

**HISTORY 2060  
U.S. SINCE RECONSTRUCTION**

**WINTER 2014-2015**

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY**

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**Professor: Jason R. Ambroise**  
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**Course Materials:**

***Textbook supplied on Blackboard***

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States, Volume II: Becoming a World Power*, ISBN # 0-13-933490-4 (In case you want to order it.)

***Other Documents on Blackboard***

You will also have a series of short readings in the “Readings” section of Blackboard in PDF format. These additional readings are relevant to the themes for each week.

You will need to have PDF reading software on your computer to access these documents.

**Course Requirements:**

Participation (in Daily Discussion Boards) — 72% of Final Grade  
Take-Home Final Paper, January 11, 2015 — 28% of Final Grade

***Discussion Board Rules***

1. Discussion board questions will be posted a few days in advance of the due date for your responses. The amount of writing required for the discussion boards translates into approximately 1 and 1/2 pages, single-spaced per assignment. You will receive a grade for each discussion assignment, with the sum total for the semester equaling your participation grade for the course. Samples will be put on Blackboard to serve as guides.
2. You are required to post at least two (2) responses per discussion board assignment. The first response contains your answer to the discussion question. It must be at least 1 (one) page in length, single-spaced and posted on the day of the

assignment.

**REQUIRED: Include PAGE NUMBER REFERENCES from the textbook and other readings in parentheses in your 1st Post. Not doing so will lower your grade.** The second post contains a discussion of the ideas in someone else's post. It must be at least 1/2 page in length, single-spaced and posted no later than the day after the assignment date. This additional day will give you time to respond to another student's post.

**Discussion Board Grading:**

1. Your posts should directly answer the question based on information from the readings from the particular unit under study. Thus, you will be graded primarily on content. You must draw from the material in the readings in responding to your discussion questions. In other words, show that you have read the material for the course. **REQUIRED: Include PAGE NUMBER REFERENCES from the textbook and other readings in parentheses in your 1st Post. Not doing so will lower your grade.**
2. The quality of your presentation (i. e., grammar, sentence structure, and spelling) will also be considered, even if secondarily. Reason being, if the reader is unable to understand your ideas because of the quality of your writing, then you have failed to convey those ideas. Your writing, therefore, should be close to essay quality
3. The first post will be graded on a scale of 0-4, with zero being the lowest score and three being the highest.
4. The second post will be graded on a scale of 0-2, with zero being the lowest score and two being the highest.
5. You can receive a maximum of 6 points per Discussion Board Unit. Your participation grade for the semester is an accumulation of the points per unit.
6. All late posts will result in a 1-point deduction in your participation grade for each day they are late.

**Final Paper Explanation:**

In the final paper, your assignment is to build upon a line of argument put forth in one of your discussion board postings. You may use that posting as the basis of your text. You will receive the specifics of assignment during the first week of the course. The paper should be 4-5 pages in length.

**Course Grading Scale:**

A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (60-66), F (<60)

## **Course Timeline:**

### **December 22, 2014: Introduction**

\*\*Please introduce yourselves to your colleagues in the introductory Discussion Board\*\*

### **Unit 1: December 23, 2014: Reconstruction and Restoration**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 18

### **Unit 2: December 24, 2014: The U. S. West**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 19

“The Dawes Severelty Act” (1887)

“The Curtis Act” (1898)

### **Unit 3: December 27, 2014: The Gilded Age**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 20

Robert Worth Miller, “The Lost World of Gilded Age Politics”

### **Unit 4: December 28, 2014: The New Expansionism**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 24

### **Unit 5: December 29, 2014: Progressivism**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 25

### **Unit 6: January 2, 2014: The World War I Era**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 26

### **Unit 7: January 3, 2015: The Great Depression and the New Deal**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Chs. 27-28

### **Unit 8: January 4, 2015: The World War II Era**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 29

Monica Stone, “Pearl Harbor Echoes in Seattle”

### **Unit 9: January 6, 2014: The Cold War Era**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Chs. 30-31

### **Unit 10: January 7, 2015: The Sixties**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Chs. 31-32

### **Unit 11: January 8, 2015: The U. S. in the 70’s**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 33

**Unit 12: January 9, 2015: The U. S. in the 80's and 90's**

Leon F. Litwack and Winthrop D. Jordan, *The United States*, Ch. 34

**\*\*\*\*\*Final Paper Due, January, 11, 2015\*\*\*\*\***