**GROSSMONT COLLEGE**

**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

Curriculum Committee Approval: 05/18/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 06/15/2021

# **HISTORY 109 – MODERN AMERICAN HISTORY**

1. **Course Number Course Title Semester Units**

HIST 109 Modern American History 3

**Semester Hours**

3 hours lecture 48-54 total hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. **Course Prerequisites**

None

**Corequisite**

None

**Recommended Preparation**

None

3. **Catalog Description**

A historical survey tracing the political, social, and cultural events that have developed and transformed the United States from 1865 to the present. Emphasis is placed upon Reconstruction, Big Business, Industrialization, Labor, Immigration, Native American Wars, Westward/Frontier Expansion, Gilded Age, Overseas Colonial Expansion, Progressive Era, World War I, Roaring 20s, Depression Era, World War II, Cold War, 1950s and 1960s, Civil Rights Movement, social and political movements/protests, late 20th and early 21st century domestic and international events. The course also explores the creation of significant modern American institutions, ideals, thought, ideologies and legal/constitutional features.

4. **Course Objectives**

The student will:

1. Identify the physical setting and major landmarks of the modern United States

and surrounding North American regions.

b. Discuss the events, differing visions and the political and social impact of

American Reconstruction.

c. Examine reasons for the expansion of big business, industrialization and urbanization during the post- Civil War period.

d. Estimate the political, social and economic system of the southern states during the post-Civil War period.

e. Identify late 19th century national and state politics, parties, and ideologies.

1. Distinguish the major events and figures from the late 19th century American West and the last of the Native American Wars.
2. Discuss the political, social and economic impact of big business, corporate trusts and banks on late 19th and early 20th century America.
3. Analyze the reasons for America’s overseas expansion and colonial possessions during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
4. Define and discuss the motivations and goals of the American political and social Progressive Movement.

j. Examine the goals and contributions of the federal, state and local governments during the Progressive Era.

k. Explain and discuss the political, economic and social reforms in California during the Progressive Era.

l. Sketch the origins, events and aftermath of American involvement in World War I.

m. Describe the major political, economic, cultural, intellectual and social events of the 1920s (“Roaring”).

n. Analyze the causes, events and federal response to the Great Depression.

o. Outline the origins, events and aftermath of American involvement in World War II.

p. Define the meaning, events and participation of American involvement in the Cold War.

q. Demonstrate the role and contributions of women, ethnic and activist groups, immigrants, and labor unions in both postbellum and modern American society.

r. Examine the steps, processes and events in how the United States became a post-WWII global superpower.

1. Discuss and analyze American political, economic, cultural, intellectual and social life during the 1950s and 1960s.
2. Analyze the causes, events and figures of the American Civil Rights Movement.
3. Discuss American political, economic, cultural, intellectual and social life from the 1970s to the 1990s.
4. Summarize the political, social, economic and international challenges of the United States in the 21st century.
5. Examine modern constitutional amendments and Supreme Court decisions and their effect on modern American political power, civil liberties and democratic reforms.
6. Analyze the evolution of Constitutional thought in modern issues.
7. Examine modern political institutions and processes under the U.S. Constitution, such as legislative debates, power of the presidency, growth of the federal government and citizens’ demands for rights.

5. **Instructional Facilities**

Standard classroom

6. **Special Materials Required of Student**

None

7. **Course Content**

a. Reconstruction (1865-1877)

1) Presidential vs. Congressional Reconstruction

2) Presidency of Andrew Johnson

3) Radical Republicans

4) Freedmen’s Bureau

5) Impeachment of Andrew Johnson

6) Carpetbaggers/Scalawags

7) 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments

8) Presidency of Ulysses S. Grant

9) Political Scandals – Black Friday, Credit Mobilier

10) Compromise of 1877

b. Post-Civil War Politics

* 1. Gilded Age
  2. Presidencies of “post-bellum” America
  3. Populist Party
  4. Political Machines

c. Big Business, Urbanization and Labor

1) Industrialization

2) Transcontinental Railroad

3) Inventors – Edison, Bell

4) Industrialists/”Robber Barons”

5) Vanderbilt, Carnegie, Morgan, Rockefeller

6) Federal Anti-Trust and Business Regulation Acts

7) Northern vs. Southern Economies

8) Workers Unions – American Federation of Labor, Knights of Labor

9) Strikes – Pullman, Haymarket

10) European and Asian Immigration/City Life

d. Post-Civil War Literature, Culture, Thought, Social Reform

1) Twain, Crane, London, James, Dreiser, Gilman

2) Gospel of Wealth/Progress and Poverty

3) Women Suffragists/Feminism

4) Susan B. Anthony, Ida B. Wells

5) Women’s Christian Temperance Union

6) Educators – Booker T. Washington

e. Western Frontier and Agricultural Revolution

1) Last of the Indian Wars

2) Major Battles and Massacres - Sand Creek, Little Bighorn

3) Ghost Dance

4) Native American Leaders – Chief Joseph, Sitting Bull, Geronimo

5) Dawes Act (1887), Carlisle Indian School

6) Buckaroos/Cowboys

7) Western Economies – Mining, Cattle Drives, Homesteaders

8) Farmers/Grangers

f. Overseas Colonial Expansion – late 19th and early 20th centuries

1) U.S. Expansion into Pacific – Alaska, Hawaii, Samoa

2) Presidency of William B. McKinley

3) Alfred Thayer Mahan - navy

4) Spanish-American War

5) “Yellow Press” – William Randolph Hearst

6) Theodore Roosevelt – “Rough Riders”

7) American-Philippine War

8) Open Door in China

9) Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt

10) Panama Canal, Roosevelt Corollary

1. Progressive Era – late 19th and early 20th centuries

1) Jacob Riis – How the Other Half Lives

2) Muckrakers

3) Political Progressivism - Cities and States

4) Roosevelt’s “Square Deal”

5) Progressivism in California – Hiram Johnson

6) Initiative, Referendum and Recall

7) Presidency of William Howard Taft

8) 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th Constitutional Amendments

9) Election of 1912

10) Presidency of Woodrow Wilson

11) Wilson’s Progressive and Economic Reforms

h. World War I and Roaring 20s

1) Wilson’ Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

2) U.S. Entrance and Participation in WWI

3) U.S. Homefront during WWI

4) Civil Liberties Suspension and Committee on Public Information

5) Wilson’s Fourteen Points

6) Treaty of Versailles – Struggle for Ratification

7) Election of 1920

8) Presidencies of Warren Harding and Calvin Coolidge

9) Red Scare, Strikes, Raids, Race Riots, Lynchings

10) Prohibition

11) Immigration Quotas

12) Culture, Music, Sports, Radio, Literature

13) Consumer Society/Economic Boom/Bull Market

14) Presidency of Herbert Hoover

15) Stock Market Crash (1929)

i. Great Depression Era

1) Economic Policies of Herbert Hoover

2) “Bonus Army”

3) Effects of Depression on Farmers, African-Americans, Hispanics

4) Presidency of Franklin Roosevelt

5) Eleanor Roosevelt

6) Hundred Days’ – New Deal Programs

7) AFL-CIO/Wagner Act

8) Impact of the New Deal on the West, especially in relation to California

9) New Deal Critics – Huey Long

10) New Deal and the Supreme Court

j. American and World War II

1) FDR and Foreign Policy

2) Events in Europe and Asia during 1930s

3) Rise of Fascism in Europe

# 4) U.S. Neutrality Laws (1930s)

5) Pearl Harbor Attack

6) U.S. Entrance and Participation in WWII

7) U.S. and California Homefront during WWII

8) Contributions of Women, African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans

9) Japanese-American Internment Camps

10) Battles in Europe and Pacific during WWII

11) Presidency of Harry Truman

12) Manhattan Project and Atomic Bomb

k. Post-War America and Cold War

1) Post-War Economic Prosperity, Baby Boom, Suburbs

2) “containment” of Communism

3) U.S. Cold War policies and doctrines

4) Fighting Communism at Home – Alger Hiss, HUAC, McCarthyism

5) Korean War

6) Culture, Music, Literature, Entertainment of the 1950s

7) Presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower

8) Space Race

9) Presidencies of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson

10) Cuban Missile Crisis/Berlin Wall/U-2 Spy Plane

11) Great Society

12) Vietnam War

13) Counter-Culture/Anti-War Protests

l. Civil Rights Era

1) Jim Crow/Segregation in South

2) Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

3) NAACP

4) Rosa Parks

5) Martin Luther King Jr.

6) Boycotts, Sit-Ins

7) Brown v. Board of Education (1954)

8) Crisis at Central High School – Little Rock, Arkansas

9) Civil Rights Act (1964)

10) Black Separatism – Malcolm X

m. 1970s, 1980s and 1990s

1) Presidencies of Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter

2) OPEC/Oil Crisis

3) Cold War Détente

4) Economic Recessions/Energy Crisis/Inflation

5) Watergate Cover up and Scandal

6) Iranian Hostage Crisis

7) Shifts in the Supreme Court and constitutional debates – Equal Rights Amendment,

abortion, gay rights

8) Presidency of Ronald Reagan

9) Rise of American Conservatism

10) Reaganomics/Deficits/Deregulation

11) AIDS Epidemic

12) U.S. and Middle East

13) Presidencies of George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton

14) End of Cold War/Fall of Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc

15) First Gulf War

16) Clinton Foreign Policy – Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia

17) Cyber America/Internet Bubble

18) Economic Boom

# 19) Feminism – Third Wave

20) Environmentalism

21) Clinton Impeachment

n. U.S. Enters 21st Century

1) Presidencies of George W. Bush and Barack Obama

2) September 11th Terrorist Attack

3 War on Terror

4) War in Afghanistan and Iraq

5) Age of Internet/Social Media

6) Health Care Reform

7) California Budget Crisis

8) Red States v. Blue States

9) Culture Wars

8. **Method of Instruction**

# a. Lecture

# b. Discussion and interpretation of primary documents and/or historical topics

# c. Study guides or examination reviews

# d. Multi-media presentations

# e. Visual aids, such as PowerPoint slides, transparencies, video/DVDs, etc.

# f. Internet websites

# g. Guest speakers

h. Collaborative projects

i. Library resources: books, periodicals, databases, reference works, and internet resources

pertaining to Modern American History

9. **Methods of Evaluating Student Performance**

a. Objective tests involving true or false questions, multiple choice, or multiple answer, mapping, or sequencing, which build on knowledge over modules.

b. Quizzes that assess module mastery and SLOs via multiple choice, multiple answer, t/f, sequencing, mapping, or short lists.

c. Oral and written reports on course material involving the use of primary and secondary source material to analyze topics, discuss cause and consequences, and demonstrate course level knowledge of relevant events and people.

d. Written essays based on prompts requirement students to discuss historical events in context, with reference to relevant individuals and case and consequences.

e. Group/Discussion activities involving the analysis of primary and secondary sources related to course material with an eye towards recognizing bias and presentism.

f. Research papers (6-8 pages minimum, 600 word minimum) on significant events, people, concepts, or socio-cultural developments understood within their historical context and demonstrating knowledge of changes over time and consequences.

g. Midterm and final exam with a strong writing (essay) component to assess students’ critical thinking skills as well as the course content. Other types of questions might include multiple choice, multiple answer, listing, defining, mapping, sequences, true/false, and short answer.

10. **Outside Class Assignments**

a. Prepare for an in-class essay of minimum 600 words about American culture during the Gilded Age by creating answers to sample essay questions, one of which will be asked in class. Preparation will involve reviewing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials to formulate a thesis in answer to the questions.

b. Prepare a research assignment outside of class, comparing and contrasting the presidencies of Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson during the Progressive Era, utilizing evidence from lecture, discussions, readings and any supplemental materials.

c. Conduct focused independent research and write a 6-8 page paper (minimum 600 words) on a post-1865 Constitutional Amendment of the student’s individual choice. The paper must demonstrate how their subjects relate to larger questions or themes in Modern American History.

d. Prepare for group discussions about the American Civil Rights Movement with each group focusing on different perspectives and experiences, such as noted leaders, belief systems and tactics/strategies, utilizing evidence from course materials and independent research.

e. Library and internet research with multiple sources and websites.

f. Take-home exams.

11. **Representative Texts**

a. Representative Text(s):

1. Kennedy, David M., et al. *The American Pageant*. Vol. II, *Since 1865*. 17th ed. Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2020.
2. Boyer, Paul S., et al. *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People.* Vol. 2, *Since 1865*. 9th ed. Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2018.
3. Goldfield, David. H., et al. *The American Journey: A History of the United States.* Vol. 2, *Since 1865.* 8th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2017.
4. Norton, Mary Beth., et al. *A People and a Nation: A History of the United States*. Vol. 2, *Since 1865*. 11th ed. Boston, MA: Wadsworth, 2019.
5. Brinkley, Alan. *An Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People*. Vol. 2. 9th ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2019.
6. Faragher, John Mack et.al. *Out of Many: A History of the American People*. Vol. 2. 9th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2020.
7. Henrietta, James A., et al. *America’s History*. Vol. 2, *Since 1865*. 9th ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2018.
8. Schaller, Michael, et al. *American Horizons: U.S History in a Global Context*. Vol. 2, *Since 1865*. 3rd ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2017.
9. *Merriam- Webster Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary*. 9th Ed. 2016.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

1. Hewitt, Nancy A. and Steven F. Lawson, eds. *Exploring American Histories A Brief Survey with Sources*. Vol. 2, *Since 1865*. 3rd ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2019.
2. Sheets, Kevin B. *Sources for America’s History.* Vol. 2, *Since 1865.* 9th ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2018.
3. Johnson, Michael P. *Reading the American Past: Selected Historical Documents.* Vol. 2, *Since 1865.* 8th ed. Boston, MA: Bedford St. Martins, 2020.
4. Sinclair, Upton. *The Jungle: the Uncensored Original Edition*. United States: Dead Authors Society, 2016.
5. Riis, Jacob A. *How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York.* 2nd ed. BN Publishing, 2019.
6. Chafe, William H., et al. *A History of Our Time: Readings on Postwar America*. 8th ed. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course our students will be able to:

* 1. Analyze primary and secondary sources and explain how they support a thesis statement.
  2. Explain relationships between the causes of historical events and their effects.
  3. Describe a relevant individual involved in an historical event and explain his/her significance in this event.