



## Hunan University HIS 12: United States 1865-Present

**Professor:** To be announced  
**Total contact hours:** 54 hours  
**Credit:** 4

### *Course Description*

Survey of American history from post-Reconstruction to the contemporary era, including industrialization, emergence as world power, World War I, Great Depression, World War II, Cold War, the expanding role of government, and global issues in the post-Communist era.

### *Required Textbook*

1. *Cheap Amusements*, Author: Peiss, Publisher: University of Chicago, Year Published: 1986
2. *American Promise (v2)*, Author: Roark, Publisher: MPS, Edition: 4, Year Published: 2009
3. *River of No Return*, Author: Sellers, Publisher: University of Mississippi, Year Published: 1990

### *Grading*

- Class participation 25%
- Essay 1 15%
- Essay 2 15%
- Essay 3 15%
- Final exam 30%
- Total 100%

A+ 96-100	A 90-95	A- 85-89
B+ 82-84	B 78-81	B- 75-77
C+ 71-74	C 66-70	C- 62-65
D 60-61	F < 60	

### *Assignments*

The first essay will cover the Imperialism, the second will cover World War I and the third will cover World War II. The final exam will be cumulative and be given on the final day of class.

**Format:** Your papers should be written in a 12 point font and double spaced.



**Citations:** The standard citation style used by historians is outlined in **The Chicago Manual of Style, 15th edition**. The basics are available online at [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

**Length:** 1-2 pages

**Late assignment would NOT be accepted.**

### ***Course Schedule***

The course has 24 class sessions in total. All sessions are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length.

Note: the course outline and required readings are subject to change.

Class 1	Introduction to an overview of American history up to 1865
Class 2	Expansion to the West; Railroads & Indians; Migration & Land
Class 3	Urbanization and Industrialization
Class 4	Rise of Classes in America
Class 5	The Cities of the Interior
Class 6	Industry and the Robber Barons
Class 7	Spanish-American War
Class 8	American Isolationism
Class 9	Lusitania Incident and America Enters World War I
Class 10	The Depression and the Interwar Years
Class 11	The Progressive Movement
Class 12	Prohibition and New Deal
Class 13	Overview of Political Situation Leading to World War II Essay 1 due in class
Class 14	Review
Class 15	American Industry in Pre-war Years



Class 16	America in World War II (from Pearl Harbor to Hiroshima)
Class 17	The Return to Normalcy and American Prosperity
Class 18	The Cold War
Class 19	NATO, UN and US vs. USSR Essay 2 due in class
Class 20	America in the 60's Review
Class 21	The Triumph of Capitalism
Class 22	Extremism and the End of Idealism
Class 23	Final Exam Review Essay 3 due in class
Class 24	Final Exam

### ***Attending Policy***

Regular and prompt attendance is required. Under ordinary circumstances, you may miss two times without penalty. Each absence over this number will lower your course grade by a third of a letter and missing more than five classes may lead to a failing grade in the course. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.

### ***Policy on "Late Withdrawals"***

In accordance with university policy, appeals for late withdrawal will be approved ONLY in case of medical emergency and similar crises.

### ***Academic Honesty***

Hunan University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating, and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

### ***General Expectations:***

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all materials covered in class and otherwise assigned;



- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class;
- Review the previous day's notes before class and make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading;
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time;
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during the class period;
- While class participation is welcome, even required, you are expected to refrain from private conversations during the class period.

### ***Special Needs or Assistance***

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.