



Gulf Coast State College
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**DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HISTORY PROGRAM**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. John P. Phillips

Professor of History

Office Phone # (850) 769-1551 x2827

Office Hours: By appointment

Office Location: SS 215, Office D

e-mail: jpphillips@gulfcoast.edu

e-mail schedule: Within 48 hours every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Thursday mornings, but not on weekends or holidays

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**AMH 2020: UNITED STATES HISTORY II – SUMMER 2026
E Session (6/8/2026 – 7/31/2026)**

Web-based Course

3 semester hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will trace the history of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction Era to the contemporary era. Topics will include but are not limited to the rise of industrialization, the United States' emergence as an actor on the world stage, constitutional amendments and their impact, the Progressive Era, World War I, the Great Depression and New Deal, World War II, the Civil Rights Era, the Cold War, and the United States since 1989.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

AMH 2020 students will demonstrate that they have gained the basic, factual material on American history; demonstrate that they have learned the major, historical interpretations; and, demonstrate that they have improved their analytical and communication skills.

Moreover, upon completion of AMH 2020, each student should be prepared to address the following questions concerning American history:

1. Which primary forces, ideologies, or other factors and considerations forged American history?
2. How has the role of America changed over time?
3. What have been the leading political, social, and constitutional implications of the various transformations/transmutations of the American experience?
4. How has your understanding of American history been shaped or reshaped by this course?

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of AMH 2020:

- Students will describe the factual details of the substantive historical episodes under study.
- Students will identify and analyze foundational developments that shaped American history since 1877 using critical thinking skills.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the primary ideas, values, and perceptions that have shaped American history.
- Students will demonstrate competency in civic literacy

CIVICS LITERACY COURSE COMPETENCIES & OUTCOMES:

The State of Florida recently adopted a new rule regarding Civics Literacy. The old Civics Literacy rule required all students to successfully complete either AMH 2020 or POS 2041. The new rule requires students to successfully pass AMH 2020 or POS 2041 AND achieve a passing score on a Department of Education-approved civics exam--including the Florida Civics Literacy Exam (FCLE).

The new rule applies ONLY for students who entered college as "first-time-college-students" during the Fall Semester, 2021. If you were enrolled in college prior to Fall 2021, you will not need to complete the exam. This exemption does not, however, apply for dual-enrolled high school students.

The Division of Social Sciences has created a Preparation Module for students wishing to prepare for the Florida Civics Literacy Exam. The module is housed within a designated Canvas page. You can self-register for the Canvas Prep Module via the following link:
<https://gsc.instructure.com/enroll/FNC8GL>

There also is a link within the module for you to register for the FCLE.

One last note: the FCLE is not part of the grading schema for AMH 2020--it is entirely separate from your overall grade in our course.

The four competencies as required with the FCLE include:

1. An understanding of the basic principles of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
2. An understanding of the U.S. Constitution.
3. Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-governance.
4. An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases and their impact on law and society.

TEXTBOOK:

U.S. History. 2014. OpenStax. Available for *free* at <https://openstax.org/details/books/us-history/>
ISBN-13: 978-1-938168-36-9 This text is, also, available in the GCSC Bookstore.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION PLAN:

(1)	First Unit Exam	(18-20 June 2025)	=	100 points
(2)	Second Unit Exam	(2-5 July 2025)	=	100 points
(3)	Third Unit Exam	(16-18 July 2025)	=	100 points
(4)	Fourth Unit Exam	(27-29 July 2025)	=	100 points
				<u>400 Total Points*</u>

EXAMS:

Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 possible points. You will be allowed to drop the lowest score of your first 3 exams. *There will no longer be any make-up exams.* If you miss an exam, that will count as your dropped exam. Your Final Exam will not be cumulative. The Final Exam will only cover the material/content from the Fourth Unit. The Final (Fourth Unit) Exam is the only exam that cannot be dropped.

GRADING SCALE:

Because of the dropped exam, the Grading Scale is:

270-300	=	A	180-209	=	D
240-269	=	B	<180	=	F
210-239	=	C			

TENTATIVE COURSE READINGS

Unit 1 – Chapter 17 through Chapter 20, part of Chapter 21

Unit 2 – Chapter 21 through Chapter 25, part of Chapter 26

Unit 3 – Chapter 26 through Chapter 28

Unit 4 – Chapter 29 through Chapter 32

Social Sciences Policies 2025-2026

Academic Integrity Policy: Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment. Social Science professors report every instance of student academic misconduct to the college for inclusion in the student's records.

“Cheating” includes but is not limited to the use of any unauthorized assistance in completing coursework.

“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of another person's published or unpublished work without full and clear acknowledgment as well as the purchase of papers or projects.

“Self-plagiarism” occurs when a student submits the same or considerably similar document to fulfill requirements in different classes. For example, if a student submits a term paper in Religion they originally wrote for an English class, this is self-plagiarism. Once a paper receives a grade in one class, it cannot be submitted again for another class.

Generative Artificial Intelligence Policy (AI): See the student handbook for further information. Students with questions about acceptable use should consult their instructor.

Prohibited Use of AI: The use of AI-generated content is strictly prohibited in all assignments, class work, and throughout all stages of the work process, such as brainstorming, outlining, or drafting. This includes, but is not limited to, tools such as ChatGPT, Copilot, and Grammarly's AI function. Use of AI tools will be treated as a violation of academic integrity and may result in penalties, including a zero on the assignment and additional disciplinary actions as outlined in the college's academic integrity policy.

Sanctions for incidents of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or 0) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the college.

Student Accessibility Statement: Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If aspects of this course's instruction or design hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Before receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.

Recording Lectures: Under federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the student(s) paying damages, attorney fees, and court costs.

For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the current GCSC Student Handbook.

Email & Voicemail Response Time: Instructors will check and respond to messages sent to their gulfcoast.edu email within 48 hours during scheduled workdays, barring illness or emergencies. The instructor may or may not check email during holidays or weekends. This policy also applies to messages sent via Canvas, as well as voicemails left on a provided phone number.

Attendance: Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. In face-to-face courses, students are required to be in class at the beginning of each class session, as attendance will be taken at this time. If a student arrives late, it is his/her responsibility to inform the instructor after class of his/her presence. Failure to do so may result in the student being marked as "Absent." Attendance in an online/hybrid CANVAS class is defined as the submission of complete written assignments before their posted deadline.

Withdrawals: Students may withdraw themselves from any course until the published withdrawal deadline for that term in the Gulf Coast State College catalog. Students wishing to withdraw from a course and receive a "W" must complete a withdrawal form and submit this to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar. If you feel you have a unique situation that warrants removal from all of your

courses for a term after the withdrawal deadline has passed, you may contact the Vice President of Student Affairs to discuss your situation.

Consequences of Withdrawals: Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).

Incomplete Grades: Grades of Incomplete in any Social Sciences course can only be assigned to students who have an emergency arise during the last two weeks of the course.

To receive an Incomplete, students must:

- Submit a written request to the instructor before the last face-to-face class meeting. For online courses, a written Incomplete request must be received no later than the week before the Final Exam period begins.
- Have completed no less than 60 percent of the course requirements and be passing the course at the time the request for an Incomplete is submitted.

Important Note: The Incomplete option provides 30 days from the date grades are due to make up any missing work; if work is not submitted during this period, the grade will automatically change to an “F.”

FINAL EXAM

MONDAY, 27 July-WEDNESDAY, 29 July 2026