

Chicago and the World HIST 199 – Fall 2019

Instructor: Michał J. Wilczewski, PhD

E-mail: mwilcz5@uic.edu

Office Hours: University Hall 916, Mondays and Wednesdays, 1pm-2pm or by appt.

Class Time: MWF, 3am-3:50p.m., Lincoln Hall 100

Course Description

This course is designed to integrate students into academic life in the United States, and more specifically into life at UIC, through a broad introduction to the study of the liberal arts and humanities from a historical perspective. The course is composed of four units, or subject areas, covering: General U.S. History; The History of Chicago; Race, Gender, and Class in the U.S.; and American Popular Culture. These units are designed to introduce students to basic knowledge and concepts of American history and to help students understand important dynamics of American society and culture. I expect students to finish the course with both a 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, *HIST5*, 5th edition (Cengage, 2017)

This book is available at the UIC Bookstore.

Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard (uic.blackboard.com) on a weekly basis. I will indicate on Blackboard what readings are to be done for each day. If no reading is posted for a particular day then there are no readings for that day. Detailed instructions on how to access to Blackboard will be given on the first day of class. I may also occasionally hand out readings in class.

Unit Descriptions

Unit One: General 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: The History of Chicago

This unit will focus on the history 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: Class, Race, and Gender

This unit will focus on introducing students to three categories of analysis in the humanities and social sciences and the role played by each in American society. It will cover topics including but not limited to racial difference and racism, gender difference and feminism, and class divisions, all in the American context.

Unit Four: American Culture

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

Grading Breakdown

Attendance and Participation	10%
In-Class Presentation	10%
Fieldtrip Assignment	10%--Due Oct 28, 2019
Weekly Written Work	20%
Paper	20%--Due Dec 6, 2019
Midterm Exam	15%--Oct 18, 2019
Final Exam	15%--Dec 9, 2019

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. 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.

Some tips for successful class participation:

1. Always bring necessary texts and assigned readings to class.

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 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.

In addition to your voluntary 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. I will also give each student a handout explaining the assignment in further detail.

Weekly Written Work

Each week students will write a short response to a question about material covered during the previous week. I will post the questions on Blackboard every Wednesday and the typed response will be due the next day during class. Written responses will not need to be more than a page in length but will need to answer any question completely.

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 paper will be due at the end of the semester. I will also give each student a handout explaining the assignment in more detail early in the semester.

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, true/false, and short answer questions. I will also provide students with a study guide for each exam.

Late Work/Makeup Exam Policy

I will accept late written work but late work will be penalized if turned in later than one class period after the due date. Persistent late work will be penalized accordingly. 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 or 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 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.

Accommodations

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) 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413- 0123 (TDD).

Classroom Policies

The use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets) during class is permitted only for classwork, such as taking notes or accessing online readings. Cell phones will be put away for the duration of the class unless necessary for an emergency.

Course Schedule

This schedule is tentative and subject to change if I deem it necessary. Students are responsible for changes announced in class.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/ Assignment
Week 1	Aug 26	Introduction to Course	• Read Syllabus
	Aug 28	Introduction to Chicago	
	Aug 30	Introduction to History	
Week 2	Sept 2	No Class – Labor Day!	

	Sept 4	Unit One: Colonial Roots of American Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 22-43
	Sept 6	Unit One: The American Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 86-123
Week 3	Sept 9	Unit One: The Constitution – Foundations of American Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 124-141 • DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1: What were the causes of the American Revolution?
	Sept 11	Unit One: Jacksonian America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 196-211
	Sept 13	How to Read a Primary Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DISCUSS PAPER ASSIGNMENT
Week 4	Sept 16	Unit One: Slavery and the Civil War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 248-289
	Sept 18	Unit One: Late 19 th Century Industrialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 308-329 • DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #2: What role did slavery play in the outbreak of the Civil War?
	Sept 20	Unit One: The Progressive Era	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 356-371
Week 5	Sept 23	Unit One: The Great Depression and World War II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 414-459 • DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #3: What were the negative effects of industrialization in the 19th century and how did the Progressive Era try to address them?
	Sept 25	Unit One: The Cold War and America’s Place in the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schultz, p. 460-469

	Sept 27	Unit One: Mid-20 th Century Rights Movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schultz, p. 476-509
Week 6	Sept 30	Unit One: Modern American Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schultz, p. 558-575 DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #4: In what ways did African Americans continue to face discrimination in the United States despite the abolition of slavery in the 1860s?
	Oct 2	Unit Two: Chicago - Nature's Metropolis	
	Oct 4	Unit Two: Chicago - Late 19 th Century Immigration and Industrialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DISCUSS FIELDTRIP ASSIGNMENT
Week 7	Oct 7	Unit Two: Chicago - Urban Progressivism	
	Oct 9	Unit Two: Chicago - Prohibition and the Great Depression	
	Oct 11	Unit Two: Chicago - Segregation and the Urban Crisis	
Week 8	Oct 14	Unit Two: Chicago - Chicago as a Modern Metropolis	
	Oct 16	Midterm Review	
	Oct 18	MIDTERM EXAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STUDY!!!
Week 9	Oct 21	NO CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Fieldtrip Assignment
	Oct 23	NO CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Fieldtrip Assignment
	Oct 25	NO CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on Fieldtrip Assignment

Week 10	Oct 28	Unit Three: Roots of Race in America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIELDTRIP ASSIGNMENT DUE
	Oct 30	Unit Three: Modern Racial Issues	
	Nov 1	Unit Three: Gender and Patriarchy in America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #5: What does it mean to say that race is socially and historically constructed? How have perceptions of race changed over time? • DUE: PAPER OUTLINE
Week 11	Nov 4	Unit Three: Feminism and Gender Equality	
	Nov 6	Unit Three: Class Structures in America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DUE: WRITING ASSIGNMENT #6: What does it mean to say that gender is socially and historically constructed? How have perceptions of race changed over time?
	Nov 8	Unit Three: History of the American Labor Movement	
Week 12	Nov 11	Unit Four: American Film and Television	
	Nov 13	Unit Four: American Art and Literature	
	Nov 15	Unit Four: Professional Sports in America	
Week 13	Nov 18	Unit Four: American Popular Music, Pre-Rock and Roll	
	Nov 20	Unit Four: American Popular Music, Post-Rock and Roll	DUE: PAPER FIRST DRAFT

	Nov 22	NO CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Presentations
Week 14	Nov 25	NO CLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Presentations
	Nov 27	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
	Nov 29	NO CLASS – HAPPY THANKSGIVING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Presentations
Week 15	Dec 2	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Presentations
	Dec 4	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Presentations
	Dec 6	Final Exam Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STUDY!!! • PAPER FINAL DRAFT DUE
Week 16	Dec 9	FINAL EXAM 8:00am- 10:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STUDY!!!