THE CHANGING AMERICAN NATION: THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES
An introductory survey of the United States and its changing demographics, politics, and economy. Development from an Atlantic colonial society, to an urban-industrial transcontinental nation, to a globalizing nation on the Pacific Rim.

Requirements: A midterm and a final exam on central historical patterns and how they are interpreted.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS
b = book on sale in bookstore  r = book only available on reserve
c = reprint in coursepack  * = recommended and optional

THE LEGACY OF COLONIALISM

WEEK 1 America as a Colonial Region
(Google Books) George Frederickson, White Supremacy, ch. 1.
13 Colonies, Ireland, and India
(From “Braveheart” to “Patriot”; the International Careers of Lord Cornwallis and the Duke of Wellington)
“We Shall Remain” Part 1
The Seven Years War (The French and Indian War)
*(r) Fintan O’Toole, White Savage.
The Seige of Louisbourg and Acadian Removal
“The War that Made America,” part 1

WEEK 2 The Global Context and Momentum of the American Revolution
(r) Bernard Bailyn, Faces of Revolution, ch. 4, 9.
Anti-colonial Nationalism, Revolution as “Partition,” the Civil War as “Partition” Post-Partition Population Exchanges: British Loyalists, Greeks and Turks, Hindus and Muslims
(r) Susan Bean, Yankee India, ch. 1.
“Mary Silliman’s War”
Peopling and Cultural Transplantation
(c) Bernard Bailyn and Philip Morgan, Strangers within the Realm, Introduction.
(r) David Hackett Fischer, Albion’s Seed, Part 1 (skim).
“Africans in America,” part 1
Roots of Plural Society
(c) Richard Hofstadter, America at 1750, ch. 1.

THE NEW REPUBLIC

WEEK 3 America by Design
(c) John Higham, Send These to Me, ch. 1.
(c) Arthur Mann, The One and the Many, ch. 5-6.
“Destination America,” part 2 (The Great Famine) “School”

Industrialization and Slavery
(b) Herbert Klein, Population History of the U. S., ch. 3.
*(r) Dale Knobel, Paddy and the Republic, ch. 3-5.
“Africans in America,” part 2

WEEK 4 The American People at Mid-Century: Diverse Communities of a Democratizing Nation
Borderlands of Empire and Trade
“Moby Dick” (John Huston film of Herman Melville’s novel)
“The Way West”
WEEK 5 Revivalism and Reform
(b) Alan Dawley, Struggles for Justice, ch. 1.
(c) John L. Thomas, “Romantic Reform in America, 1815-1865.”
(c) Michael B. Katz, The Irony of Early School Reform, Part 1.
*(r) Alice Felt Tyler, Freedom’s Ferment.
“The Sins of our Mothers” “School”
A Divided Society
“The Civil War,” part 1

BECOMING A TRANSCONTINENTAL URBAN-INDUSTRIAL NATION
WEEK 6 Re-Colonizing America: New Immigrant Communities
(r) Philip Taylor, The Distant Magnet, ch.6-9.
“Journey to America”
Industrialization and Urbanization
(b) Klein, Population History of the U. S., ch. 4.
“Richest Man in the World”
Chicago: Center of Transcontinental Industrial Society
(c) William Cronon, Nature’s Metropolis, ch. 1.
“Mr. Sears Catalog”
Chicago’s World Fair as National Symbol
“Expo: Magic of the White City”

WEEK 7 Fin-de-Siecle Turning Point: Sinking the Lower Class
(c) John Higham, “The Reorientation of American Culture in the 1890s.”
(r) Walter LaFeber, The New Empire, ch. 2.
“America 1900,” part 2.
“East of Occidental” “Destination America,” part 3
Populism and Progressivism
“TR,” part 1; “TR’s speech
Social Darwinist and Reform America
(b) Dawley, Struggles for Justice, ch. 2.
Survival and Suffering: Between Two Worlds
(r) William Graham Sumner, What Social Classes Owe to Each Other.

WEEK 8 Immigration and Restriction
(Google Books) Sucheng Chan, “European and Asian Immigration to the United States in Comparative Perspective, 1820s to 1920s,” in Virginia Yans-McLaughlin, Immigration Reconsidered, ch. 2.
(b) Lawrence H. Fuchs, The American Kaleidoscope, ch. 6-7.
(c) Higham, Send These to Me, ch. 2
New Racializations
(Google Books) Oscar Handlin, Race and Nationality in American Life, ch. 4-6.
*(r) Jennifer Guglielmo and Salvatore Salerno, Are Italians White?
*(r) Noel Ignatiev, How the Irish Became White.
“America and the Holocaust”
WEEK 9  From Normalcy to New Deal: The 1920s to the Great Depression
“The Irish in America—Long Journey Home” (Al Smith and the 1928 Election; “religion like race”)
(b) Klein, Population History of the U. S., ch. 5.
(b) Dawley, Struggles for Justice, ch. 7.
“The Great Depression” part 1

BECOMING A GLOBAL DEMOCRACY

WEEK 10  Depression and War as Nationalization
(b) Richard Polenberg, One Nation Divisible, ch. 1-4.
“The Great Depression,” part 2 “Bound for Glory”

Affluence and Anxiety: The Rise of Suburbia
(c) “What is the American Character?” Time Magazine (Sept. 27, 1954).
(c) “David Riesman, 92, Helped Define Modern America”
“The Man in the Grey Flannel Suit” “Rebel Without a Cause”
(b) Klein, Population History of the U. S., ch. 6.

The New Search for Truth and Love
“The Newport” (Joan Baez: “truth and love; beyond Democrats and Republicans”) “Don’t Look Back”
“Malcolm X: Global Community” “Easy Rider”

Cold War and Counter Politics
(r) Juan Williams, Eyes on the Prize. (skim)
“Eyes on the Prize”

WEEK 11  Bicoastal America
“One Sky Above Us,” Part 9 of “The West”
(b) Deborah Dash Moore, To the Golden Cities, ch. 5, 7.
“The Jackie Robinson Story” “Lost Concert”

Between the Atlantic and Pacific
(r) Dennis Ogawa and John Blink, California Hotel and Casino. (skim)
“Blue Hawaii”
*(r) Kevin Starr, Americans and the California Dream.

WEEK 12  Immigration in a Globalizing Society
(b) Fuchs, The American Kaleidoscope, ch. 15-19.
“Irish Empire: Dreams of Home; Rose of Tralee,” part 5 “Nomads of the Wind: The Pierced Sky,” part 5

Revolution to Narcissism to Entitlement
(r) Christopher Lasch, The Culture of Narcissism. (skim)

WEEK 13  The American Population at 2000
(b) Klein, Population History of the U. S., ch. 7