This course will examine the society and politics of the United States from its earliest beginnings to our own day. It is a sweep of time with breathtaking changes. From a small band of colonists maintaining a precarious existence on the edge of a vast wilderness, to a heavily industrialized and urbanized nation of 300 million, the odyssey of the American people is full of drama and conflict. The journey is not yet completed, and an understanding of our history provides the key not only to our past, but also to who we are as a nation today, and who we might become in the future. As Kierkegaard observed, "Life must be lived forward, but can only be understood backwards."

**Instructor:** Ken Rose

**Week One (January 26, January 28):**
America, Europe and Africa Before the Age of Exploration; The European and the Indian
**Readings:** Carnes & Garraty: Prologue, Chapter 1; "The European and the Indian" (handout); Marcus & Burner (v. 1): A Destructio of the Indies (p. 14), A Description of Virginia (p. 19), A Encounter with the Indians (p. 23)

**Week Two (February 2, February 4):**
Religion -- Old World and New; City on the Hill and the Plantation in the Swamp;
**Readings:** "A Brief Account of a Strange and Unusual Providence of God Befallen to Elizabeth Knapp of Groton" (handout); Carnes & Garraty: Chapter 2; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): A The Case Against George Burroughs (p. 43), A Reconsidering the Verdict (p. 48)

**Week Three (February 9, February 11):**
Sources of the American Revolution; The Constitution;
**Readings:** Carnes & Garraty: Chaps. 3, 4 & 5; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): A A Soldier=½s View of the Revolutionary War (p. 109), A Shays=½s Rebellion: Prelude to the Constitution (p. 135)

**Week Four (February 16, February 18):**
The U.S. Between 1820 and 1840; The Second Great Awakening
**Readings:** Carnes & Garraty: Chaps. 8 & 9; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): A The Great Revival of 1800" (p.143)
Week Five (February 23, February 25):
The Reform Impulse; Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass
Readings: Carnes & Garraty: Chap. 10; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): AA Slave Insurrection@ (p. 202), AWho Is to Blame?@ (209), ALife Under the Lash@ (226)
Midterm Examination: February 25

Week Six (March 2, March 4):
The Crises of the 1850s
Film: The Civil War, Ken Burns, director
Readings: Carnes & Garraty: Chaps. 12, 13 & 14; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): AThe Early Life of This Boy@ (249)

Week Seven (March 9, March 11*):
Civil War
Film: The Civil War (conclusion)
Readings: Carnes & Garraty, Chap. 15; Marcus & Burner (v. 1): AThe Last and Bloodiest Fight: A Union Account@ (p. 268), A@ (279), AHealing Wounds: A Confederate Account@ (p. 275), AHealing Wounds@ (p. 289)
*No Class March 11 (Mandatory Unpaid Furlough Day)

Week Eight (March 16, March 18)*:
*No Class: Spring Break

Week Nine (March 23, March 25)
The Rise of Business in America
Readings: Carnes & Garraty: Chapter 18; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): AGeorge Rice Loses Out to Standard Oil@ (69)
Film Clip: The Richest Man in the World

Week Ten (March 30, April 1*):
The Two Waves of American Immigration
Film: Journey to America
Readings: Carnes & Garraty: Chap. 19
*No Class April 1 (Mandatory Unpaid Furlough Day)

Week Eleven (April 6, April 8):
Urbanization; The American Farmer and Populism
Readings: Carnes & Garraty: Chap. 21; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): AHonest and Dishonest Graft@ (p. 76), AConditions at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company@ (p. 100), AA Fire Trap@ (p. 105)
Midterm Examination: April 8
Week Twelve (April 13, April 15*):
Progressivism; World War I and Versailles
Film Clip: Paths of Glory
Readings: Slaughterhouse Conditions (handout); Carnes & Garraty: Chaps. 22 & 24
*No Class on April 15 (Mandatory Unpaid Furlough Day)

Week Thirteen (April 20, April 22):
The Twenties: Urban Culture/Rural Culture
Film Clips: Inherit the Wind; Our Dancing Daughters
Readings: Carnes & Garraty, Chaps. 25 & 26; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): A In Defense of the Bible (p. 150)

Week Fourteen (April 27, April 29):
Great Depression, Foreign Policy and the Approach of War
Readings: Carnes & Garraty, Chap. 27; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): A Down and Out in the Great Depression (p. 178)

Week Fifteen (May 4,* May 6):
The War in the Pacific and the Atomic Bomb
Film: World War II: Lost Color Archives
Readings: Carnes & Garraty, Chap. 28; Excerpts from Paul Fussell's Thank God for the Atom Bomb; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): A To Build An Atomic Bomb (p. 206), A The Bataan Death March (p. 219)
*No Class May 4 (Mandatory Unpaid Furlough Day)

Week Sixteen (December 8, December 10):
Fighting Jim Crow: The Early Days of the Civil Rights Movement
Film: Eyes On The Prize, 1957-1962
Readings: Carnes & Garraty, Chap. 29; Marcus & Burner (v. 2): A Mississippi Freedom Summer (p. 285)

Final Examination: Tuesday, May 18, 10:00-11:50 AM

There will be two mid-term examinations. Each mid-term will count as 30 percent of your grade. The final examination will count as 40 percent of your grade. All examinations will be of the essay type. You are responsible for all lectures, readings, and films on your examinations. Bring a blank green book (do not put your name on it) for each exam.
Class attendance is not mandatory. In fact, students are only required to be in class three times during the semester: for the two midterms and for the final. This extremely tolerant attendance policy means that students must be in class on the scheduled examination dates. In other words, examination times are not negotiable, and all students will take the examinations on the date scheduled except for those with medical problems documented by a doctor’s note. Weddings, anniversaries, family reunions, conferences, athletic contests, early job and vacation opportunities and other occasions are certainly worthy events, but if they interfere with scheduled examinations, then this class is probably not for you. In other words, if there is the possibility that you might have a scheduling conflict, drop this class.

My office is in 211 Trinity. The phone number is 898-5386, and I am on voice mail. You can also e-mail me at kdrose@csuchico.edu. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:45 AM-12:30 PM, and by appointment.

**Required Books:** Mark C. Carnes and John A. Garraty, *American Destiny: Narrative of a Nation*; Robert D. Marcus and David Burner, *America Firsthand* - Volumes One and Two; Excerpts from Paul Fussell's *Thank God for the Atom Bomb*. 