SPRING 2002 HISTORY 5B
The United States in the 20th Century
MWF 11:30-12:20pm

History 5b is designed to facilitate the study of American society, culture and politics from the Gilded Age to end of World War II. Students will use literature, film and historical monographs as tools to investigate and analyze the life experiences of Americans during the first half of what has been called the “American Century.” The two central themes of this course are “progress” and “freedom,” - indeed the much of our reading and discussion will focus upon the conflict between these two ideals. Prohibition and the jazz age, women’s suffrage and the Scottsboro boys, the Chicago World’s Fair and the seizure of Hawaii are some of the issues and events which will be addressed in this study of a maturing America.

Writing Assignments – Students will be responsible for one short library assignment (2 pages) and three papers (6-8 pages in length.)

Exams – Students will be required to take two exams – a midterm and a final exam. Exams will test the students’ ability to integrate information from the reading and classroom lectures. The format for both exams includes short answer and essay questions. Students must take exams when scheduled.

Class participation and attendance - Regular classroom attendance is expected. Repeated absences will have a detrimental effect on learning and adversely effect student grades. Students are encouraged to participate in classroom discussions. Students are urged to complete the reading in advance of class time to facilitate an informed discussion.

The following texts are required reading. These books are available for purchase in the bookstore and on reserve in McCabe library.

Azbug, Robert H., America views the Holocaust, 1933-1945
DuBois, Carol Ellen, Harriot Stanton Blatch and the winning of woman suffrage
Fitzgerald, F. Scott, Babylon Revisited and other stories
Goodman, James, Stories of Scottsboro
Hughes, Langston, The ways of white folks
Kennedy, David, Over Here: The First World War and American Society
Kasson, John Amusing the Million
Roark, Johnson, et al, The American Promise, Volume II
Rydell, Findling and Pelle, Fair America
Lecture and readings schedule

Week I
January 21  Reconstruction and Redemption
January 23  1877 - A Year of Violence
January 25  America Ascendant - Discussion
Reading:  *The American Promise*, 413-441, *Fair America*, 1-44

Week II -
January 28  Finding a fit – in the west
January 30  Finding a fit – in the city
February 1  **Library Assignment**
Reading:  *The American Promise*, 443-474, *Amusing the Million*

Week III
February 4  The Gilded Age - **[LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT DUE]**
February 6  Haymarket and Homestead
February 8  The White City - Discussion
Reading:  *The American Promise*, 475-522, *Fair America*, 45-71

Week IV
February 11  White Supremacy – at home and abroad
February 13  Validating Jim Crow
February 15  Global Reach
Reading:  *The American Promise*, 523-551

Week V
February 18  Growing Pains
February 20  WWI - Discussion
February 22  **MIDTERM EXAM**
Reading:  *Over Here*
*The American Promise*, 552-583

Week VI
February 25  Clothes Make the Man....and the Woman
February 27  The Jazz Age Begins - Discussion
March 1  Workers of the World Unite!
*The American Promise*, 585-630
Film: Birth of a Nation

Week VII
March 4  Inherit the Wind
March 6  The Invisible Empire - part II
March 8  Woman as Citizen - Discussion  **[FIRST PAPER DUE]**
Reading:  Harriot Stanton Blanch & the winning of woman suffrage
SPRING BREAK 3/9-17/2002

Week VIII
March 18  Hard Times all around
March 20  Mayonnaise cake and mock apple pie
March 22  smiling through our tears
Reading:  The American Promise, 630-641,
            Stories of Scottsboro, xi-333

Week IX
March 25  Big Brother to the Rescue
March 27  New Deal
March 29  More New Deal-Discussion
Reading:  The American Promise, 643-671

Week X
April 1   Prelude to disaster [SECOND PAPER DUE]
April 3   Home Grown Nazism
April 5   America First-Discussion
Reading:  The American promise, 673-703,
            America Views the Holocaust, 1933-1945, 1-108

Week XI
April 8   The Last Great War
April 10  Bullets bring Butter
April 12  Rosie the Riveter
Reading:  Articles

Week XII
April 15  America’s soldiers
April 17  “Red and Yellow, Black and White....”
April 19  G.I. Jane
Reading:  Articles

Week XIII
April 22  The enemy within?
April 24  “They took papa’s short wave”
April 26  Executive Order 9066 [THIRD PAPER DUE]
Reading  America Views the Holocaust, 109-217

Week XIV
April 29  On this side of the Iron Curtain
May 1    Retooling for peace
May 3    Rearming for war-Discussion
Reading:  The American Promise, 705-729, Articles

A FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR THIS COURSE.
SUGGESTED READINGS
Race, Rape & Lynching: The Red Record of American Literature 1890-1912
What does the Internment of the Japanese Americans mean?
Nancy Sorel - The Women who wrote the war
David Kennedy – Freedom from Fear: The American people in Depression and War, 1929-1945
Barbara W. Tuchman – The Guns of August
Cassandra Tate – Cigarette Wars
Leisa Meyer – Creating G.I. Jane
David L. Lewis – When Harlem was in Vogue
Annelise Orleck – Common Sense and a Little Fire: Women and Working Class Politics in the United States, 1900-1965
Roger Daniels – Prisoners without trial: Japanese Americans in World War II