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FALL 2010

AMH 2035

THE UNITED STATES: 1945 TO THE PRESENT

Course Objectives:

1. To promote an understanding of the effects of World War II on American politics, society, economy, and diplomacy.
2. To promote an appreciation of the significance of the Truman presidency in foreign policy from 1945-1953.
3. To promote an understanding of the domestic controversies during the Truman presidency from 1945-1953.
4. To promote an appreciation of the effects of the Second Red Scare, McCarthyism, on American life from 1950 to 1954.
5. To promote an understanding of the foreign policy of the Eisenhower Presidency from 1953-1961.
6. To promote an appreciation of the domestic events and controversies of the Eisenhower Presidency from 1953 to 1961.
7. To promote an understanding of the foreign policy of the Kennedy Presidency from 1961-1963.
8. To promote an appreciation of the domestic policy of the Kennedy Presidency from 1961-1963.
9. To promote an understanding of the foreign policy of the Johnson Presidency, with special emphasis on the Vietnam War, from 1963-1969.
10. To promote an appreciation of the domestic achievements of the Johnson Presidency from 1963-1969.
11. To promote an understanding of the foreign policy record of the Nixon Presidency from 1969-1974.
12. To promote an appreciation of the domestic controversies of the Nixon Presidency from 1969-1974.
13. To promote an understanding of the brief Presidency of Gerald Ford in foreign and domestic affairs from 1974-1977.
14. To promote an appreciation of the Presidency of Jimmy Carter in foreign and domestic affairs from 1977 to 1981.
15. To promote an understanding of the Presidency of Ronald Reagan in foreign and domestic affairs from 1981 to 1989.

Required Reading for the Course:

Moss, George Donelson, Moving On: The American People Since 1945, Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2010, 4th Edition

Course Requirements:

There will be three examinations during the course, the first and second exams being fifty multiple choice (each exam worth 25% of the final grade), and the final examination being cumulative, all essays and worth 50% of the final grade.

The Gordon Rule requirement is fulfilled by the taking of the exams in the course.

Attendance is expected and necessary for a student to perform to his full capacity in the course. A maximum of 4 absences is allowed. Class participation is encouraged at all times. A student is expected to be present for the in-class examinations on the day they are given. CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF IN CLASS. NO VIEWING OR RINGING OR SPEAKING IS ALLOWED AS IT IS A DISTRACTION TO OTHER STUDENTS AND THE INSTRUCTOR.

Unless the student withdraws by the date stated in the college catalog, he or she will receive an F in the course if the course is not completed. The grading system is as follows:

A: 90-100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69, F: 59 or lower

COURSE OUTLINE

- TOPIC 1:** The effects of World War II on American Politics, Society, Economy and Diplomacy.
- TOPIC 2:** The Presidency of Harry S. Truman: Evolution of the Cold War, 1945-1953.
- TOPIC 3:** The Presidency of Harry S. Truman: Domestic Controversies, 1945-1953.
- TOPIC 4:** McCarthyism and its effect on American life, 1950-1954.
- TOPIC 5:** The Presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower: Foreign policy issues, 1953-1961.
- TOPIC 6:** The Presidency of Dwight D. Eisenhower: Domestic controversies, 1953-1961.

FIRST EXAMINATION ON TOPICS 1-6 (MONDAY, OCTOBER 11) (MOSS CH. 1-6)

- TOPIC 7:** The Presidency of John F. Kennedy: The New Frontier and foreign policy, 1961-1963.
- TOPIC 8:** The Presidency of John F. Kennedy: The New Frontier and domestic policy, 1961-1963.
- TOPIC 9:** The Presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson: The escalation of the Vietnam War, 1963-1969.
- TOPIC 10:** The Presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson: The Great Society and domestic programs, 1963-1969.
- TOPIC 11:** The Presidency of Richard M. Nixon: First term foreign and domestic policy, 1969-1973.
- TOPIC 12:** The Presidency of Richard M. Nixon: The Watergate scandal, 1972-1974.

SECOND EXAMINATION ON TOPICS 7-12 (MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22) (MOSS CH. 7-11)

- TOPIC 13:** The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford, 1974-1977.
- TOPIC 14:** The Presidency of Jimmy Carter, 1977-1981.
- TOPIC 15:** The Presidency of Ronald Reagan: The revolution in foreign and domestic policy, 1981-1989.

FINAL EXAMINATION ON TOPICS 1-15 DUE (MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 8 AM-2 PM) (MOSS CH. 12-15)