

**HIST 251A, United States 1865 to present***3 credits, 3 hours*

Survey of United States history from the Civil War to the present.

**Instructor**

Dr. Hugh Gordon

S213A

780-791-4981

[Hugh.gordon@keyano.ca](mailto:Hugh.gordon@keyano.ca)**Office Hours**

Monday 10:00 – 11:50

Wednesday 13:00 – 13:50

Thursday 10:00 – 11:50

**Hours of Instruction**

Wednesday 9:30 – 10:50 215 CC215

Friday 9:30 – 10:50 215 CC215

**Required Resources**

Oakes, McGerr, et. al., *Of the People: A History of the United States, Volume 2: Since 1865, with Sources*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Oxford University Press, 2015.

**Course Outcomes**

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

- understand and give an overview of the events that shaped American history after the Civil War
- practice historical analysis and research.
- learn research and essay writing skills.

**Evaluation**

Assignment	Value	Date due
Primary Source Assignment One	5%	Various
Primary Source Assignment Two	5%	Various
Participation	5%	Various
Midterm	20%	Nov. 8
Pop Culture and American History Assignment	10%	Oct. 4
Essay Proposal and Bibliography	5%	Nov. 3
Essay	20%	Dec. 1
Final Exam	30%	TBD
Total	100%	

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

**Essay Proposal and Essay**

There are several major assignments due in class, all mandatory. Students will create an essay proposal and bibliography for the essay. The essay proposal is due **Nov. 3**. Students will be required to show that they can conduct preliminary research and analysis. The essay will require students to use primary and secondary sources to analyze a particular event/concept in US History since 1865. A list of suggested topics will be provided, if a student wishes to write on a topic not listed, he or she will have to get the approval of the instructor. It is recommended that students use the text of primary sources provided as a starting point for research, but other research into primary sources is welcome. **The essay proposal must be submitted in order for the essay to be submitted.** The essay will be 2000-2500 words or 8-10 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, 12 point font). Three primary sources and two secondary sources will be required. Essays are due at the beginning of class on **Dec. 1**. Late essays will have 10% per day deducted from the final mark. Extensions may be granted if the student discusses the issue with the instructor before the assignment is due. If the student fails to ask for an extension, they will not receive any leeway regarding the final mark. Essays, footnotes/endnotes and bibliographies must be formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style.

**Participation**

On some class days, there will be a discussion on selected primary sources or articles. In a history course, discussion is essential to students' comprehension of the topic. Student participation will be measured based on frequency, accuracy and interpretation. Participation will be counted in class and on the course's Moodle discussions. **ATTENDANCE IS NOT A FACTOR IN MEASURING PARTICIPATION.**

**Primary Source Assignments**

Over the term, students will be required to submit **TWO** (2) response papers of 1-2 pages in length identifying what you feel the significance of the document is. You may find additional information to support your thinking. Students will have a list of primary sources to choose from. One student will select each source. The assignments will be due at the beginning of the discussion about them. They will not be accepted afterwards.

**Pop Culture and American History Assignment**

Students are required to review one or multiple depictions of American History in popular culture. This assignment is not a literary analysis but a discussion of history and memory. Points to consider include who is creating the work of popular culture, when it was written and if there is an ideological viewpoint that can be discerned from the text. Examples of acceptable pop culture texts will be provided by the instructor. Additional texts may be allowed upon discussion with the instructor.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE MANDATORY. IF ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT HANDED IN A STUDENT MAY RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE. Late assignments will have 10% per EVERY SINGLE day later deducted from the final mark.**

**Grading System**

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	<b>Progression</b>	C-	60 – 63.9	
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	

<b>Minimum Pass</b>	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

Week One: Sept. 6, 8	Introduction, American History to 1865, and the Civil War	
Week Two: Sept. 13, 15	Reconstruction and the Centennial	Chapter 15, 450-479
Week Three: Sept. 20, 22	The Gilded Age	Chapter 16-17, 480-535
Week Four: Sept. 27, 29	The Suffrage and Labour Movements	Chapter 18-19, 536-593
Week Five: Oct. 4, 6	“Big Stick Diplomacy”, the First World War and Wilsonian Democracy <b>POP CULTURE ASSIGNMENT DUE</b>	Chapters 20-21, 594-651
Week Six: Oct. 11, 13	Prohibition and the Jazz Age	Chapter 22, 652-681
Week Seven: Oct. 18, 20	The Great Depression and “the Forgotten Man”	Chapter 23, 682-709
Week Eight: Oct. 25, 27	The Second World War	Chapter 24, 710-741
Week Nine: Nov. 1, 3	The Pax Americana and the Early Cold War <b>ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE</b>	Chapter 25, 742-771
Week Ten: Nov. 8	<b>MIDTERM</b>	
Week Eleven: Nov. 15, 17	The Fifties and the Baby Boom Generation	Chapter 26, 772-803
Week Twelve: Nov. 22, 24	The Sixties, Vietnam and Protest	Chapter 27, 804-835
Week Thirteen: Nov. 29, Dec. 1	Watergate and the loss of American innocence <b>ESSAY DUE</b>	Chapter 28, 836-867
Week Fourteen: Dec. 6	Reagan, Bush and the End of the Cold War Globalization and the War on Terror	Chapter 29-30 and Epilogue, 868-953

**Please Note:**

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

**Performance Requirements****Student Responsibilities**

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

**Student Attendance**

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

**Academic Misconduct**

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

**Specialized Supports****Counselling and Accessibility Services**

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

**SKILL Centre**

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

**Authorization**

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

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Hugh Gordon, Instructor

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Louis Dingley, Chair

Date Authorized

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Vincella Thompson, Dean

Date Authorized

**Signed copies to be delivered to:**

Instructor

Registrar's Office