

HIS 210/270: US History/ Modern History of the United States

Spring Term: TR 12:30-13:45

Classroom:

Instructor: Itsuki Kurashina

Office: C-9

Office Hour: MT 10:30-12:00

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Course Goals

This course has two primary goals:

1. The students will acquire basic information about the recent history of the United States in order to prepare for further studies in American Studies.
2. The students will gain an understanding of changing images of “America” in the United States and various expressions of these images in domestic as well as international scenes.
3. The students’ ability of critical reading will be improved.

Course Description

This class will explain the characteristics of the United States of America by analyzing the historic changes in politics, economy, society, thought and culture. Especially this class focuses on images of “America” and their expression in domestic and international scenes. From this focal point, this class is designed to show interrelations of internal changes and international development of the United States.

Classroom Activities

Basic information will be provided in the lectures. The students have to submit two short papers on the textbook. These papers should be handed to another participating student, who should criticize the paper and make comments to improve it.

Prerequisite: None

Evaluation

Two short papers 30% (15% for each): Students attending have to read the assigned part of the textbook and provide information requested by the instructor. The paper must not be more than one, double-spaced, A-4 paper.

Critical analysis of another student’s short papers 30% (15% for each): Separate from the instructor’s evaluation of the two short papers above, the students are also assigned to read another student’s paper and discuss the points of improvement. The criticism should be written in one, double-spaced, A-4 paper,

and the instructor evaluates it as an indication of the student's ability of critical reading.

Examination 30%: An in-class, closed-book examination will be held at the end of the semester. All questions consist of multiple-choices, matching, and T/F.

Attendance 10%

Participation to Class Discussion Extra Points (up to 5%)

Course Materials

Textbook: John M. Murrin, Paul E. Johnson, James M. McPherson, Gary Gerstle, Emily S. Rosenberg, and Norman L. Rosenberg, *Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People*, Concise Fourth Edition (Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth, 2007)

Suggested Materials: Following four books would be helpful when students would like to study further in Japanese.

*Natsuki Aruga & Yui Daizaburo, eds., *Amerika no Rekishi: Tema de Yomu Tabunka Shakai no Yume to Genjitsu* [*The Topical History of the United States of America*] (Yuhikaku, 2003)

*Jun Furuya, *Amerikanizumu: "Fuken Kokka" no Nashonarizumu* [*Americanism: Nationalism and the "Universalist State"*] (University of Tokyo Press, 2002)

*Eiichi Akimoto & Hideki Kan, *Amerika Nijjuseiki Shi* [*Twentieth-Century American History*] (University of Tokyo Press, 2003)

*Kaname Saruya, *Monogatari Amerika no Rekishi* [*Stories of American History*] (Chuo Koron Sha, 1991)

Course Schedule

APRIL

9th **Course Introduction**

14th **Colonial Development**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 43-56 (14 pages)

16th **Independence of the United States**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 128-133, 148-157, 166-170 (20 pages)

- 21st **Establishing the US Constitution**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp., 180-191, 314-321 (20 pages)
- 23rd **Industrialization in the North**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 240-258 (19 pages)
- 28th **The South and the Civil War**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 258-262, 297-303, 357-360 (16 pages)

****First Short Paper is due on April 28th****

MAY

- 12th **Reconstruction & Industrialization**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 481-492, 505-513 (21 pages)
- 14th **Critics against Industrialization**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 492-502 (11 pages)
- 19th **The New Immigrants**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 513-524 (12 pages)

****First Response Paper is due on May 19th****

- 21st **Progressivism**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 533-541 (9 pages)
- 26th **Municipal and State Reforms**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 541-549 (8 pages)
- 28th **National Reform**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 549-558 (10 pages)

JUNE

- 2nd **A Turn in Foreign Policy**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 561-581 (21 pages)
- 4th **World War I and Wilson's Diplomacy**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 581-592 (12 pages)

9th **The United States under World War I**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 592-607 (16 pages)

11th **Prosperity after WWI**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 610-621 (12 pages)

****Second Short Paper is due on June 11th****

16th **Those Left behind the Prosperity**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 622-635 (14 pages)

18th **The Great Depression and FDR**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 638-645 (8 pages)

23rd **FDR's Efforts to Save the Country**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 646-661 (16 pages)

****Second Response Paper is due on June 23rd****

25th **New Deal's Domestic and International Impacts**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 662-670, 672-675 (13 pages)

30th **WWII and the US Society**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 675-679, 687-695 (14 pages)

JULY

2nd **"One World" to Containment**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 695-697, 699-710 (15 pages)

7th **Domestic Impacts of Containment**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 710-723 (14 pages)

9th **Affluence and Discontents**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 732-745, 750-753 (17 pages)

14th **Decline from the Supremacy**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 755-764, 775-778 (16 pages)

16th **Divided Home**
Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 765-771, 797-807 (22 pages)

21st **Reagan Revolution**

Required: *Liberty, Equality, Power*, pp. 807-809, 819-823 (7 pages)

23rd **Review**

****Examination in the Final Week****