

Contact Information

Instructor: Office Location: Online
Email: Office Hours:
Phone:

Course Information

No. of Credits: 3 Meeting Location: Online- BLACKBOARD
Start Date: Meeting Days & Time: Online
End Date: Prerequisites:

Required Text (s)

Exploring American Histories, Combined Volume: Hewitt. Third Ed, MacMillan.,2019. (ISBN: 978131910637-9

OR

Exploring American Histories, Volume II: Hewitt. Third Ed, MacMillan.,2019. (ISBN: 978131910642-3

Technology Requirements

Hardware and Software Requirements : None

NOTE: For basic hardware/software requirements, please visit www.desales.edu/techrequirements

Course Description /Objectives:

This is a survey of the history and culture of the western hemisphere since 1877. Beginning with the conclusion of the American Civil War, this course will cover the rise of the United States as an international political and cultural power to the present day, employing an international and intercultural perspective of American history and culture.

Student Learning Outcomes:

For the **General Education Core Curriculum**, at the successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the following Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Competence in research, information literacy, and written and oral communication, using appropriate technology.

2. Knowledge of human culture as manifested in the liberal arts.

For the **History Major**, at the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate the following Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Contextualize events and lives of a particular era in relationship to larger historical developments.
2. Evaluate and analyze primary and secondary sources as the basis of historical inquiry and dialogue.

At the successful completion of **this course**, the student will also demonstrate the following Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the major social, political and cultural developments of the United States from the late nineteenth century through the beginning of the twenty-first century.
2. Intelligent and respectful analysis of the ways in which various groups of people interacted with one another and how those interactions shaped American society.
3. Competent use of a balanced combination of primary and secondary sources.

Method of Instruction:

This course will consist of a combination of written assignments, discussions, audio and video presentations, and exams.

Communication Methods:

Communications should take place within the context of BLACKBOARD. This primary method of communication is email through BLACKBOARD to an instructor account. Assignment and exam feedback will also be provided through BLACKBOARD. For urgent situations the instructor should be contacted by phone. This course will consist of a combination of written assignments, discussions, audio and video presentations, and exams.

Administrative Policies

ACCESS Attendance Policy:

In ACCESS, course attendance/participation is required. Students who do not attend or participate risk being dropped, withdrawn, or receiving a failing grade in the course. Students who have been withdrawn from the course will be refunded in accordance with the course withdrawal policy.

Online Participation Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Lack of participation for two or more class sessions may result in enforced withdraw from the course at the discretion of the instructor. Please see the "Attendance Policy" in the undergraduate [Bulletin of Information](#).

Academic Integrity

The following passages are excerpts from the DeSales University *Undergraduate Catalog*:

Plagiarism is the act of copying the ideas, and/or speculations, and/or language of any other person or persons, without acknowledgement, and presenting this material as your own original work to satisfy any academic requirement or complete any academic project. Plagiarism takes place even in the event that you make use of or paraphrase another person's unique and distinctive terminology, whether it be a single word or phrase or extended passage, without acknowledgement. Such use is considered plagiarism regardless of your intent to deceive.

Please refer to the *Undergraduate Catalog*, "Academic Honesty Policy" for a more complete discussion of plagiarism, cheating, and other inappropriate behaviors.

Class Recording Policy

By registering for or attending DeSales University courses, individuals consent to the recording of classes within the scope of the DeSales University Class Recording Policy, available at www.desales.edu/policies.

Succeeding as an ACCESS Student

Our Distance Education and Instructional Technology Department (DEIT) provides resources including:

- A readiness inventory (go to <http://www.desales.edu/onlinereadiness>).
- An orientation course in Blackboard (Click on the Courses menu, and in "Course Search" enter the keywords: "student orientation"). Click on the course ID to join the course.

Special Needs and Assistance

Students with a documented disability who wish to request course accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Learning and Disability Services (Dooling Hall, room 26, 610-282-1100 ext. 1453).

Course Evaluation

The student is expected to complete the CoursEval online when the questionnaire is sent to his/her DeSales email address.

Evaluation and Assessment

Grading Policy:

Your grade for this course will be determined primarily by your performance on the various web based exercises.

Students can earn up to 700 points for the course. The totals are as follows:

660 + points	A	510 to 539	C
630 to 659	A-	490 to 509	C-
615 to 629	B+	455 to 491	D+
580 to 614	B	420 to 454	D

560 to 579 B-

Below 420 F

540 to 559 C+

A Mid-Term and Final Exam are given in this course. Weights are as follows:

Mid Term - 100 points

Final Exam - 100 points

Participation in Discussions - 155 points

Weekly Assignments - 345 points

All assignments will be available one week prior to the due date.

Examination Policy:

Exams will consist of essay questions, multiple choice and short answers. Missing an exam will not be permitted and the student will receive a zero. In the event of serious illness or emergency, students may retake an exam provided written verification from an independent source is provided.

Exams will consist primarily of essay questions. There may be a few short answer and multiple choice questions. The final exam may be comprehensive.

Respondus LockDown Browser – This is a secure browser for taking tests in Blackboard. It prevents you from printing, copying, going to another URL, or accessing other applications during a test. Tests in this course require that Respondus LockDown Browser be used and you will not be able to take the test with a standard web browser.

Missed Assignment Policy:

late assignments may be assessed a penalty of 10% penalty if they are late by up to 72 hours, a 20% penalty if they are late by over 72 hours but less than a week, and a zero if they are not in within a week of the due date. No assignment more than two weeks late can receive a grade greater than 60. You should complete all assignments by midnight EST of the due date. Each assignment is explained under the heading “assignments.” **Technical difficulties do not qualify as a valid excuse for not submitting an assignment on time. Do not wait until the last minute! You should retain a copy and a backup of all assignments until you receive a grade, as some items may become corrupt or unreadable in transfer, in which event you can resubmit the backup/copy.**

Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom Sessions: There may be at least two optional sessions during the course. Students will receive one week’s notice of a session along with instructions. The sessions will be recorded and made available for those that cannot attend the live meetings.

Discussions: Students will be expected to participate in the weekly discussions as outlined in the assignments. For each discussion excluding the introductory assignment, students will be expected to complete 3 to 6 substantive posts per discussion. At the end of each assignment period, discussions will be locked and no further posts will be permitted. A document outlining the expectations for the discussion is included under “Course Information.”

Grading Policy

GRADE	PERCENT	DESCRIPTION
A	93.00 - 100%	660 + Points
A -	90.00 – 92.99%	630 to 659 Points
B+	87.00 – 89.99%	615 to 629 Points
B	83.00 – 86.99%	580 to 614 Points
B-	80.00 – 82.99%	560 to 579 Points
C+	77.00 – 79.99%	540 to 559 Points
C	73.00 – 76.99%	510 to 539 Points
C-	70.00 – 72.99%	490 to 509 Points
D+	67.00 – 69.99%	455 to 491 Points
D	60.00 – 66.99%	420 to 454 Points
F	Below 60%	Below 420 Points

Assignments (Subject to Change with Notice)

Name/Description or Type	Weight/Percentage of Final Grade
Initial Email Assignment	5 Points
Reconstruction and the Old West – Writing Assignment	40 Points
Introduce Yourself	15 Points
Industrial Society – Writing Assignment	40 Points
Family Trees – Discussion	20 Points
Urban Life and Origins of Progressivism – Writing Assignment	40 Points
Confusion Reigns! - Discussion	20 Points
Empire, the Great War, and the Twenties – Writing Assignment	40 Points
A League of Nations – Discussion	20 Points
Mid Term Exam	100 Points

The Great Depression and World War II – Writing Assignment	45 Points
Political Science - Discussion	20 Points
The Cold War and the Affluent Society – Writing Assignment	45 Points
The 1950s in Film – Discussion	20 Points
The 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s – Writing Assignment	45 Points
Vietnam - Discussion	20 Points
The 21 st Century - Age of limits, Age of Globalism –	40 Points
Attention – Wal-Mart Shoppers – Discussion	20 Points
Final Exam	100 Points

Course Calendar and Assignments

All assignments will be made available one week prior to the due date.

Due May 28

Initial Assignment # 1 – Introductory Email – 5 Points

Due May 28

Reconstruction and the West

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 14 & 15

Supplementary Reading: The Frontier Thesis

Mini-Lecture – “What is History?”

Supplementary Reading – “Jim Crow Laws”

Supplementary Reading – “Emancipation Proclamation”

Submit Assignment # 2 – Reconstruction and the Old West – 40 Points

Assignment # 3 - Discussion – Introduce Yourself – 15 Points

Due May 28

Industrial Society

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 16 & 17.

Films on Demand – “The Ku Klux Klan Emerges”

Supplementary Reading - "Unionist Samuel Gompers Asks "What Does The Working Man Want?"

Supplementary Reading – “Andrew Carnegie and the Gospel of Wealth”

Mini-Lecture – “Industrial Revolution”

Submit Assignment # 4 – Industrial Society – 40 Points

Assignment # 5 - Discussion – Family Trees – 20 Points

Due June 1

Urban Life and the Origins of the Progressive Era

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 18 & 19.

Mini-Lecture – The Progressive Era

Films on Demand – Remember the Maine

Submit Assignment # 6 – Urban Life and the Origins of Progressivism - 40 Points

Assignment # 7- Discussion – “Confusion Reigns” – 20 Points

Due June 1

Empire, the Great War, and the Twenties

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 20 & 21.

Mini-Lecture – The Great War

World War I Audio – Review website and submit impressions

Supplementary Reading - "Wilson Proposes a New World Order in the "Fourteen Points"

Submit Assignment # 8 – Empire, the Great War, and the Twenties - 40 Points

Assignment # 9- Discussion – A League of Nations” – 20 Points

June 4

Midterm Exam is Due – 100 Points

Due June 7

The Great Depression and World War II

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 22 and 23

Mini-Lecture – The Great Depression

Fireside Chats – Audio Link

Woody Guthrie – This Land is Your Land – website

Mini-Lecture – World War II

Films on Demand – Everybody Joins U.S. War Effort

Submit Assignment # 10 – The Great Depression and World War II – 45 Points

Assignment # 11- Discussion – Political Science – 20 Points

Due June 7

The Cold War and the Affluent Society

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 24 & 25.

Mini-Lecture – The Affluent Society

Film on Demand – TV Comes of Age

The Flow of History – Postwar Conformity and Seeds of Dissent in the 1950s – Review Website

Submit Assignment # 12 – The Cold War and the Affluent Society – 45 Points

Assignment # 13 Discussion – “The 1950s in Film – 20 Points

Due June 10

The 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s

Readings: Hewitt, Chapters 26, 27, and 28

Lyndon Johnson – 1964 – Campaign Ad – Review Website

A brief history of the Vietnam War – Review Website

Revisiting Watergate – Review Website

1980s Cultural History – Review Website

Submit Assignment # 14- The 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s – 45 Points

Assignment # 15 Discussion – Vietnam – 20 Points

Due June 10

The 21st Century - Age of limits, Age of Globalism

Readings – Devine – Chapter 32.

1990s Cultural History – Review Website

Impeach Clinton Website – Review Website

Submit Assignment # 16 – Age of limits, Age of Globalism – 40 Points

Assignment # 17 - Discussion – Attention Wal-Mart Shoppers 20 Points

June 12

Final Exam is Due – 100 Points