Midwestern State University

History 5133

America: From the Jazz Age to the Nuclear Age

Instructor: Kenneth E. Hendrickson, Jr., Regents and Hardin Distinguished Professor of American History, Emeritus.

This course will consist primarily of Lecture and Discussion of lecture content and suggested reading materials. There is no textbook so it is very important that you come to class regularly, take notes, ask questions, and read as much from the suggested list as time permits. With respect to attendance please keep in mind that if you accumulate more than three unexcused absences you may be dropped from the course with a failing grade. Of course, excused absences are allowed. These include such things as emergencies, illness, university functions, and anything else approved by the instructor in advance.

There will be four quizzes at dates to be determined. You will be provided with a study guide for each quiz. Its use will be discussed on the first day of class. The fourth, or final, quiz will be comprehensive and will count double.

Additional requirements for graduate students include:

1) Read and prepare a review of five books. These may be on any topic relating to course material, but must be approved by the instructor in advance. Book review technique will be discussed in class. Book reviews should be 3 to 4 pages in length.

2) A research paper is also required. Graduate students will meet with the instructor to discuss topics. The research paper should be around fifteen pages in length. All written material will be due on the last day of class.
Course Outline

I. The 1920s – Domestic Politics and Problems
   A. The Political Scene
      1. Political Election of 1920
      2. Political Philosophy of the Republican Leadership
      3. Legislative Problems
         a. Tariff
         b. Immigration
         c. Veteran’s Bonus
         d. Tax policies
      4. Coolidge
      5. The Progressive Tradition in the 1920s
         a. Progressivism in State Politics
         b. Presidential Election of 1924
         c. Senator Norris and Progressivism on the National Level
      6. The Presidential Campaign of 1928

Suggested Readings

Adams, Samuel H Incredible Era
Chambers, C Seedtime of Reform 1918-1933
Cohen, S A. Mitchell Palmer: Politician
Fuess, C M Calvin Coolidge
Hicks, John D Republican Ascendancy
Murry, R The Red Scare
Noggle, B Teapot Dome: Oil and Politics in the 1920s
Russell, Francis The Shadow of Blooming Grove
Sinclair, A The Available Man: The Life Behind the Masks of Warren G. Harding
Sullivan, Mark Our Times Vol VI
Swain, D C Federal Conservation Policy, 1921-1933
White, William A A Puritan in Babylon
White, William A Masks in a Pageant

B. Business and Industry Between Versailles and the Panic of 1929
   1. Business Philosophy
   2. The New Industries
   4. Shearing Investors
   5. The Panic of 1929
Suggested Readings

Faulkner, H U *American Economic History*
Black, John D *Agricultural Reform in the United States*
Engsberg, Russell C *Industrial Prosperity and the Farmer*
Fite, Gilbert *George Peek and the Fight for Farm Parity*
Fulmer, John L *Agricultural Progress in the Cotton Belt Since 1920*
Hicks, John D and Theodore Saloutos *Agricultural Discontent in the Middle West*
Lord, Russell *The Wallaces of Iowa*
Ostrolenk, Bernhard *The Surplus Farmer*
Shideler, James *Farm Crises, 1919-1933*
Socolofsky, Homer *Arthur Capper: Publisher, Politician, Philanthropist*

C. Social, Cultural, and Intellectual Trends in the Twenties

1. Education
2. Literature and Social Ethics
3. Characteristics of the “Dry Decade”
4. Technology
5. Fundamentalism vs. Modernism

Suggested Readings

Bailey, K *Southern White Protestantism in the 20th Century*
Baritz, Loren, (ed) *The Culture of the Twenties*
Bennett, N T *American Immigration Policies*
Carter, P *The Decline and Revival of the Social Gospel*
Chalmers, D M *Hooded Americanism: The First Century of the Ku Klux Klan, 1865-1965*
Cremin, L A *Progressivism in American Education*
Curti, M *The Growth of American Thought*
Furnas, J C *The Life and Times of the Late Demon Rum*
Ginger, R *Six Days or Forever*
Hicks, John D *Republican Ascendancy, 1921 - 1933*
Humes, D H *Oswald Garrison Villard, Liberal of the 1920s*
Levine, L W *Defender of the Faith: William Jennings Bryan, The Last Decade, 1915-25*
Lippman, W A *Preface to Morals*
Madison, C A *Leaders and Liberals in 20th Century America*
Meyer, D B *The Protestant Search for Political Realism, 1919-1941*
Miller, R M *American Protestantism and Social Issues, 1919 – 1939*
Pease, O *The Responsibilities of American Advertising*
Preston, W *Aliens and Dissenters: Federal Suppression of Radicals, 1903-33*
United States (Wesley C. Mitchell) *The Presidents Research Committee on Social Trends 1933*
Wilson, E *The American Earthquake*
----, *The Shores of Light*
II. The Age of the Great Depression
   A. Hoover and the Depression
      1. The Hoover Philosophy of Government and Administration
      2. Government Policies
         a. Attempt of the Federal Farm Board to Help Farmers
         b. Reconstruction Finance Corporation
         c. Public Works
         d. Home Loan Banks
      3. The Country in Depression – Attitudes and Actions
         a. The Election of 1930
         b. Unemployment
         c. Rural Unrest
         d. Business Problems

Suggested Readings

Galbraith, J K *The Great Crash*
Hofstadter, R *The American Political Tradition*
Hoover, H C *The Memoirs of Herbert Hoover*
Johnson, W *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*
Mitchell, B *Depression Decade*
Norris, G W *Fighting Liberal*
Ramasco, A U *The Poverty of Abundance: Hoover, the Nation, and the Depression*
Schlesinger, A M *The Crisis of the Old Order*
Seldes, G *The Years of the Locust*
Shannon, D (ed) *The Great Depression*
Warren, H G *Herbert Hoover and the Great Depression*
Wector, D *The Age of the Great Depression*

B. The New Deal in Action
   1. The Election of 1932
   2. The First 100 Days
   3. Banking, Monetary, and Fiscal Policies
   4. Relief for the Unemployed
   5. Government Programs to Redeem Industry and Save Agriculture
   6. Labor and the New Deal
   7. Social Security
   8. TVA and other Reforms
   9. Summary and Evaluation
Suggested Readings

Allen, F L *Since Yesterday*
Beard, C A *America in Midpassage*
De Betz, R F *The New Deal’s S.E.C: The Formative Years*
Blackorby, E C *The Public Life of William C. Lemke*
Burns, J M *Roosevelt: The Lion and the Fox*
Campbell, C M *The Farm Bureau and the New Deal, 1933-1940*
Charles, S F *Harry Hopkins and the Depression*
Conklin, P K *Tomorrow a New World: The New Deal Community Programs*
Conrad, D E *Sharecropper in the New Deal*
Cortner, R C *The Wagner Act Cases*
Fine, S *The Automobile Under the Blue Eagle*
Friedel, F *FDR and the South*
----- *Franklin D Roosevelt* (3 vols)
Gottfried, A *Boss Cermak of Chicago*
Hacker, L M *A Short History of the New Deal*
Hatzman, A *The Townsend Movement*
Hofstadter, R *The American Political Tradition*
Ickes, H *The Secret Diary of Harold L Ickes*
Johnson, D B *The Republican Party and Wendell Willkie*
Johnson, H *The Blue Eagle from Egg to Earth*
Karl, B *Executive Reorganization and Reform in the New Deal*
Leuchtenburg, William E *Franklin D Roosevelt and the New Deal: 1932-1940*
Lunt, R D *The Political Career of Frank Murphy*
Mitchell, B *Depression Decade*
Moley, R *After Seven Years*
Nevins, A *Herbert H Lehman and his Era*
Perkins, F *The Roosevelt I Knew*
Rauch, B *History of the New Deal*
Robinson, E E *The Roosevelt Leadership, 1933-1945*
Rollins, A B *Roosevelt and Howe*
Rosenman, S *Working with Roosevelt*
Schlesinger, A F Jr *The Age of Roosevelt* (3 vols)
Seligman, Lester G and Elmer E Cornwall *New Deal Mosaic: FDR Confers with his NEC, 1933-1936*
Sherwood, R *Roosevelt and Hopkins*
Sternsher, B *Rexford Tugwell and the New Deal*
Tull, C J *Father Coughlin and the New Deal*
Wector, Dixon *The Age of the Great Depression*

III. American Foreign Policy Between World War I and World War II
   A. Diplomacy of the 1920s
      1. The Diplomacy of Isolation
      2. The Washington and London Conferences
      3. The World Court Issue and Isolationism
4. Problems of War Debts and Reparations
5. The Kellogg-Briand Pact
6. United States Relations with Russia
7. The United States and Latin America

B. New Deal Diplomacy
1. Isolation and the Neutrality Acts
2. The Breakdown of Isolation
   a. The United States and the Far East
   b. The United States and Europe
3. Measures Short of War
4. Pearl Harbor and American Entry into World War II

Suggested Readings

Beard, C A American Foreign Policy in the Making: A Study in Responsibilities
----------, President Roosevelt and the Coming of the War
Bemis, S F The Latin American Policy of the US
Bergman, K History of Reparations
Bishop, D J The Roosevelt-Litvanov Agreements
Borg, R L US and The Far Eastern Crisis, 1933-1938
Buell, R L Isolated America
----------, Washington Conference
Cole, W S America First, The Battle Against Intervention, 1940-41
----, Gerald P Nye and American Foreign Relations
Dawes, C G A Journal of Reparations
Drummond, D F The Passing of American Neutrality, 1937-41
Dulles, F R America’s Rise to World Power
----------, Forty Years of American Japanese Relations
Ellis, L E Frank B Kellogg and American Foreign Relations
Feis, H Road to Pearl Harbor
Ferrell, R H Peace in Their Time
Gardner, L C Economic Aspects of New Deal Diplomacy
Goodhart, P Fifty Ships That Saved the World
Graebner, N (ed) An Uncertain Tradition: American Secretaries of State in the 20th Century
Griswold, A W The Far Eastern Policy of the United States
Guttman, A The Wound in the Heart: America and the Spanish Civil War
Harris, B Republican Ascendancy
Hudson, M O The World Court, 1921-1938
Johnson, W The Battle Against Isolation
Langer, William L and Sarell Everett Gleason The Challenge to Isolationism, 1937-1940
----------, The Undeclared War, 1940-1941
Leuchtenberg, William E Franklin D Roosevelt and the New Deal: 1932-1940
Millis, W This is Pearl Harbor
Morison, E E Traditions and Turmoil: A Study of the Life and Times of Henry L. Stimson
Nevins, A The New Deal and World Affairs
Perkins, D Charles Evans Hughes and American Democratic Statesmanship
Pusey, M J Charles Evan Hughes
Rappaport, A Henry L. Stimson and Japan, 1931-1933
Rauch, B Roosevelt from Munich to Pearl Harbor
Simonds, F H American Foreign Policy in the Post-War Years (1935)
Smith, R F The United States and Cuba, 1917-1960
Sobel, R The Origins of Interventionism: United States and the Russo-Finnish War
Sprout, Harold H and Margaret Sprout Toward A New Order of Sea Power
Stimson, Henry L and McGeorge Bundy On Active Service in Peace and War
Tansill, C C Back Door to War
Theobald, R E The Final Secret of Pearl Harbor
Vinson, J C The Parchment Peace
Wheeler, G E Prelude to Pearl Harbor: The US Navy and the Far East, 1921-1931
Wiltz, J E In Search of Peace: The Senate Munitions Inquiry, 1934-31
Wood, B The Making of the Good Neighbor Policy

IV. World War II
A. Coming of the War – Europe, Asia
B. The European War
C. The Pacific War
D. Diplomacy of War
E. End of War

Suggested Readings

Beard, C A President Roosevelt and the Coming of the War
Buchanan, A Russell The US and WWII Vols I and II
Churchill, Winston World War II
Craven, Wesley F and James Lea Cate The Army Air Forces in WW II (multi vol)
Deave, J R The Strange Alliance
Drummond, D F The Passing of American Neutrality, 1937-41
Eisenhower, D Crusade in Europe
Feis, Herbert The China Triangle
-----, Churchill, Roosevelt Stalin: The War They Waged and Peace They Sought
-----, The Road to Pearl Harbor
Langer, William L and Sarell Everett Gleason The Challenge to Isolationism, 1937-1940
----------, The Undeclared War, 1940-1941
Millis, Walter This is Pearl
Morison, S E History of US Naval Operations in WWII
Sherwood, R E Roosevelt and Hopkins
Tansill, C C *Back Door to War*
US Army, US Army in WW II Master Index

Kennedy, David *Freedom From Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945*