

## HIST 203 US History 1865 to Present Syllabus

**Objective:** The purpose of this syllabus is to guide the participant in the requirements, demands, logistics and expectations of this course.

### Getting Help:

To receive technical assistance on issues related to WebCT contact:

Academic Instructional Technology Help Desk  
ES 102

Spring and Fall Semester: Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
MST (May-August 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. MDT)  
(719) 587-7371

[ascwebct@adams.edu](mailto:ascwebct@adams.edu)

### Instructor Information

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**Phone:** 719-587-7466

**Fax:** 719-587-7176

**Address:**

Dept. of History, Government, & Philosophy  
Adams State College  
208 Edgemont Ave.  
Alamosa, CO 81102

**Course Delivery:** Online

**Credit Hours:** Three Semester Hours

### Course Materials:

To order textbooks or obtain information about book titles you may go to [www.exstudies.adams.edu](http://www.exstudies.adams.edu) and click on the “ASC Bookstore” icon.

Use **Section Number: 1073** to order books from Bookstore site.

### Required Textbook:

Tindall, G.B. & Shi, D. E. (2006). *America: A Narrative History*, (7th ed.). New York, NY: WW Norton & Co Inc.  
ISBN-10: 0-393-92820-9  
ISBN-13: 978-0-393-92820-4

**Monographs:** A monograph is scholarly book on a single subject or an aspect of it.

Oshinsky, David (1997) *Worse than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice*. Free Press. ISBN: 0684830957 ISBN-13: 978-0684830957

Sitkoff, Harvard. (2009). *King: Pilgrimage to the Mountaintop*. Hill and Wang. ISBN: 0700612513 ISBN-13: 978-0809063499

### **Catalog Description:**

A survey of United States history from the end of the Civil War to the present.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

The student will:

- Be able to identify historical content in context for the historical period covered in this course.
- Be able to knowledgeably discuss the significance of major themes, key concepts, and identifiable terms as related to the social, political, and intellectual history of the period, as demonstrated through the student's writing and examinations.
- Demonstrate appropriate historical writing and analysis skills by producing acceptable essays on the two assigned monographs.

### **Course Requirements:**

#### **Reading Assignments**

The course is divided into three units. The student should read the text as detailed in the lessons below. Keep in mind that you are reading in order to acquire a framework on which you can view this period of history in terms of key content and identifiable terms. Rather than being expected to memorize dates of events, you will be asked to demonstrate that you have developed an understanding not only of what happened, but of the overall significance of that event to the historical period. In addition to top line events (such as those that might appear in newspaper headlines of the time), you are reading for social, political, and intellectual content. What key concepts or core ideas are prevalent at the time? How are these ideas influencing social and political history? What are the key conflicts taking place? Who are the players? What are the core ideas or concepts underlying these conflicts? The **KEY TERMS** that you should pay attention to in each chapter of each unit are listed in the study guide.

At the end of each unit of study are three or four essay questions. You should write out your answers to each one of these questions, making sure that your answers are defensible, that is, that you can support the argument you are making utilizing specific citations from the historical record. Please refer to the rubric at the end of this syllabus for guidance on how to construct an essay response based on (a.) structure, (b.) evidence, and (c.) quality of writing.

**YOUR UNIT EXAMINATION WILL CONSIST OF ONE OF THESE FOUR ESSAY QUESTIONS, PLUS A LIST OF EIGHT KEY TERMS. YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO CHOOSE FIVE OF THE EIGHT TERMS THAT APPEAR ON THE EXAM. YOU WILL BE ASKED TO EXPLAIN EACH TERM AND IDENTIFY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EACH TO THE HISTORICAL PERIOD.**

### **Examinations**

There are three units of study in this course, with a proctored examination at the end of each unit. As stated above, each examination will consist of a list of eight identification terms, from which you will choose five. The examination will also include one of the three or four essay questions for which you have already prepared a response. **All examinations are to be proctored.**

Each exam is worth 50 points. The essay is worth 35 points (70%). The identification items (significant terms) are worth 3 points each or 15 points total (30%).

The **FINAL EXAMINATION** will be a proctored exam and will be included in the exam for Unit Three and will be worth an additional 50 points. The comprehensive examination section will include an essay question drawn from one of the three units of study (and for which you have previously prepared) and will be worth 35 points. There will be an additional list of identification items drawn from the entire course of study. Again, there will be eight items on this list, from which you will choose five. The comprehensive identification items are also worth three points each for a total of 15 points.

### **Guidelines For Proctored Exams**

Please send your exam request form three weeks BEFORE you plan to take the exam to:

Attn: Independent Study Program Manager  
Extended Studies  
Adams State College  
208 Edgemont Blvd.  
Alamosa, CO 81102

1. No more than one exam may be taken on the same day unless authorized by the instructor.
2. Exams may not be sent to or written at a residential address.
3. The main concern for a proctor is to preserve the academic integrity of the examination. No relative, immediate work supervisor or co-worker may be a proctor. The following is a list of acceptable proctors:
  - Elementary or secondary school superintendents, principals, teachers or guidance counselors
  - Professional employees of accredited post secondary colleges or universities
  - Professionals working for the public or private libraries

- Commissioned officers of the active duty military, National Guard or Reserve Components
  - Clergy
  - Military Education, College Continuing Education or Distance Learning Staff
  - Human Resource and Training Managers/Directors
4. Adams State College reserves the right to verify a proctor's identity, require additional proof of eligibility, or require the selection of a different proctor.
  5. The following guidelines will be sent to your proctor to ensure proper testing conditions:

**Before the exam:**

- Arrange a time for the students to take the exam.
- Carefully read the cover letter sent with the exam and ensure the directions are clear.
- Ask the student to show identification if you do not know him/her.
- Instruct the student of any specifics pertaining to the exam. Information about the use of notes, texts, or calculators can be found on the examination sheet.

**Administering the exam:**

- Find a quiet area where the exam may be taken with little distraction.
- Allow the student to bring in only those materials needed for the exam.
- Set a watch or timer for the exact amount of time allotted for the exam. When the time expires, collect the exam from the student whether he/she is finished or not.

**Following the exam:**

- Complete all proctor forms, including signature of this exam certificate.
- Make a copy of the completed exam for your files, in the event the exam may get lost in the mail. Please destroy this copy after 30 days. Do not make a copy for the student.
- Mail the exam and proctor forms in the envelope provided. The student should provide postage. Do not allow the student to mail the exam him/herself. Examinations may not be faxed.
- Do not read or discuss the exam with the student.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Extended Studies. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Summer hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Monograph Essays**

In addition to the unit reading assignments and examinations, students will be expected to read the two monographs listed in the **REQUIRED MATERIALS** section and complete a four-page essay (double-spaced, 1 inch margins all around) using the information in the book to argue a defensible response to the questions I've posed for each one. (See questions below.) Essays will be submitted through the SafeAssign links in each Unit. The essays will be run through

plagiarism detection tools. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and may result in a score of zero and further discipline action. See the [Adams State College Student Handbook](#) for more information.

### **Monography Essay Questions**

**Oshinsky monograph essay. (Due at the end of Unit One.)** Why was Parchman prison farm worse than slavery? What does its operation suggest about racism in Mississippi and the United States generally?

**Sitkoff monograph essay. (Due at the end of Unit Two.)** How and why did King's mission to effect Civil Rights in the southern United States evolve into a broader crusade against imperialism and economic inequality by the time of his death?

### **Grade Distribution and Scale**

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

#### **Grade Distribution:**

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Test one            | 50 points         |
| Test two            | 50 points         |
| Final Exam          | 100 points        |
| Monograph Essay one | 25 points         |
| Monograph Essay two | 25 points         |
| <b>Total points</b> | <b>250 points</b> |

#### **Scale:**

|               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 90-100%       | A 225 – 250 points |
| 80-89%        | B 200 – 224 points |
| 70-79%        | C 175 – 199 points |
| 60-69%        | D 150 – 174 points |
| 59% and below | F Below 150 points |