

Worcester State College, **HI 113** **US History III (1945-Present)**
Section 01 (+Honors), MWF 9:30 am, Rm S-104
Section 06, MWF 10:30 am, Rm S-104
<http://www.tonahangen.com/wsc/hi11310/>

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Course Description and Objectives:

This course covers American history and culture from the end of the Second World War to the present. Topics to be discussed include postwar American life, the Cold War, liberal consensus politics, conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Middle East, broadcast media and film, the civil rights movement and other rights movements, political history, the rise of both political and religious conservatism, post-industrialism, globalization, multiculturalism, and contemporary American culture. The aim of the course is to educate as broadly as possible about this period and to include a multiplicity of voices and perspectives. While survey courses provide an overarching narrative framework which many students will find helpful and tidy, one of the course's goals is to destabilize the notion that there is one single American story.

In this course you will learn information about the past, but more importantly, you will learn about the craft of doing history. This is more of a history "lab" course than a lecture course. You will become familiar with multimedia and digital resources for historical research, as well as more traditional print resources in the library. You will hone your writing and critical thinking skills. You should expect to be actively involved in your own learning and will begin the process of contributing to the field as budding historians.

Required Texts:

Our textbook will be William Chafe, Harvard Sitkoff and Beth Bailey, editors, *A History of Our Time: Readings on Postwar America* 7th edition (Harvard University Press) – called HOT in the syllabus.

You should also make sure you have a college-level history survey textbook, for general and background reading. If you took US History II (HI 112) or another American history class and still have a textbook that covers 1945 to the present, then use the one you have.

If you don't have a survey textbook that covers 1945 to now, then purchase the e-text of George Donelson Moss, *Moving On: The American People Since 1945*, 3rd edition (Pearson Longman). You can do that through the bookstore, or directly from the publisher (<http://instructors.coursesmart.com/0131898256>) which gives you online access to the book for several months. The paper version of that book is also in the bookstore, if you prefer that format.

Additional readings will be posted online as PDFs; you will need (free) Adobe Reader or FoxIt Reader in order to open and use them.

Course Requirements:

This course involves extensive reading, writing and discussion. You will be expected to read 20-50 pages a week (sometimes more), and to write approximately 20 pages over the course of the term. You will need to put in consistent effort during the whole semester. You'll need to have (or learn) basic computer and library research skills.

To take advantage of multiple learning styles, and to help create a community of learning in this classroom, I will assess your learning in several different ways.

- **Attendance and participation in class (20%)** – I take attendance in each class session. You should be prompt, present, and ready for discussion each day. I expect class discussion will be lively, respectful, and substantive. There will be periodic, unannounced quizzes at the beginning of class, which will count for ¼ of your A&P grade.
- **Exams (30%)** – we will have 3 closed-book hour-long tests. The last test will take place during the final exam period but will be the equivalent of the other two exams. Your lowest test score is dropped; there are **no makeup exams**. Exams are held Feb 19, March 29, and May 10 (Sec 01) or May 12 (Sec 06).

You'll note that half of your grade involves showing up ready for class, keeping up with and responding to the reading, and taking at least 2 of the 3 exams. The other half of your grade is based on your written work and research.

- **Little Papers (4 @ 5% each = 20%)** – 5 are assigned, so you can miss or drop one. Each LP assignment asks you to consider a different kind of historical source, or explore a different approach to historical interpretation. You then write a short but polished (2-page) paper. These small assignments are a good way for you to experiment with new formats or sources and to give you hands-on experience with making your own conclusions from historical evidence. For your grade I will take the best 4 out of these 5. No makeups or late work accepted on Little Papers. LPs are due on Jan 22, Feb 1, Mar 5, Apr 21, and May 3.
- **Research Essay (10%)** - you will research and write one paper (5-7 pages) representing original research using a defined set of primary sources. Due April 9.
- **Congressional Simulation (15%)** – Seven times during the semester, we will take a break from lecture and discussion and run a simulation of Congress. You will receive an assignment to work in committees that reflect the real existing Congressional committees. Your simulation grade comes from the preparation and participation that you put into each Congress Day.
- **Committee Wiki (10%)** – Each committee receives one wiki page on the course Congressional Wiki (<http://hi113.wikispaces.com/>). The committee will need to maintain the page in cooperation with the parallel committee in the course's other section. The page could contain news, links, discussion, plans, documents and their revision, legislation in progress—whatever committee business you deem important. Your wiki page will be periodically assessed to make sure you're keeping it current after each "session of Congress" day. This is a GROUP grade, everyone on the committee receives the same grade. Your group will be responsible among itself for dividing up the work fairly.
- **Congressional Paper (5%)** – at the end of the term, you'll write a (4-page) paper considering your committee's work, and reflecting on the project as a way to learn about recent US history. Due on or before the day of your final exam.

Your grade will be determined this way:

Attendance & Participation (A&P) – includes in-class quizzes	20%
Exams (1 is dropped, so 2 @ 10 each) – 2/19, 3/29, 5/10 or 5/12	20%
Little Papers (1 is dropped, so 4 @ 5 each) – 1/22, 2/1, 3/5, 4/21, 5/3	20%
Research Paper - due 4/9	10%
Congressional Simulation – preparation & participation	15%
Committee Wiki – GROUP grade	10%
Congressional Paper – analysis and reflection – due 5/10 or 5/12	5%
Total	100

Reminder: I drop your lowest test grade and one of the Little Papers.
For that reason, **there are no makeup exams, and no makeups for missed LPs.**

The Fine Print:

Regarding plagiarism: On papers and exams, doing your own work is absolutely essential. In ALL papers, you *must* cite the sources of any information, quotations or ideas which are not your own work, using standard citation styles (Chicago Style or MLA). Let me be very clear. You cannot clip and paste text from the internet into your papers and pass it off as your own writing. You cannot turn in a paper someone else has written or that you have bought online. Plagiarized work or exam cheating will automatically get a zero on the assignment and may cause you to fail the class, at my discretion. **I take such violations very seriously.** Please familiarize yourself with and follow the college policy on Academic Honesty in the Student Handbook.

- My in-class technology policy: we will be busy in every class session, and we don't need any technological distractions. Silence your cell phones before you enter the classroom. If you choose to bring a laptop to class, I expect that you will be using it **only** for taking notes or accessing the course's relevant electronic documents to refer to during discussion. Do not use your laptop in class to surf the internet, check your email, update your Myspace page, or the like.
- If you have a documented disability (learning or otherwise), and you need a reasonable accommodation made for you in this course, please consult with me immediately at the outset of the course so we can design a solution that will help you be successful in the class.

Date	#	Topic/ Reading
W 1/20	1	Course intro: the American People in the 21 st century HOT 496-500
F 1/22	2	America in 1945 (LP 1 due) HOT 1-16 = McMahon Moss 1-18/ GML 832-840
M 1/25	3	Atomic Age & the Cold War HOT 17-40 = Kennan, Eisenhower, Good Housekeeping Moss 19-34/ GML 840-851
W 1/27	4	McCarthyism HOT 41-64 = HUAC, McCarthy, Haynes/Klehr Moss 40-44, 50, 79-93/ GML 851-854, 860-870
F 1/29	5	Korea & Vietnam Wars begin – get Congress Committee Assignments Reading online = “History” at Koreanwar.com Moss 34-40, 86-89/ GML 847-849, 895-896
M 2/1	6	Tube of Plenty (LP 2 due) Reading: Scheiner, “Would You Like to be Queen for a Day?” [pdf] Moss 57-61, 63-75/ GML 871-884
W 2/3	7	Congress Day 1
F 2/5	8	Fair Deal, Labor, Organization Man & Woman Reading: Evans, “The Cold War and the Feminine Mystique” [pdf] Moss 45-50, 61-63/ GML 854-859, 868-869, 885-890
M 2/8	9	Youth Culture, Juvies Reading: Juvie document packet [pdf] Moss 68-72, 76-78/ GML 896-899

Date	#	Topic/ Reading
W 2/10	10	Congress Day 2
F 2/12	11	Election of 1960 HOT 81-93 = Port Huron, YAF, JFK Inaugural Moss 97-106/ GML 909-911
M 2/15	No Class	
W 2/17	12	Cuban Missile Crisis "The Showdown" from Time Magazine, 11/2/1962 [pdf] Moss 89-95, 106-112/ GML 918-921
F 2/19	13	Exam #1 (1945-1963)
M 2/22	14	Johnson, Great Society HOT 94-114 = Johnson, Schulman Moss 113-125 / GML 922-929
W 2/24	15	Civil Rights, Racial Justice HOT = 115-136 = Brown, Declaration, Moody, Chafe Moss 83-85, 102-106/ GML 899-909, 914-929
F 2/26	16	Many Civil Rights Movements HOT 137-162 = Rustin, Black Panthers, Rosales, Indians of All Tribes Moss 139-143/ GML 929-933
M 3/1	17	Summer of 1968 Reading: PBS, "Shock Year 1968" timeline [see online link] and Terry Southern "Groovin in Chi," <i>Esquire</i> 11/68 [online link] Moss 147-151/ GML 952-956
W 3/3	18	Congress Day 3
F 3/5	19	Women's Movement & Sexual Revolution (LP 3 due) HOT 163-197 = DeHart, NOW, Morgan, Vasquez, Schlafly Moss 143-146/ GML 943-952
M 3/8	20	Vietnam: View from the Front HOT 223-235 = Moore/Galloway and O'Brien, excerpts [pdf] Moss 127-132/ GML 938-940
W 3/10	21	Anti-War Movt HOT 236-260 = SDS, Chafe, Kerry, Clinton Moss 133-139/ GML 933-938, 940-943
F 3/12	22	Lessons of Vietnam, Remembering Vietnam HOT 261-274 = McNamara, Lind and Theriault, "Re-Membering Vietnam" [pdf]
3/15-3/19	Spring Break	
M 3/22	23	Watergate HOT 287-311 = Schrag, McQuaid Moss 154-169/ GML 957-970
W 3/24	24	Congress Day 4
F 3/26	25	The 1970s HOT 312-330 = Farber, "Crisis of Confidence" Moss 171-219/ GML 971-986
M 3/29	26	Exam #2 (1963-1979)
W 3/31	27	Congress Day 5
F 4/2	28	Reagan Era, elections of 1980 and 1984 HOT 385-389 = Reagan Moss 220-233/ GML 986-991
M 4/5	29	Iran-Contra and "Tear Down This Wall" Moss 234-249/ GML 991-1001 peer review day – bring research paper draft to class

Date	#	Topic/ Reading
W 4/7	30	Politics of the Right HOT 355-378 = McGirr, Dionne Moss 199-202, 212-213, 252-254, 273-277/ GML 978-982
F 4/9	31	Televangelism – Research Paper Due
M 4/12	32	Gulf War I HOT 393-417 = Herring Moss 266-272 / GML 1001-1003
W 4/14	33	Congress Day 6
F 4/16	34	The Clinton Years & the OJ Trial Reading: chronology of Clinton impeachment trial, http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/clinton/clintonchrono.html Viewing: PBS Frontline video segment about OJ trial [see online link] Moss 273-283/ GML 1003-1033
M 4/19	No Class	
W 4/21	35	The Year You Were Born (LP 4 due)
F 4/23	36	Multicultural America HOT 469-481 = Census Bureau Moss 287-292/ GML 1015-1030
M 4/26	37	Waco, Homegrown Terror Moss 283-285/ GML 1030, 1040
W 4/28	38	9/11 and Post HOT 418-438 Coates/Vok, 9/11 Commission Moss 296-298/GML 1038-1048, 1054-1059
F 4/30	39	“Never Get Involved in a Land War in Asia” HOT 429-436 = Bush, Sheehan Moss 299-309/ GML 1048-1054
M 5/3	40	Telling Recent History: Hurricane Katrina, the Election of 2008 (LP 5 due) HOT 485-495 = Coontz, Kornblut Moss 309-319/ GML 1059-1070
W 5/5	41	Congress Day 7
M 5/10		Sec 01 Exam #3 8:30 am (Since 1980) – Congress Paper due
W 5/12		Sec 06 Exam #3 12:30 pm (Since 1980) – Congress Paper due

1/12/2010