trends and perspectives (political, economic, social and cultural) that are continuous in American history.

D. Understand the continuing paradoxical relationships in American history that include multiculturalism and nativism, conservatism and liberalism, bigotry and freedom, internationalism and isolation amongst others.

E. Understand the nature of key social, economic, political, cultural, and other problems facing the United States today and in the future.

F. Understand the dynamics of cultural conflict, resolution and toleration.

G. The knowledge and comprehension of the origins and ever-changing nature of the American relationship with the rest of the world.

H. To place current events in a historical framework.

Each outcome may use one, some, or all of the following assessment measures: class discussions, quizzes, tests, written assignments, group projects, oral presentations, and research assignments.
III. COURSE OUTLINE

A. Unit I: The Rise of Industrial America
   1. Unit I Outline
      a. Reconstruction
      b. Settling of the American West
      c. The Industrial Revolution
      d. The Rise of the Industrial City
      e. Daily, Popular, and High Culture in Late Nineteenth Century America
      f. Agrarian Reform and Gilded Age Politics
   2. Unit I Objectives
      a. Describe the political, social, and economic goals of Reconstruction for African Americans, Southern whites, and the American government. Analyze the results of the conflict between these three groups.
      b. Assess the conflict between Native Americans and the U.S. and the results that it produced.
      c. Explain how the West functioned as colonial economy and include the main social, economic, political, and cultural characteristics of the region.
      d. Describe the economic transformation known as the industrial revolution and its economic, social, and political consequences.
      e. Identify the problems faced by American workers and explain how they endeavored to redress these issues individually and collectively.
      f. Evaluate the impact of immigration on American life in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.
      g. Describe the political, social, cultural, and technological developments that defined urban life in fin de siècle America.
      h. Analyze the problems faced by American farmers and how they organized to redress these issues.
      i. Evaluate the significant characteristics and movements of American politics during the Gilded Age and explain how the 1890’s marked a watershed of a new era.

B. Unit II: The U.S. Become a World Power
   1. Unit II Outline
      a. American imperialism
      b. The Progressive Era
      c. World War I
      d. The 1920’s
      e. The Great Depression
2. Unit II Objectives
   a. Explain why the Spanish-American War was such an important turning point for American foreign policy and how it shaped subsequent American actions in Asia and Latin America.
   b. Describe who the progressives were, their goals, and how they reshaped American life at the local, state, and national levels.
   c. Assess the causes, the important developments, and results of World War I.
   d. Explain how World War I transformed the U.S. politically, socially, and economically.
   e. Explain how the American economy was transformed in the 1920’s and in the process produced a mass consumer society and mass culture.
   f. Analyze the important political developments of the 1920’s, including the conservative backlash of immigration restriction, the rise of the 2nd Klan, and fundamentalism.
   g. Evaluate the important cultural development of the 1920’s including the New Woman and the New Negro.
   h. Analyze the causes and the consequences of the Great Depression and explain how the American government failed to redress the crisis.

C. Unit III: The Age of Liberalism
   1. Unit III Outline
      a. The New Deal
      b. World War II
      c. The Cold War
      d. The 1950’s
      e. The 1960’s
   2. Unit III Objectives
      a. Explain how Franklin Roosevelt redefined the role of government and the Democratic Party in American life with his various New Deal programs and agencies committed to recovery, relief and reform.
      b. Describe the changes in American life during the New Deal years.
      c. Evaluate the causes, important developments, and results of World War II.
      d. Explain how World War II transformed the U.S. politically, socially, culturally, and economically.
      e. Describe the origins, central conflicts, important policies that shaped the Cold War internationally and domestically.
      f. Analyze the nature of postwar American prosperity in the 1950’s and 60’s.
      g. Describe the origins, the conflicts, evolution, the accomplishments, and the legacy of the civil rights movement.
h. Assess the important accomplishments and failures of the Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson administrations.
i. Analyze the origins, rise, and important issues of the New Left and the Counter Culture, and include how these two movements merged.
j. Describe the origins and important developments of American involvement in Vietnam and how this war came to consume American life in the 1960’s.

D. Unit IV: Recent America
1. Unit IV Outline
   a. The 1970’s and the Decline of Liberalism
   b. The Conservative Resurgence
   c. An Economic Transformation: Financing Information Technology, and Globalization
   d. The 1990’s
   e. The Global Challenge of Economic Interdependence, Terrorism and the Environment

2. Unit IV: Objectives
   a. Explain how the crises of the 60’s and 70’s fractured American liberalism.
   b. Describe the important ways the Nixon presidency defined America in the late 60’s and early 70’s.
   c. Assess the causes and the consequences of stagflation and recession in the 1970’s and early 1980’s.
   d. Analyze the rise, the important themes and issues, and the impact of identity politics.
   e. Evaluate the origins of modern conservatism, its important issues, and its political triumph through the leadership of Ronald Reagan, Newt Gingrich, and George W. Bush.
   f. Analyze the last years of the Cold War, its end, and its legacy.
   g. Describe the important accomplishments and failures of the Reagan, H.W. Bush, and Clinton administrations.
   i. Evaluate the causes of the expansive economic growth of the 1990’s and its social, cultural, and political impact.
   j. Assess the global challenges of economic interdependence, terrorism and environmental degradation.

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
A. Lecture
B. Discussion
C. Student presentations
D. Films and video
E. Assigned readings
F. Study guides
G. Multimedia presentations
H. Research assignment

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK


VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS

A. Textbook and other assigned readings
B. Notebook and writing implements
C. Access to newspapers, periodicals, and the internet

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

A. Library data bases, History Center, and holdings
B. Current periodicals
C. Online state and federal resources
D. Local museums and historical sites

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Periodic examinations, consisting of written essays and objective questions.
B. Subject assessment assignments, e.g. minute papers, quizzes, papers, group projects.
C. Outside reading analysis, e.g. essay questions, tests questions, papers.
D. Special projects as required.
E. Attendance and participation in class discussion.
F. Notebook journals
G. Research projects
H. Final Exam

IX. GRADING SCALE

A – Consistent excellence
B – Superior work
C – Average
D – Below average
F – Failing

X. ADA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-797-3000. ext. 169).

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook. See the College website: http://www.jeffco.edu/jeffco/index.php?option=com_weblinks&catid=26&Itemid=84