

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: U.S. History II

Course #: HIS 202

Course Description: 3 Credits

The class will be divided into two sections. The first section will encompass the Civil War/Reconstruction Era, the American West, and the industrial revolution. Topics for discussion will include race relations and class conflict. The second section will focus on imperialism, the First World War, the Depression, the Second World War, and the early Cold War Era. Topics for discussion will include U.S. foreign policy and the cultural mythology of the Second World War.

Pre-requisite: ENG* 101 or ENG* 101W, with a "C" or better, OR ENG* 101 with concurrency or consent of the instructor.

Goals: - To acquaint students with the social, economic, and political movements in the United States from the Antebellum through the 1940's.

- To develop an appreciation for history and historiography from the perspective of different cultural groups with attention to race, gender, ethnic, and class issues.
- To recognize the complexity of American history and its relevance to life today.
- To appreciate the importance of both war and politics in American history

Outcomes: At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Analyze primary and secondary historical sources.
- Describe and define the concept of historical agency
- Analyze the development of sectionalism
- Explain the coming of the Civil War
 - o Identify and discuss the importance of the following
 - Containment vs. expansion of slavery
 - Lincoln and the Election of 1860
- Discuss the Civil War and Reconstruction Period
 - o Analyze "Hard Hand of War"
 - o Discuss developments on the battlefield, the political world, and on the home front
 - o Describe the various plans for Reconstruction
 - Analyze the successes and failures of Reconstruction
 - Discuss the role of race
- Analyze the United States in the Industrial Age
 - o Discuss capitalism and the role of business entrepreneurs
 - o Discuss Populism, unionism, and the Progressive Movement
 - Analyze the relative successes and failures of these movements
- Describe the United States in the Age of Imperialism
 - o Discuss American Imperialism in a world context
 - o Analyze the Spanish American War
 - o Explain the Filipino Insurrection

- Explain the coming of the First World War
 - Describe the European context with special attention paid to nationalism and militarism
 - Discuss developments on the battlefield, the political world, and on the home front
 - Examine the entrance of the United States
 - Assess the Treaty of Versailles and Wilson's 14 Points
- Analyze the Roaring Twenties
 - Describe social, political, and cultural movements that developed in the period
- Discuss the Great Depression
 - Analyze its economic origins
 - Explain the differences between Hoover and Roosevelt in trying to cope with depression
 - Assess the New Deal relative to the successes and failures of this program
- Describe the coming of the Second World War
 - discuss the role of Hitler, National Socialism, and international fascism
 - Investigate its economic origins
- Analyze the Second World War
 - Describe the European and Asian backgrounds
 - Discuss developments on the battlefield, the political world, and on the home front
 - Examine the entrance of the United States
 - Discuss the Holocaust
 - Analyze the results of the war and the antecedents of the Cold War