

HIS 425: UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE 1914

Fall 2016, Point Loma Nazarene University
4 units, MWF 1:30-2:35pm in Colt 120

Professor: Dr. Kelli McCoy

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Office Hours: M & F 12:00-1:15pm

And by appointment

Course Description:

Beginning with the outbreak of World War I, this course analyzes in detail the kaleidoscopic nature of contemporary American life. It emphasizes the shift from traditional values to modern relativism and secularism, the benefits and liabilities of being a world power, and the impact of great personalities as the nation threaded its way through depression, wars, scandals, and technological advance. The primary theme that we will trace throughout the course is “the meanings of freedom.” The rhetoric of freedom was used from the beginning of the century to the end, in almost every scenario. The idea of “freedom” held real, though sometimes elusive, significance for ordinary Americans. We will analyze the ways in which the different meanings of freedom were at times in tension with each other, and how those meanings changed over the course of the twentieth century.

PLNU Mission:

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

History Program Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to...

- Complete a substantial historical project autonomously. (Assessed with the research paper.)
- Present and analyze, in written or oral presentation, different perspectives on an event from the past. (Assessed with the research paper and essays on exams.)
- Find appropriate materials online, in a library, or in the community and know how to cite them. (Assessed with the research paper.)

Course Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to...

- Explain the major events that shaped the United States in the twentieth century.
- Analyze various types of primary and secondary sources.
- Write a research paper that exhibits their own original analysis of the sources.

Course Requirements and Expectations

- **Reading Assignments** should be read before class on the date listed in the syllabus.
- **Weekly Responses** are a way of rewarding you for thinking thoughtfully and critically about the reading assignments. They are also designed to encourage participation in class discussions; for this reason, they will not be accepted late. **Responses must be submitted via Canvas before the time class starts.**
 - 2 pages typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font
 - Due on the dates listed in the syllabus (typically every Friday)
 - Responses should address the following questions: What arguments are made in this reading or set of readings? What (if anything) does this say about the meanings of freedom? Does it seem to agree or disagree with other possible interpretations of the meaning of freedom?
 - Your written response can be about any of the readings assigned for that WEEK. You do not have to address every one of your reading assignments, but the reading(s) you discuss should be substantial ones (i.e. you're trying to show me that you did do the reading!).
- **Participation** includes your active engagement in our class discussions, your regular attendance (without which you can't participate, of course), your leadership of one Friday Discussion Day, and any online quizzes or discussions.
- **Research Proposals and Papers** will be written about a course-related topic of your choosing. Detailed guidelines will be handed out in class and posted on Canvas.
 - Late proposals and research papers will generally be subjected to a deduction of 10% per day. However, if you contact the professor *more than 72 hours before the due date* and explain your circumstances (i.e. an unusual number of assignments due in other classes that week), your request for an extension will be considered. Emergencies are an exception to this rule, and will be dealt with depending on the individual circumstances.

Grading:

Please contact me at any point during the semester if you have questions about the status of your grade. Grades are weighted and will be calculated as follows:

Weekly Responses	15%
Participation	15%
Research Paper Proposal	5%
Research Paper	20%
Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	20%

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

93%-100%	A	83%-87%	B	73%-77%	C
90%-93%	A-	80%-83%	B-	70%-73%	C-
87%-90%	B+	77%-80%	C+	etc.	

Required Texts

Skloot, Rebecca. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. Any edition.

Subscription for one semester to Milestone Documents (MilestoneDocuments.com). **Make sure that you sign up specifically for this course: HIS 425 with McCoy!**

Course Policies

Academic Accommodations: All students can and should succeed in this course, so please let me know if there are things I can do to help you. Please speak with me as soon as possible if any problems arise or if you have any questions about how to succeed in this course.

PLNU Policy: If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

Academic Honesty: Please remember that your greatest contributions to this course are your own original thoughts and words. "Academic Honesty" means that you should have integrity in all that you do in this course by making a clear distinction at all times between your own work and words, and those of others. Plagiarism, copying, and cheating in any form is dishonest and undermines your ability to learn the material. "Plagiarism" means using someone else's words and passing them off as your own; this includes (but is not limited to) any writing you find online as well as in a book or article. Plagiarism can occur not only in writing, but also in presentations or projects if you use the words of someone else and don't attribute them to the source. You can avoid plagiarism by putting quotation marks around any groups of words that are not your own, and citing the source. Or, in the case of an oral presentation or video project, by acknowledging when words or ideas come from someone else. "Cheating" includes (but is not limited to) having someone else do your work, copying someone else's work, signing the attendance sheet for another student, looking at your notes while taking an exam, or submitting a reflection when you did not actually do the activity.

PLNU Policy: Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Attendance and Participation: Your regular presence in class will help you succeed and will make our class discussions more fruitful. Therefore, you are strongly encouraged to attend all of

the class sessions and to arrive on time. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class and will constitute a portion of your participation grade.

PLNU Policy: Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Late Work: There are absolutely no make-up quizzes or weekly responses, since those are to help you come prepared to class. There are no make-up exams (midterms and final), unless you have contacted me in advance, in which case I *may* allow it depending on the circumstances. If papers are turned in late, they will be subjected to a 10% penalty per day. Please ask me for more information if you believe you will need to turn in an assignment late.

Cell Phones and Recording Devices: In order to create the most conducive learning environment, all phones should be silenced and not used during class. No recording of lectures is allowed without prior permission from the professor.

Final Examination Policy: Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the Class Schedules site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

PLNU Copyright Policy: Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction: The Turn of the Century

Week 1	Aug 30	Introduction
	Aug 31	Make sure you're signed up for Milestone Documents
	Sep 2	Milestone Documents Weekly Response Due

The 1910s: The Progressive Era and the First World War

Week 2	Sep 5	No class- Labor Day
	Sep 7	Milestone Documents
	Sep 9	Friday Discussion Day Milestone Documents Weekly Response Due

The 1920s: The Culture Wars

Week 3	Sep 12	Milestone Documents
	Sep 14	Milestone Documents
	Sep 16	Friday Discussion Day Milestone Documents Weekly Response Due

The 1930s and 1940s: The New Deal and Second World War

Week 4	Sep 19	Work on paper proposals
	Sep 21	Work on paper proposals
	Sep 23	Paper Proposal Due

Week 5	Sep 26	Smith, Jason Scott. "New Deal Public Works at War: The WPA and Japanese American Internment." <i>Pacific Historical Review</i> Vol. 72, No. 1 (February 2003), pp. 63-92. Located on JSTOR. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1525/phr.2003.72.1.63
	Sep 28	Book Reviews (all located on JSTOR): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed Work: <i>By Order of the President: FDR and the Internment of Japanese Americans</i> Greg Robinson. Review by: Matthew J. Dickinson. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1086/530039 • Reviewed Work: <i>A Tragedy of Democracy in North America</i> by Greg Robinson. Review by: Daniel M. Masterson. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1525/phr.2010.79.4.666 • Review of Hayashi, <i>Democratizing the Enemy: The Japanese American Internment</i>. Review by: Masumi Izumi. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1525/phr.2006.75.3.508 • Review of Fiset and Nomura, eds., <i>Nikkei in the Pacific Northwest: Japanese Americans and Japanese Canadians in the Twentieth Century</i>. Review by: Eiichiro Azuma. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1525/phr.2006.75.3.506

	Sep 30	<p>Friday Discussion Day</p> <p>Weekly Response Due</p> <p>Hays, Frank. "The National Park Service: Groveling Sycophant or Social Conscience: Telling the Story of Mountains, Valley, and Barbed Wire at Manzanar National Historic Site." <i>The Public Historian</i> Vol. 25, No. 4 (Fall 2003), pp. 73-80. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/10.1525/tph.2003.25.4.73</p> <p>Miksch, Karen L. and Ghere, David. "Teaching Japanese-American Incarceration." <i>The History Teacher</i> Vol. 37, No. 2 (Feb., 2004), pp. 211-227. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/1555653</p>
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Week 6	Oct 3	Milestone Documents
	Oct 5	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>
	Oct 7	<p>Friday Discussion Day</p> <p><i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i></p> <p>Weekly Response Due</p>

The 1950s and 1960s: The Cold War at Home and Abroad

Week 7	Oct 10	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>
	Oct 12	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>
	Oct 14	<p>Friday Discussion Day</p> <p><i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i></p> <p>Weekly Response Due</p>

Week 8	Oct 17	Review for Midterm
	Oct 19	Midterm Exam
	Oct 21	No class- Fall Break

The 1950s and 1960s: Struggles for Civil Rights and Women's Rights

Week 9	Oct 24	<p>Dudziak, Mary. "Brown as a Cold War Case." <i>The Journal of American History</i> Vol. 91, No. 1 (Jun., 2004), pp. 32-42. http://www.jstor.org.pointloma.idm.oclc.org/stable/3659611</p>
	Oct 26	Milestone Documents
	Oct 28	<p>Friday Discussion Day</p> <p>Milestone Documents</p> <p>Weekly Response Due</p>

Week 10	Oct 31	Milestone Documents
	Nov 2	Milestone Documents

	Nov 4	Friday Discussion Day Milestone Documents Weekly Response Due
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The 1960s and 1970s: Vietnam and Protest Movements

Week 11	Nov 7	Finish research papers
	Nov 9	Finish research papers
	Nov 11	Research Papers due

The 1970s and 1980s: The Rise of Conservatism

Week 12	Nov 14	Milestone Documents
	Nov 16	Milestone Documents
	Nov 18	Friday Discussion Day Milestone Documents Weekly Response Due

Week 13	Nov 21	Milestone Documents
	Nov 25	No class- Thanksgiving Break
	Nov 27	No class- Thanksgiving Break

The 1990s: Globalization and Affluence

Week 14	Nov 28	Milestone Documents
	Nov 30	Milestone Documents
	Dec 2	Friday Discussion Day Milestone Documents

The 21st Century

Week 15	Dec 5	Milestone Documents
	Dec 7	Milestone Documents
	Dec 9	Friday Discussion Day Review for Final Exam

Final Exam: Friday, 1:30-4:00pm