

# Imperial Valley College

## History 121 United States from 1877 (3.0 Units)

Spring Semester 2013  
Instructor: Jacqueline Lopez  
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Phone: 760.235.8632  
Course No. 20021  
Class Meets: Wednesday, 6:30pm-9:40pm

Syllabus  
Room 204

### **Catalogue Course Description:**

This course is a survey of American history from the end of Reconstruction to the present. This course will cover the major political, economic, social, gender, racial, cultural and intellectual transformations of the modern American eras. At the completion of this course students will have a broad understanding of the most important ideas, personalities, movements, and events in the modern period.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course students will be able to (1) identify and recall key information from a historical text and/ or documentary film; (2) describe the causes and/or impact of a historical event; and (3) explain and analyze the key information contained in a primary source document.

**Textbook:** J. Faragher et al., *Out of Many: A History of the American People*, Vol. II. 5th Edition. Prentice Hall, 2009.

I have placed the following novels on reserve; there are copies available for purchase at the bookstore:

Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*, New York.: Penguin Press, c2002; Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. New York: Warner Books, c1960.

### **REQUIREMENTS & GRADING:**

Students will be responsible for material covered in lectures, as well as for the assigned readings. Students must finish the week's readings and come to class prepared to discuss the material. Students are expected to come to class on time and stay for the entire duration of the class period. If you are a few minutes late or choose to leave before class is over, you will lose all credit for class participation for that day. Class participation is very important and will count for **20%** of the total grade.

Assignments will consist of two 4-6 page analytical papers (8.5 by 11 inch paper, 12-point font, double-spaced with 1 inch margins), a midterm, and final exam. The first paper is due at the end of class on **Wednesday, February 13**. The second paper is due at the end of class on **Wednesday, April 10**. Each paper will count for **20%** of the total grade. Each paper will be assessed in terms of both content and proficiency in written expression. Students are required to give a 10 to 15 minute oral presentation related to their second paper topic. More specific instructions will be given about these paper assignments at a later date. Late papers will be lowered a half-grade per day, (i.e., "A" to "A-") beginning after class on the due date. Only in cases of documented medical emergencies will students be allowed to turn in papers on a later date.

The in-class midterm will count for **15%** of the total grade, and the final exam **25%**. The midterm and final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, short answer identifications, and one or more essay questions; both exams are cumulative and cover all relevant material in lectures, readings, and films. Paper topics and exam study guides will be handed out well in advance.

Assignments will be proportionally weighed as follows in determining your final course grade:

First Paper.....	15%	Due 2-13-13 at end of lecture
Second Paper.....	25%	Due 4-10-13 at end of lecture
In-Class Midterm.....	15%	2-27-13 ( <b>bluebook(s) and a scantron are required</b> )
Final Exam.....	25%	5-8-13 ( <b>bluebook(s) and a scantron are required</b> )
Attendance & Participation....	20%	Attendance is mandatory

Grading is based on a 100 point scale on all graded work, 100%-90% = A; 89%-80% = B; 79%-70% = C; 69%-60% = D; and 59%- or less = F. **Please note** that more than three absences will result in a failing grade. Absences must be excused in advance, and if based on illness, accompanied with a doctor's note. You may be dropped if you have three or more unexcused absences. No early final exams are possible. No Incompletes will be given. **It is your responsibility to drop the class.** Failure to do so may result in an "F" as a final grade. **Last day to withdraw with a "W" is on April 13, 2013.** Feel free to contact me to discuss any problems you are having with the course.

Any student with a documented disability who may need additional academic accommodations should notify the instructor immediately or contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services Office at 760.355.6312. (DSP&S, Room 2117, Health Sciences Building)

## **OUTLINE OF COURSE READINGS, WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS, AND LECTURES:**

### **Week 1: January 16, 2013**

- I. Course Introduction.
  - II. Reconstruction, 1863-1877
  - III. From Slavery to Freedom
- Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 17.**

**Week 2: January 23, 2013**

- I. Conquest and Survival, 1860-1900
- II. Indian Peoples Under Siege
- III. The Western Landscape

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 18.**

**Week 3: January 30, 2013**

- I. Production and Consumption in the Gilded Age, 1865-1900
- II. Labor in the Age of Big Business
- III. The Rise of Consumer Society

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 19.**

**Week 4: February 6, 2013**

- I. Democracy and Empire, 1870-1900
- II. The Crisis of the 1890s
- III. Nativism and Jim Crow

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 20.**

**Week 5: February 13, 2013**

- I. Urban America and the Progressive Era, 1900-1917
- II. Social Control and its Limits
- III. Women's Movements and Black Activism

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 21.**

**FIRST PAPER DUE IN CLASS THIS WEEK**

**Week 6: February 20, 2013**

- I. A Global Power, 1900-1920
- II. World War I
- III. American Mobilization

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 22.**

**Week 7: February 27, 2013**

- I. The Twenties, 1920-1929
- II. Postwar Prosperity and its Price
- III. The New Mass Culture

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 23.**

**IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAM — Wednesday, February 27, 2013**

**Week 8: March 6, 2013**

- I. The Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929-1940
- II. The Bull Market and the Crash
- III. Roosevelt and the New Deal

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 24.**

**Week 9: March 13, 2013**

- I. World War II, 1941-1945
- II. Americans in Wartime
- III. Internment of Japanese Americans

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 25.**

**Week 10: March 20, 2013**

- I. The Cold War Begins, 1945-1952
- II. The Truman Doctrine
- III. The Berlin Crisis and the Formation of NATO

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 26.**

**Week 11: March 27, 2013**

- I. America at Mid-century, 1952-1963
- II. The Eisenhower Presidency
- III. John F. Kennedy and the Cold War

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 27**

**Week 12: Spring Break – No Classes Held This Week (April 1-6)**

**Week 13: April 10, 2013**

- I. The Civil Right's Movement, 1945-1966
- II. Brown v. Board of Education
- III. Martin Luther King Jr. and the SCLC

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 28.**

**SECOND PAPER DUE IN CLASS THIS WEEK**

**Week 14: April 17, 2013**

- I. War Abroad, War at Home, 1965-1974
- II. Vietnam: America's Longest War
- III. A Generation in Conflict

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 29.**

**Week 15: April 24, 2013**

- I. The Conservative Ascendancy, 1974-1991
- II. The Reagan Revolution
- III. The Collapse of Communism

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 30.**

**Week 16: May 1, 2013**

- I. The United States in a Global Age, 1992-2008
- II. Terrorist Attack on America
- III. An Electronic Culture

**Reading: *Out of Many*, Chapter 31.**

**Week 17: Wednesday, May 8, 2013 (Final Exam)**

**Final Examination: Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 6:30pm to 9:40pm**

Bring bluebook(s), a scantron (#882-E), and No. 2 pencils to all in-class exams.

If you would like your final returned to you, bring a self-address, stamped envelope to class.

\*\*\*\*Please have cell phones off during class.

