South Dakota State University
HIST-152-S02D-2010SU, Survey of United States History 2
Syllabus- Summer 2010- Dr. Thomas Agostini

Email: thomas.agostini@sdstate.edu
Office Location: Scobey Hall 303
Office Hours: Conducted on-line of course! I will be available to respond to emails within twenty-four hours at the very latest, Monday through Friday. I will also check in on Saturdays and Sundays as well, though it may take me a bit longer to respond on the weekends since I will be traveling. In any case, please feel free to contact me, as I am here to help!

Please read this syllabus in its entirety before beginning the course.

Academic Honesty: “South Dakota State University has taken a strong and clear stand regarding academic dishonesty,” and it will certainly not be tolerated, condoned, or overlooked in this course. On the contrary, I will actively search out and identify acts of academic fraud. Web resources like “Google” make this a fairly simple process. Any verified act of academic dishonesty will result in a student receiving a “0” on the assignment. The full policies are found in Chapter 1 of the Student Code (01:10:25:01 - 1:10:25:04) within the Student Policy Manual. “A student charged with academic dishonesty who wishes to appeal that charge may follow the Appeals Procedure outlined in Chapter 2 of the Student Policy Manual (Academic Appeals and Classroom Standards) or contact the Vice President for Academic Affairs Office, SAD 230, (605) 688-4173.” Please contact me if you have any questions on this most important class policy. It is assumed that anyone who stays in my class agrees to abide by this policy; anyone who cannot accept it must drop the class as soon as possible.


Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: “This course acknowledges the importance of ADA requirements. Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office of Disability Services at 605/688-4504 (Voice) or 605/688-4394 (TTD), or at the office in Wintrode, Room 123 to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. For more information please see SDSU's Office of Disability Services.” If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have any questions relating to any accommodation for testing, note-taking, reading, etc., please email me as soon as possible.

Assigned Texts:
Supplemental Readings found on the D2L course page as pdf files, free of charge.

Course Description/Goals: “This class will survey the development of the United States since the Civil War and Reconstruction.” It will enable students to understand the major themes in the social, economic, military, political, and cultural evolution of the United States during this era. I strongly recommend that students take written notes on all reading assignments, rather than merely highlighting key passages, as most people typically learn more by writing important
information out than by simply re-reading it. Students will complete all exams and quizzes online, after logging onto the “Lockdown Browser,” which you must download. All exams will include multiple choice questions and a short (paragraph-length) “mini-essay.” The first exam is on______. Students will take the second exam on _____ and the final is scheduled for_______. In addition, there will be twelve on-line quizzes conducted on the outside readings. Each of these quizzes will contain five multiple choice questions. All students will log-in and complete every assignment on the date it is listed on the syllabus. Students will receive a “0” for any assignment that is not completed on time. Since this is an on-line course, it is extremely important that all students familiarize themselves with the schedule of assignments listed on the syllabus. All students are responsible for knowing all of these policies.

Technical Requirements: In order to ensure that your computer is compatible with all of the requisite technical requirements, first log in to the “South Dakota BOR Desire2Learn portal” on the “Welcome” page. Once you have successfully logged on to the site, scroll down to the bottom center of the page and locate the blue link to your class. Click this link, which will then transport you onto the course page. In the upper left corner, under the section entitled “SDSU Getting Started,” you will see an option entitled “Technical Requirements.” Click this link and follow the instructions: http://d2l.sdbor.edu/shared/sdsu/require.htm

Technical Support Helpdesk: Call (605)-688-6776 or email: SDSU.supportdesk@sdstate.edu

The technical support website is located at: http://www3.sdstate.edu/TechnologySupport/InformationTechnologyServices/

Distance Education Support: http://distance.sdstate.edu/

Netiquette: http://www.studygs.net/netiquette.htm

Taking Exams and Quizzes: All exams and quizzes must be taken on the date they are assigned, and each of them will have a time limit. For quizzes, you will have seven minutes to complete five multiple-choice questions. Since exams are much longer, students will receive more time to take them. After you log onto the “Lockdown Browser,” you can begin the assignment. (If you haven’t yet downloaded the Lockdown Browser, simply log in to take your first quiz. You will then be directed to a webpage that will enable you to download the “Lockdown Browser.”) Once you start the quiz or exam, you must complete it. The time left will appear on the upper left corner of the screen during the testing. You cannot pause and finish the assignment at a later time. If you exceed the allotted time limit, then you will no longer be able to answer any questions. All of the responses that you entered will be submitted and automatically graded. Obviously, you won’t receive any credit for any questions that remain unanswered, so make sure you finish before the time limit elapses.

Weekly Evening Chat Sessions: Every week, students will have access to a live on-line “chat” session with me from 7pm to 8pm. All students should feel free to post comments and ask questions during these sessions. Please consult your syllabus for the dates of these sessions. I can also answer questions by email.
**Weight of Assignments:**

Twelve Quizzes 30%

*(Each individual quiz is worth 2.5%)*

First Examination 10%
Second Examination 25%
Final Examination 35%

Total 100%

**Grading:**

90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
<60% = F

**Extra Credit:** All students who post a historical question or response during our evening chat session on_________, will be eligible for three extra credit points. These will be full percentage points that I will add to your final grade, so please take advantage of this opportunity. In order to earn these points, students must send an email to me by that includes the best question or answer that they posted during the ______ chat session by the end of the day on______.

**Five Student Responsibilities:**

1. All students will abide by SDSU’s academic honor policy.
2. All students will take responsibility for ensuring that they have all of the necessary software, books, and hardware required for the course once the class begins.
3. All students will become familiar with this syllabus and read it in its entirety.
4. All students will assume responsibility for ensuring that they have access to a functioning computer that is on-line when they have to complete assignments. If, for instance, the student waits until the very last moment to begin an exam or quiz, and then a student’s internet goes down, it is the student’s fault, not the instructor’s. In such a case, student will receive a “0” for the assignment. Don’t wait until the last minute and put yourself in this situation.
5. All students will remember that I am here to help. Sending me an email if you are confused about any assignment will not bother me. I would rather correct a problem at an early stage than discover that it has “snow-balled” into a major difficulty. If you don’t ask for help, I won’t know what your needs are, so ask and you shall receive.

**Pitfalls to avoid:** To excel in any course requires self-discipline. This is especially true of classes taken in the summer. Each session lasts less than a third as long as a traditional course taken during the spring or fall semesters. Therefore, students have far less time to prepare for exams and complete assignments. On-line courses are even more challenging in this regard, as students will need to make sure that they consistently budget sufficient time out of each day in order to complete all of their readings, quizzes, and exams. If you fall behind, it will be extremely difficult to catch up, so please make sure to complete everything on time. In the case of exams and quizzes, it is extremely important that students take them when they are scheduled, as they will receive a “0” for any assignment that they fail to take when it is scheduled. For most
students, I anticipate that they will require at least two hours to finish each day’s readings. Highlighting or skimming the reading assignments will generally not constitute a sufficient level of preparation. In other words, be prepared to devote a minimum of two to three hours a night, Monday through Friday, to this class.

**Class Schedule and Assignments (All graded assignments are listed in boldface.)**

**Week 1**
- Read Brinkley, 394-399, 401-406, 409-415, 418-422.
  [Evening “Chat” Session with Dr. Agostini, 7pm to 8pm]
  Optional: View the trailer (1:08) for the film *Rabbit Proof Fences* online at: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252444/trailers-screenplay-E19776-10-2
- Read Brinkley, 511-519, 521-530, 533-535, Skim 536-537, Read 537-539.

**Week 2**
  [Evening “Chat” Session with Dr. Agostini, 7pm to 8pm]
- First Examination. This exam covers chapter 15 through chapter 22 in *The Unfinished Nation.*
- Read Brinkley, 615-624, 627-639, Skim 640.

**Week 3**
- Read Brinkley, 705-717, Skim 718, Read 719-721.
  [Evening “Chat” Session with Dr. Agostini, 7pm to 8pm]
- Read Brinkley, 725-738; Read pages 223-225, Skim 226-233, Read 234-250 in Eduardo Obregón Pagán, “Los Angeles Geopolitics and the Zoot Suit Riot,” *Social*
Week 4

[Evening “Chat” Session with Dr. Agostini, 7pm to 8pm]

- Second Examination. This exam covers chapter 23 through chapter 29 in *The Unfinished Nation*.
- Read Brinkley, 802-815, 819-827, Skim 828, Read 829-837.

Week 5
- Read Brinkley 879-884, 887-914.
- Read Brinkley, 918-932, Skim 932-938, Read 938-944, Skim 944-948, Read 948-956.
- Watch the film, which is entitled:

  “The War Briefing: Afghanistan is now a deadlier battleground than Iraq. Can the war there be won? What are the next president’s options?”

  You can watch it on the internet for free. It lasts one hour. Afterwards, take the On-Line “Reading” Quiz on the film.

  [Evening “Chat” Session with Dr. A., 7pm to 8pm]

- Final Examination. This exam covers chapter 30 through chapter 34 in *The Unfinished Nation*.

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“Freedom in learning. Under Board of Regents and University policy student academic performance may be evaluated solely on an academic basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards. Students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Student who believes that an academic evaluation reflects prejudiced or capricious consideration of student opinions or conduct unrelated to academic standards should first contact the instructor of the course to initiate a review of the evaluation. If the student remains unsatisfied, the student may contact the department head and/ or dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.”