



## Shanghai Jiao Tong University

### HI903 American History Since 1865

**Term:** May 29 – June 23, 2017 **Instructor:** Miles L. Bradbury

**Home Institution:** University of Maryland College Park

**Email:** BRADBURL@UMD.EDU

**Office Hours:** 9-10 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays in Faculty Room, #505, Main Building

**Class Hours:** M-F, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

**Credit:** 4 units

#### Course Description

The course surveys the political economic, social, and cultural history of the United States since 1865 and provides an introduction to some of the major historiographical issues underlying the study of its history. As much as possible within the limits of a survey course, it attempts to place the internal history of the United States in a global context. The lectures, section discussions, and readings are intended to complement each other in this undertaking, and none should be neglected.

#### Course Goals

The course will introduce students to a broad overview of United States history since 1865 and help them to develop the analytical and critical skills necessary to understand it, as well as lay a foundation for students who wish to go on in history. It will also help them to cultivate a historical understanding of the human experience. We do not study the past to illuminate the present, nor to predict the future, but to train our minds to be better able to react to the challenges of the present. As historians, we are not nostalgic about the past, but we do find it an infinitely fascinating reservoir of dilemmas, wisdom, and folly.

#### Required Text

Textbook: James A. Henretta, et al., *America's History*, 8<sup>th</sup> edn. Volume 2: Since 1865. ISBN: 978-1-4576-2817-7. Available as an e-book.

#### Grading Policy

1. Grades will be based on:

a. The mid-term examination to be given on June 9. It will be 90 minutes in length. The examination will consist of two essay questions and possibly some identification questions. It will cover the lectures and required readings from May 29-June 8. Study questions will be made available in advance, and the examination will be based on them.

b. The final examination to be given on June 23. It will be 90 minutes in length. The



examination will consist of two essay questions and possibly some identification questions. It will cover the lectures and required readings from June 12-22. Study questions will be made available in advance, and the examination will be based on them.

2. Determination of final grade:

Mid-term examination	35%
Final examination	45%
Class participation	20%

3. Number/letter grade and GPA breakdowns:

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0

### Course Schedule

The course schedule gives the date, subject, and chronological range of a given lecture. All are subject to change, if necessary.

May 29. Introduction.

May 30. Reconstruction, 1865-1877.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 478-507.

May 31. Westward Ho!, 1854-1890.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 508-544.

June 1. Industrializing America, 1877-1911.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 545-573.

June 2. The Victorian Age, 1880-1917.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 574-605.

June 5. Urbanizing America, 1880-1917.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 606-635.



June 6. The Progressive Era, 1880-1917.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 636-671.

June 7. Carrying a Big Stick, 1898-1918.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 672-703.

June 8. Boom and Bust, 1919-1932.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 704-733.

June 9. Mid-term Examination.

This examination will cover the lectures and required readings from May 29-June 8.

June 12. Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1939.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 734-765

June 13. The World at War, 1937-1945.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 766-803.

June 14. America and the Cold War, 1945-1963.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 804-837.

June 15. A Consumer Society, 1945-1963.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 838-867.

June 16. The Civil Rights Era, 1941-1973.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 868-901.

June 19. From Kennedy to Nixon, 1961-1972.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 902-935.

June 20. The Search for Order, 1973-1980.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 936-971.

June 21. Conservatism Reborn, 1980-1991.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 972-1001.

June 22. The Global Village, 1989-Present.

Required reading:

Henretta, et al., pp. 1002-1033.

June 23. Final Examination.

This examination will cover the lectures and required readings from June 12-22.



### Related Matters

1. The use of cell phones lap tops, and similar devices is not permitted during the class without the permission of the instructor.
2. Class attendance is a primary and required form of class participation. Class participation grades will reflect any unexcused absences. Students who wish an absence from class to be excused must meet with the teaching assistant to establish that it was related to medical or similar academically legitimate reasons.