

University of Jordan  
Faculty of International Studies  
Department of American Studies

2403701 History of the United States  
Fall Semester 2011  
Social Science Building, Room 2  
Monday, 5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

**Lecturer: Dr. Debbie Abuelghanam**

Office:

Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 2-5 P.M.

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### Required Readings

1. Zinn, Howard. A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present. (Revised and Updated Edition) NY: Harper Perennial. 1995.
2. Bender, Thomas. A Nation among Nations: America's Place in World History. NY: Hill and Wang Publishers. 2006.

### Course Description

This course offers a broad chronological survey of American history. The first half of the course focuses on the origins and development of Colonial North America, the American Revolution, the Early National period, the Jacksonian era, the coming of the Civil War and the Civil War and Reconstruction Eras. The second half of the course focuses on the post-1877 period, the Gilded Age, the Progressive Era, the 1920's, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War era, and recent America.

### Course Objectives

The objectives of this class is to take an in depth look at the history of the United States. This entails examining both the facts and the analysis of American history and then applying it to the present and future actions of the American government.

### Course Requirements

**Exams** There will be two exams for our enjoyment. There will be a midterm exam on November 14, 2011 and a final exam on January 9, 2012. The exams will consist of essay questions. The Midterm Exam is worth 30 points and the Final Exam is worth 40 points.

**Term Paper** A term paper is a requirement of this course. The topic of the paper should be relevant to one of the topics in the Assignment Schedule. The paper should be 10 – 15 pages in length. The topic and preliminary outline are due on **October 24, 2011**. The first draft of the paper is due on **December 5, 2011** and the final draft is due at the paper presentations scheduled on **January 2, 2012** (see Assignment Schedule). If you use a published source it must be **documented**. You will present your paper at the end of the semester.

**Attendance** Class attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken each session. Legitimate reasons for any absence will be accepted and must be accompanied with documentation.

**Class Participation** Each student is expected to have read the assigned reading prior to attending class. **THIS IS A SEMINAR STYLE COURSE**. Each student must be prepared to participate in class discussion concerning the readings.

**Grading** The total number of points that can be earned for the semester is **100 points**. The points are distributed as follows:

Midterm Exam		30 points
Final Exam		40 points
Term Paper		20 points
Class Participation		<u>10 points</u>
		100 points
Term Paper	Outline	5 points
	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft	5 points
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft	5 points
	Presentation	<u>5 points</u>
		20 points

## Assignment Schedule

		<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Week 1	Sept. 19	Orientation	
Week 2	Sept. 26	Introduction	Zinn Ch. 1&2
Week 3	Oct. 3	Immigration	Bender, Ch. 1
Week 4	Oct. 10	Revolution	Bender, Ch. 2
Week 5	Oct. 17	Early 1800's	Zinn, Ch. 7&8
Week 6	Oct. 24	Civil War	Zinn, Ch 9
Week 7	Oct. 31	<u>Outline Due</u> Civil War	Bender, Ch. 3
Week 8	Nov. 7	<u>Eid al Adha</u>	
Week 9	Nov. 14	<u>MIDTERM EXAM</u>	
Week 10	Nov. 21	Empires	Bender, Ch. 4
Week 11	Nov. 28	Socialism	Zinn, Ch. 12&13
Week 12	Dec. 5	WWI & Depression <u>1<sup>st</sup> Draft of Paper Due</u>	Zinn, Ch. 14&15
Week 13	Dec. 12	WWII & Civil Rights	Zinn, Ch. 16&17
Week 14	Dec. 19	Vietnam	Zinn Ch. 18
Week 15	Dec. 26	1980-1990's	Zinn, Ch, 22, 23, Afterword
Week 16	Jan. 2	<u>Paper Presentations</u>	
Week 17	Jan. 9	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	