

HISTORY 199 (CRN #41753)
Fall Semester, 2018
TR 2:00-3:15

Chicago and the World

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-3:15
Stevenson Hall 207

Instructor: Professor Marco Torres

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Office: University Hall 1009

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 330-430pm

Course Description:

This course is designed to integrate students into academic life in the United States, and more specifically into life at UIC, through broad introduction to the study of the liberal arts and humanities from a historical perspective. The course is composed of five units, or subject areas, covering: General U.S. History; The History of Chicago; Capitalism in the U.S.; Race, Gender, and Class in the U.S.; American Popular Culture. These units are designed to introduce students to basic knowledge and concepts of American history, to help students understand important dynamics of American society and culture, and to work on academic skills such as critical analysis and argumentative writing. I expect students to finish this course with broad understanding of the basic history of the U.S. and Chicago, as well as a foundation for further study in the liberal arts and humanities.

Required texts and readings:

- Kevin Schultz, HIST, Comprehensive, 5th edition (Wadsworth 2018).
This book is available at the UIC Bookstore as well as online retailers.
- Additional readings will be posted on blackboard.

Unit Descriptions

Unit one: U.S. History

This unit will focus on a number of important historical eras and events, beginning with colonization of the Americas and ending with recent U.S. history. This will give students a basic understanding of important historical periods, events, and themes of American history.

Unit Two: History of Chicago

This Unit will focus on the history of the City of Chicago, beginning with its roots in the early nineteenth century and ending with Chicago's emergence as a modern metropolis. It will cover topics including but not limited to Chicago's role as an agricultural and industrial center, urban politics, and segregation.

Unit Three: Capitalism and the U.S.

This Unit will focus on the role played by capitalism in the history of the U.S., beginning with the colonial roots of the American economy and ending with the emergence of the information age of the 21st century. It will cover topics including but not limited to industrialization, changes in work, and consumerism.

Unit Four: Race, Gender, and Class

This unit will focus on the powerful influence of various elements of culture in America, including "high culture" (literature, painting) and popular culture. It will cover topics including but not limited to American sports, popular music, and Internet culture.

Grading breakdown:

- Attendance / participation: 30%
 - (Presentation: 10%)
 - (Scavenger Hunt 10%)
 - (Attendance/participation 10%)
- Weekly written work: 20%
- Paper: 20%
- Midterm Exam: 15%
- Final Exam: 15%

Attendance / Participation

Attendance is mandatory and I will take attendance for every class meeting. You will be allowed two unexcused absences during the semester. Any further unexcused absences will result in penalties to your attendance/participation grade equal to one percentage point off of your attendance/participation grade per unexcused absence. Absences due to illness, injury, or any other unavoidable conflict will be excused, but will need to be accompanied by a doctor's note or other documentation as warranted.

Participation in classroom activities is an important element of university education in the U.S. and we will work on developing your skills in participation over the course of the semester. I expect you to become comfortable with individual participation as well as participation in group work situations.

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Some tips for successful class participation:

1. Always bring necessary texts and assigned readings to class. These will often be used in class discussions.
2. Take notes on the assigned readings. Try to pick out the main ideas, arguments and themes of the material. Make a special note of material you find confusing or material that you find especially thought-provoking. Be sure to mark such passages for easy reference.
3. Participate in class discussions. This would include questions, short comments, extended opinions, and everything in between. You should feel comfortable with engaging with the material from any angle.
4. Participation should be respectful and thoughtful. Every student is entitled to their viewpoint and should be able to express it.

I will utilize group activities each week to supplement individual participation. These activities may include analyzing written material as a group and presenting group work. In addition to your participation in class discussions during the semester I will also require each student to deliver a brief presentation on an important American historical figure selected from a list that I will give you during the first week of the semester, and this will compose 10% of your overall attendance/participation grade. There will also be an out-of-class assignment in the form of a scavenger hunt and short written response that will compose 10% of your overall attendance/participation grade. I will give each student a handout explaining these assignments in further detail near the beginning of the semester. The final 10% of your attendance and participation grade will come from overall attendance and daily class participation.

Weekly written work

Each week students will write a short written response to a question over material covered during the previous week. I will post the questions on Blackboard every Wednesday and the response will be due the next day. You will submit your responses both electronically through Blackboard and through a typed hard copy given to me in class. Written responses should be between 4-6 sentences in length. These responses also need to follow a specific format that I will explain to the class. Responses turned in late will be penalized half a letter grade for each day they are late. These responses will be averaged at the end of the semester and will compose 20% of your overall grade.

Paper

Over the course of the semester, I will guide students in writing a paper using historical evidence on the general theme of "The American Experience". I will select documents that students will read and cite from to write a paper of 3 to 4 pages in length. Students will present evidence of work done (outlines rough drafts) at various points during the semester as outlined in the course schedule. The due date for the paper is marked on the course schedule. I will also give each student a handout explaining the assignment in more detail early in the semester. The paper assignment will compose 20% of your overall grade.

Midterm/Final

Students will take two in-class closed book exams during the semester; one at the midpoint of the semester and one during finals week. The midterm will cover material from the first half of the course and the final will cover material from the second half of the course. Both exams will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions. I will also provide students with a study guide for each exam. Each exam will compose 15% of your overall grade.

Late work/makeup exam policy

I will accept late written work but late work will be penalized if turned in after the due date. Any written assignment, including weekly written work, material for the paper assignment, and other written work will be penalized half a letter grade for each day they are late. Extensions will only be granted under extraordinary circumstances. No make-up exams will be granted

without a valid excuse. Make-up exams must be scheduled well ahead of time except in extraordinary cases.

Academic integrity

Plagiarism is the conscious use of the work and ideas of others without attribution. Submitting written work created by someone else, paying for the work of someone else, or using the words or ideas of another without citation, constitutes an act of plagiarism in the context of this course. I expect all of the written work in this class, including the weekly responses and the final paper, to be the work of each student alone. In cases of identified plagiarism the student will receive a grade of F for the assignment. Further action may also be pursued in accordance with UIC's policy on academic integrity. As an academic community, UIC's is committed to providing an environment in which research, learning, and scholarship can flourish and which all endeavors are guided by academic and professional integrity. All members of the campus community--students, staff, faculty, and administrators--share the responsibility of insuring that these standards are upheld so that such an environment exists. Instances of academic misconduct by students will be handled pursuant to the Student Disciplinary Policy: <https://dos.uic.edu/docs/Student%20Disciplinary%20Policy.pdf>

Religious Holidays

Students who wish to observe their religious holidays should notify me by the second week of the semester. I will make any reasonable effort to honor the request, not penalize the student should notify me at least five days in advance of the date when he/she is absent. I will make every reasonable effort to honor the request, not penalize the student for missing the class, and if an examination or project is during the absence, give the student an exam or assignment equivalent to the one completed by those students in attendance. If the student feels aggrieved, he/she may request remedy through the campus grievance procedure. Religious holidays calendar: <http://oae.uic.edu/religious-calendar/>

Academic Deadlines

There are a number of important deadlines to keep in mind during the semester, especially the final day to withdraw from courses. Consult this URL for those deadlines: <https://catalog.uic.edu/ucat/academic-calendar/>

Accomodations

Concerning disabled students, the University of Illinois at Chicago is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that individuals with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at UIC. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for full access and participation in UIC Programs must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Please contact DRC at (312) 413-0123.

Classroom Policies

The use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets) during class is permitted only for classwork, such as taking notes or accessing online readings, and only when I explicitly make clear that their use is allowed. Cellphones will be put away for the duration of the class unless necessary for an emergency. Food and drink are allowed within reason.

Due Dates

- Every Week: Review paragraphs
- 10/23: midterm exam.
- 11/1-11/29: Presentations (Specific date depends on what group you are in).
- 11/27: Field Trip assignment due
- 12/6: Final papers due
- 12/13: Final exams

Class Schedule

Unit 1: U.S. History

Week 1: (8/28, 8/30)

- Tue. August 28: Introduction to the course
- Thurs. August 30: Introduction to Chicago and the subject of History
 - In-class group work.

Week 2: (9/04, 9/06)

- Tue. September 4: The Colonial Roots of American Democracy
 - Schultz, p. 22-42
 - Reading on blackboard.

- Thurs. September 6: Asking Historical Questions
 - Reading on Blackboard.

Week 3: (9/11, 9/13)

- Tue. September 11: The American Revolution, The Constitution, Foundations of Government.
 - Schultz pages 87-102
 - Schultz pages 105-109
 - Schultz pages 132-140.
 - Reading on blackboard

- Thurs. September 13: Jacksonian America
 - Schultz, p. 187-210
 - Reading on Blackboard
 - Office hours meeting sign-up due.

Week 4: (9/18, 9/20)

- Tue. September 18: Slavery and the West
 - Schultz Chapters 12 and 13

- Thurs. September 20: The Civil War
 - Schultz Chapters 14 and 15

Week 5: (9/25, 9/27)

- Tue. September 25: World War II
 - Schultz Chapters 22 and 23

- Thurs. September 20: The Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement
 - Schultz Chapters 24 and 25

Week 6: (10/02, 10/04)

- Tue. October 2: Modern American Politics
 - Schultz Chapters 27 and 29
- Thurs. October 4: Writing an outline
 - Reading on blackboard

Unit 2: Chicago History

Week 7: (10/09, 10/11)

- Tue. October 9: Chicago, Nature's Metropolis
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Reading on blackboard
- Thurs. October 11: Chicago, Urban Progressivism, Prohibition, Depression
 - Reading on blackboard

Week 8: (10/16, 10/18)

- Tue. October 16: Segregation, Urban Crisis, Modern Metropolis
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Final paper outlines due!
- Thurs. October 18: Writing a rough draft
 - Reading on blackboard

Unit 3: Capitalism in the United States

Week 9: (10/23, 10/25)

- Tue. October 23: Colonial Roots of American capitalism
 - MIDTERM EXAM
- Thurs. October 25: Colonial Roots of Capitalism and the Market Revolution
 - Schultz Chapters 4 and 10

Week 10: (10/31, 11/1)

- Tue. October 31: Late nineteenth century industrialization
 - Schultz Chapters 17 and 18
- Thurs. November 1: Twentieth century consumer economy
 - Schultz Chapter 28
 - Presentations in class (Group A)

Unit 4: Race, Gender, Class

Week 11: (11/06, 11,08)

- Tue. November 6: Revising a Rough Draft
 - Reading on blackboard
- Thurs. November 8: Roots of Race in America
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Presentations in class (Group B)

Week 12: (11/13, 11/15)

- Tue. November 11: Modern Racial Issues
 - Reading on blackboard
- Thurs: November 15: Gender, Patriarchy / Feminism and Gender Equality
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Presentations in class (Group C)

Week 13: (11/20, 11/22)

- Tue. November 20: History of the American Labor Movement
 - Reading on Blackboard
- Thurs. November 22: No class. Thanksgiving Holiday

Unit Five: American Popular Culture

Week 14: (11/27, 11/29)

- Tue. November 27: American Art and Literature
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Field trip project due
- Thurs. November 29: Hollywood and Television
 - Reading on blackboard
 - Presentations in class (Group D).

Week 15: (12/04, 12/06)

- Tue. December 4: Popular Music before and after the 1960s.
 - Reading on blackboard
- Thurs. December 6: Internet and gaming culture in the U.S.A.
 - Reading on blackboard
 - **FINAL PAPER** due!

Week 16: (12/11, 12/13)

- Tue. December 11: Review session for final exam.

- Study and bring questions.
- Thurs. December 13th:
 - **FINAL EXAM**