COURSE SYLLABUS
HISTORY 130-11, TUESDAY, 7-9:50, HOLT 352 (CLASS #6566)

The study of United States history from post-Civil War America to the Obama administration.

INSTRUCTION INFORMATION
Instructor: Bob Archer     Office: Trinity 210   Office phone#: 898-4202   E-mail: rarcher@csuchico.edu
Office Hours: TUESDAY, 4-6:50

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

BOOKS: THERE ARE TWO REQUIRED BOOKS. BOTH ARE AVAILABLE IN THE STUDENT BOOKSTORE.

A PEOPLE’S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, BY HOWARD ZINN

DON’T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HISTORY, BY KENNETH DAVIS

READING ASSIGNMENTS: I urge you to keep up with the reading schedule, which is provided in the “Course Calendar” section of this syllabus. By following this schedule, or even reading ahead, you will find yourself well prepared for the weekly quizzes and midterms.

QUIZZES: On 11 nights during the semester we will have a quiz on the previous week’s readings and lecture topics. The quizzes will consist of true-false and multiple choice questions – usually 10-15 questions per quiz. I will drop your lowest quiz score. Consult the Course Calendar below for quiz dates.

PAPERS: There will be two short papers, to be assigned later in the semester. One will be an evaluation of certain “pioneers” of American history. The other will be an assessment of the Reagan through George W. Bush years. They will be worth 25 points apiece.

EXAMINATIONS: There will be TWO MID-TERM EXAMS AND A FINAL EXAM: THREE EXAMS TOTAL. Check the Course Calendar below for exam dates. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

EXTRA CREDIT: THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT.

TIME REQUIREMENTS OUTSIDE OF CLASS
To be eminently successful, the typical student will find it necessary to spend at least two hours studying for every hour in class (about 6 hours of study per week). Don’t procrastinate! If you do, you will find that there is not enough time to accomplish everything you need to do.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is required. More than THREE unexcused absences will result in your final grade being dropped a half-point for each subsequent unexcused absence. Also, if you leave class early without informing me you intend to do so first, I will mark you as absent for that day. Early departures are annoying and disruptive.

If you miss class because of illness, you must bring a note from a doctor for the absence to be excused.

GRADE EVALUATION
The homework and exams will all be given points. These points will be added up for a final grade.

CHEATING
After much deep consideration and soul-searching, I have decided not to allow any cheating. If discovered, expect to receive a failing grade for the course.

COURSE CALENDAR (subject to modification at the instructor’s discretion)

WEEK 1: JANUARY 24: INTRODUCTION; CLASS DISCUSSION ON “THE STATE OF THE UNION, 20011”
WEEK 2: JANUARY 31: THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR; THE SAGA OF JACK JOHNSON
QUIZ #1 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 3: FEBRUARY 7: THE ERA OF WORLD WAR ONE
READ: DAVIS, 303-318; ZINN, CH. 14 “WAR IS THE HEALTH OF THE STATE”
QUIZ #2 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

READ: DAVIS, 319-344
QUIZ #3 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 5: FEBRUARY 21: THE GREAT DEPRESSION & THE DARK VALLEY
READ: DAVIS, 344-374; ZINN, CH. 15 “SELF-HELP IN HARD TIMES”
QUIZ #4 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 6: FEBRUARY 28: LECTURE: THE ROAD TO WORLD WAR II & FIRST MID-TERM EXAM ON ALL PREVIOUS CLASS LECTURES, READINGS, FILMS AND WEBSITE “HANDOUTS”

****DON’T FORGET! FOR NEXT WEEK, READ: DAVIS, 374-396; ZINN, CH. 16, (“A PEOPLE’S WAR?”) 407-424

WEEK 7: MARCH 6: WORLD WAR II & THE EARLY COLD WAR
READ: DAVIS, 397-421; ZINN, CH. 16, “A PEOPLE’S WAR?”, 424-442
QUIZ #5 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 8: MARCH 13: THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
READ: DAVIS, 422-461; ZINN, CH. 17 (“OR DOES IT EXPLODE?”)
QUIZ #6 TUESDAY ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 9: NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK

WEEK 10: MARCH 27: “THE BEAT”: THE EMERGENCE OF A COUNTERCULTURE IN POSTWAR AMERICA
READ: DAVIS, 461-490
QUIZ #7 ON WEEK 8’s CLASS & READINGS

WEEK 11: APRIL 3: VIETNAM: THE WAR WE COULDN’T LOSE AND HOW WE DID
READ: ZINN, CH. 18 “THE IMPOSSIBLE VICTORY: VIETNAM”
QUIZ #8 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READING

WEEK 12: APRIL 10: COMING APART AT THE SEAMS: AMERICA IN THE 1960-70’s
READ: DAVIS, 490-510, ZINN, CH. 19, “SURPRISES”
QUIZ #9 ON LAST WEEK’S CLASS & READING

WEEK 13: APRIL 17: SECOND MID-TERM EXAM ON ALL CLASS LECTURES, READINGS, FILMS AND WEBSITE “HANDOUTS” SINCE THE FIRST EXAM

DON’T FORGET!: FOR NEXT WEEK, READ DAVIS, 510-532

WEEK 14: APRIL 24: THE RESURGENCE OF CONSERVATISM
READ: ZINN, CH. 21 “CARTER-REAGAN-BUSH: THE BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS” & 22 (“THE UNREPORTED RESISTANCE”)
QUIZ #10 ON LAST WEEK’S READING

WEEK 15: MAY 1: “BUBBA”: A LOOK AT THE CLINTON YEARS
READ: DAVIS, 533-562; ZINN, CH. 24
QUIZ #11 ON LAST WEEK’S READINGS

WEEK 16: MAY 8: ASSESSING “DUBYA”: 9/11 AND THE “WAR ON TERROR”
AND THE “AFTERWORD”
NO QUIZ THIS WEEK

FINAL EXAM TIME

TUESDAY, MAY 15 8-9:50 p.m., HOLT 352. REMEMBER, THE FINAL EXAM STARTS ONE HOUR LATER THAN OUR CLASS USUALLY DOES.

STUDY TERMS FOR THE ZINN BOOK, “A PEOPLE’S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES” (THEY WILL ALSO HELP WITH THE DAVIS BOOK)

THE INDIAN WARS, ROBBER BARONS, POPULISTS AND THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR (DAVIS BOOK, pp. 253-291), THROUGH TO ZINN’S CHAPTER 13 “THE SOCIALIST CHALLENGE” (THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF CLASS)

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: The Indian Wars; the Battle of Little Bighorn; George Armstrong Custer; the Ghost Dance; the Wounded Knee massacre; the “Cross of Gold”; Populism; William Jennings Bryan; Jim Crow; Plessy v. Ferguson; “separate but equal”; Expansionism; Cuban revolution; Insurrectos; the battleship Maine; Emiliano Aguinaldo; Anti-Imperialist League: President William McKinley; Secretary of State John Hay; the “Open Door” policy; Teddy Roosevelt; “Rough Riders”; Spanish-American War; Philippine Insurrection; Mark Twain; Albert Beveridge; Capt. Alfred Thayer Mahan; Henry Cabot Lodge; Teller Amendment; Platt Amendment; Progressivism; Socialism; Capitalism; the IWW (Industrial Workers of the World) or “Wobblies”; Eugene Debs; Mother Mary Jones; Big Bill Haywood; W.E.B. Dubois; Upton Sinclair and The Jungle; Woodrow Wilson;

CHAPTER 14: “WAR IS THE HEALTH OF THE STATE”

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: Randolph Bourne; the causes of World War One; General Douglas Haig; trench warfare; the “Allies” and the “Central Powers”; Woodrow Wilson; the “Fourteen Points”; the Zimmermann Telegram; u-boats; America’s entry into the war; American performance in the war; George Creel and the Committee on Public Information (CPI); American Alliance for Labor and Democracy; the Espionage Act; the Sedition Act; Charles Schenck; Eugene Debs; American Protective League; the fate of the Socialist Party in America, as well as that of the “Wobblies” (the IWW); Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer; the first “Red Scare”; Sacco and Vanzetti
CHAPTER 15: “SELF-HELP IN HARD TIMES”
KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: Herbert Hoover; “Hoovervilles”; Andrew Mellon; the Stock Market Crash of 1929; bread lines and soup kitchens; Franklin D. Roosevelt; the New Deal; the National Recovery Act (NRA); “alphabet soup” programs; the Bonus Army; the AFL and the CIO; “sit-down” strikes; black people and the New Deal; Adolf Hitler; Benito Mussolini; the Nazi Party; fascism

CHAPTER 16: “A PEOPLE’S WAR?”
KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: Hitler and Mussolini; Japanese militarism; Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Union; World War Two; Pearl Harbor; the Atlantic Charter; the Holocaust; the United Nations; the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank; Executive Order No. 9066; Dresden; Iwo Jima; D-Day; Guadalcanal; “island hopping”; the Manhattan Project; Trinity; “fat man” and “little boy”; Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Japanese internment camps; Harry S. Truman; the Truman Doctrine; the Marshall Plan; the Berlin Airlift; the “fall of China”; George F. Kennan and “Containment”; the Korean War; Inchon; Douglas MacArthur; Senator Joseph McCarthy and “McCarthyism”; the “Red Scare”; the Army-McCarthy hearings; the execution of the Rosenbergs; the Bay of Pigs invasion; the Cuban Missile Crisis

CHAPTER 17 “OR DOES IT EXPLODE?”
KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: Langston Hughes; Countee Cullen; Richard Wright; blacks and the Communist Party; Harry S. Truman and civil rights; Jackie Robinson; Brown v. Board of Education (1954); Plessy v. Ferguson (1896); Rosa Parks; the Montgomery Bus Boycott; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Congress on Racial Equality (CORE); “Freedom Rides”; Bob Moses: Emmett Till; Stokely Carmichael; the Greensboro Sit-In; Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); Mississippi Summer; James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner; Malcolm X; Muhammad Ali; Black Muslims; Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 1968; Voting Rights Act (1965); Lyndon Johnson’s “Great Society”; Watts Riots; “Black Power”; the Black Panthers; Fred Hampton; “busing”;

CHAPTER 18: “THE IMPOSSIBLE VICTORY: VIETNAM”
KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE: Vietnam; Laos; Cambodia; Ho Chi Minh; the Vietminh; Dien Bien Phu (1954); the Geneva Accords (1954); Ngo Dinh Diem; Buddhism; the National Liberation Front (NLF) or the “Vietcong” (VC, Mr. Charles, Chuck); the Gulf of Tonkin Incident (1964); Lyndon B. Johnson and “escalation”; Dean Rusk; Robert McNamara; General William Westmoreland; Operation Rolling Thunder; “free fire zones”; “Operation Phoenix”; Khe Sanh; the Tet Offensive; Lt. William Calley; the My Lai Massacre; Ron Ridenhour; Richard Nixon; “Vietnamization”; the anti-war movement; “draft-dodging”; Daniel Ellsberg and the “Pentagon Papers”; the Catonsville Nine”; the Berrigan brothers; Kent State; “fragging”; Ron Kovic and Born on the Fourth of July; the bombing of Cambodia; the Christmas bombings
[MORE TO COME LATER IN THE SEMESTER]