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Course Syllabus



AMH2042: Modern American Civilization Section PVC (#16366)

Instructor Information Table



Prof. Michael Sanchez

Instructor Information

- Email: masanch@fiu.edu
- Phone: N/A
- Office: Via Zoom
- Office Hours: Mondays, 4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Course Time Zone | Eastern Standard Time (EST). Course due dates are according to this time zone.

General Information

Course Description and Purpose

Welcome to AMH 2042: Modern American Civilization! Between the end of the Civil War and the present, our national culture, as well as the fears, doubts, aspirations and triumphs of the American public, have changed enormously. In this course, we will explore the changes within in this time frame, and see how America has influenced the world, and in turn how the world has influenced America. This course will focus on breadth, not depth. We will, however, consider specific processes such as

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Reconstruction, the American entry into the world wars, and the role of the Internet in altering the concept of citizenship.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, you should be able to discuss why certain events and people are important, and have a sense of how history shapes our contemporary world.

After completing this class, students will be able to:

- Course Objective 1 (CO1). Assess key events, central themes, and questions pertaining to modern US history. (Disciplinary Knowledge)
- CO2. Gain experience reading and analyzing written arguments by engaging with a variety of types of sources. (Critical Thinking)
- CO3. Learn and apply the techniques of writing an argumentative, thesis-driven and evidence-based paper. (Writing)

This is also a Global Learning Foundations Course that counts towards your Global Learning graduation requirement. One of the themes of this course will therefore be the way that different groups of people interacted over the period covered by the course. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to meet the following outcomes:

- CO4. Students will construct an evidence-based argument demonstrating the ways that local, regional, national, and global events shaped the interactions of two or more groups in the United States. (Global Awareness)
- CO5. Students will construct an evidence-based argument that integrates multiple perspectives on an issue in Modern US History. (Global Perspectives)
- CO6. Students will consider different perspectives on a problem or controversy related to Modern US History and attempt to reach a resolution about it. (Global Engagement)

Finally, this is a Humanities Tier 2 Course that counts towards your University Core Curriculum requirement. UCC Humanities courses teach the following skills:

- CO7. Critical thinking, interpretation of information from a variety of sources, and cultural literacy.
- CO8. Competence in reflecting critically upon the human condition, as it was and as it is understood through history, and how it has changed through time.

In order to meet these requirements, you must achieve a grade of C or better.

Important Information

Policies

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

- [Policies](#)
- [Netiquette \(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/\)](https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/)

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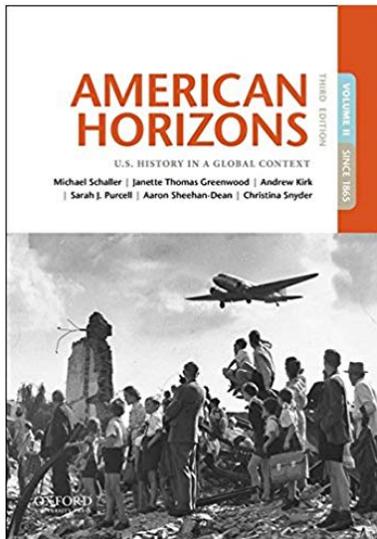
- [Technical Requirements and Skills](#)
- [Accessibility and Accommodation](#)
- [Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)
- [Inclusivity Statement](#)

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Textbook and Course Materials

Textbook Table



American Horizons: U.S. History in a Global Context, Volume II: Since

1865

Schaller/Schulzinger/Greenwood
Oxford University Press, Third Edition, 2018
9780190659493

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](http://fiu.bncollege.com/bncbapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001)
(<http://fiu.bncollege.com/bncbapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001>).

We will also read a variety of primary sources that will present alternative perspectives from people who lived through these events. These will be required readings available through Canvas.

Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **review the getting started page** located in the course modules;
- **introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- **take the [practice quiz](#)** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the learning management system, Canvas;

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- **interact** online with instructor and peers;
- **review** and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- **log in** to the course **7 times** per week;
- **respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **respond** to **emails** within **1 day**;
- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- log in to the course **7 times** per week;
- respond to discussion postings within **7 days of the deadline**;
- respond to **emails** within **24 hours**;
- grade assignments within **7 days** of the assignment deadline.

Course Detail

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial \(https://vimeo.com/canvaslms/212en\)](https://vimeo.com/canvaslms/212en) and [Canvas Guide \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10574-12710325\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10574-12710325) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox. I will respond to all correspondences within **24 hours**.

Attendance

This is a fully online course - there are no virtual or in-person lectures. There is no requirement to come to any campus. However, the student is still responsible for turning in the assignments and otherwise participating as the course requires.

Discussion Forum

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

Discussion Forum Expectations:

Each week, the student will answer several questions at the end of each chapter relating to primary source analysis. These questions do not have single, correct answers, and a well-reasoned answer requires both rigor and creativity. Full credit for each week consists of two (2) parts – the direct response to the questions, and the challenge or agreement to one other student's answer, explaining why. The total word count for both parts must be a minimum of 300 words.

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Assignments

The final grade is comprised of weekly posts and responses and a series of papers, each one increasing in length and question complexity.

Weekly Debates: Each week, the student will answer several questions at the end of each chapter relating to primary source analysis. These questions do not have single, correct answers, and a well-reasoned answer requires both rigor and creativity. Full credit for each week consists of two (2) parts – the direct response to the questions, and the challenge or agreement to one other student's answer, explaining why. The total word count for both parts must be a minimum of 300 words.

Short Writing Assignment 1: This writing assignment will be a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of two (2) pages, or 300 words, where the student will analyze evidence from the textbook. This assignment meets the Global Awareness requirement.

Short Writing Assignment 2: This writing assignment will be a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) pages, or 600 words, where the student will analyze evidence from the textbook. This assignment meets the Global Perspective requirement.

Mini-Essay: This writing assignment will be a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of four (4) pages, or 900 words, where the student will analyze evidence from the textbook, and include additional primary sources provided by the instructor in this same analysis.

Short Paper: This writing assignment will be a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of five (5) pages, or 1200 words, where the student will analyze evidence from the textbook and include additional sources provided by the instructor, and peer-reviewed sources of the student's own choosing in this same analysis. The instructor will provide guidance on picking peer-reviewed sources.

Community Engagement Paper: This writing assignment will be a minimum of two (2) pages, or 600 words, where the student will choose an article from a reputable, well-known online magazine or newspaper from the recent past and write a letter to the editor explaining how the course material changed their opinion on the subject, and whether or not the student agrees with the editor's perspective, and why. Simply summarizing the article is insufficient; the student must engage critically with the article in order to achieve a passing grade. This assignment meets the Global Engagement requirement.

Writing in History Program: provides assistance with papers and other written assignments, offering online and in-person tutoring appointments. Tutors have specialized knowledge of writing for History classes. For more info: history.fiu.edu/tutoring.

Zoom Video Conference

Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities. We will be

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utilizing this tool to conduct office hours. The Zoom office hour link is [here](#)

(<https://fiu.zoom.us/j/5579033357>).

- Reference the [Zoom Student Tutorials](#) (<https://fiuhelp.force.com/canvas/s/article/Zoom-students>) to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.
- Access the [Zoom Test Meeting Room](#) (<https://zoom.us/test>) to test out the software before joining an actual session.

If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the [FIU Canvas Help Team](#) (<https://canvas.fiu.edu/support/>). Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

Grading

Course Grades Distribution Table

Assignments	Number of Items	Points for Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Weekly Debate Posts	13	10	130	20%
Short Writing Assignment 1	1	100	100	15%
Short Writing Assignment 2	1	100	100	15%
Mini-Essay	1	100	100	20%
Short Paper	1	100	100	20%
Community Engagement Paper	1	100	100	10%

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Assignments	Number of Items	Points for Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Total	18	N/A	630	100%

Grading Policies

All written assignments must have a thesis statement, footnotes, a bibliography, the student name on the first page, and should adhere to the conventions of standard written English. Papers must have citations according to the Chicago Manual of Style Notes-Bibliography format. A title page is not required. Papers must be double-spaced. With reasonable margin widths and font size, each page will have roughly 300 words.

The professor will provide feedback on rough drafts; students are encouraged to submit their rough drafts in order to revise them; those that do so usually write stronger papers. The student must allow three (3) days for feedback. Please submit rough drafts to the professor's e-mail address or through the Canvas Inbox. The final draft MUST be submitted in Canvas and NOT through the Canvas Inbox or e-mail.

Any written assignment submitted without references will receive a failing grade.

No work will be accepted past the stated deadlines, unless in the case of legitimate, verifiable cases of illness and emergencies, religious holidays, military service, and legal requirements such as jury duty, or with accommodations covered by the FIU Disability Resource Center.

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%
A	93 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 92	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

The final grade percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, if the final grade is 89.5, this will be rounded to 90. If the final grade is 89.4 or 89.49, it will be rounded to 89.

Course Calendar

January 17, 2021	Weekly Debate 1 AND Short Writing Assignment due
January 19, 2021	Last day to add courses; last day to drop courses

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or withdraw from the University without incurring financial liability for tuition and fees

January 24, 2021	Weekly Debate 2
January 31, 2021	Weekly Debate 3 AND Short Writing Assignment 2 due
February 7, 2021	Weekly Debate 4
February 14, 2021	Weekly Debate 5
February 21, 2021	Weekly Debate 6
February 28, 2021	Weekly Debate 7 AND Mini-Essay due
March 7, 2021	Weekly Debate 8
March 14, 2021	Weekly Debate 9
March 21, 2021	Weekly Debate 10
March 28, 2021	Weekly Debate 11
April 4, 2021	Weekly Debate 12
April 11, 2021	Weekly Debate 13
April 16, 2021	Short Paper AND Community Engagement Paper due

FIU'S CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and to honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Student Conduct and Honor Code procedures and sanctions as outlined in the FIU Regulation 2501 and the Student Handbook.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

To review the student conduct and honor code, visit <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/academic-integrity/index.php>

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SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO
CHANGE THE SYLLABUS FOR ANY REASON
THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jan 17, 2021	 Short Writing Assignment 1 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1228107)	due by 11:59pm
	 Debate 1 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1208168)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 24, 2021	 Debate 2 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1228085)	due by 11:59pm
	 Short Writing Assignment 1 Extension (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1228087)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 31, 2021	 Debate 3 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1235132)	due by 11:59pm
	 Debate 4 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1235133)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 7, 2021	 Short Writing Assignment 2 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1235183)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 14, 2021	 Debate 5 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1235139)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 21, 2021	 Debate 6 (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/88197/assignments/1235145)	due by 11:59pm