Winthrop University

Department of History

History 515-001 CRN 22109, The United States As A World Power Since 1898

Spring 2015, 9:00-10:15 M/W Bancroft 308

Instructor: Dr. Edward Lee        E-Mail: leee@winthrop.edu
Phone: (803) 323-4844                   Credits: 3 hours
Office: Bancroft 364                                                Office Hours: M/W 8:00-9:00 a.m.
and by appointment.

Scope Of The Course

History 515 is a rapidly-moving analysis of the time period from the Spanish-American War of 1898 to our nation’s response to the events of 9/11. Among the topics that we will consider are the creation of an American empire, the dawn of what has been called “America’s Century,” the Great War, the “Normalcy” of the 1920s, the events which ignited a second world war, our battle with the Soviet Union during the Cold War years, conflict in Korea and Vietnam, détente with the communist world in the 1970s, and our relationship with Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East. Key players in the diplomacy of this era were America’s secretaries of state. We will consider their contributions.

The Instructor
Dr. Lee has taught at the university level since 1985. He is the author of two books on the Vietnam War and a biography of Congressman James P. Richards, who served as President Dwight Eisenhower’s ambassador to the Middle East in 1957. Dr. Lee frequently writes and lectures on the Twentieth Century. His contact information is listed above.

Attendance

Since History 515 is an upper level course, students are expected to promptly attend and participate in each class meeting. When unavoidable absences occur, however, students are responsible for all material. Each class meeting is important. No texting or phone calls during class.

Grading Scale

A ten point grading scale is used in History 515. For example, 90=A, 80=B.

Basis For Evaluation

A rewarding experience in History 515 requires that all students successfully complete several tasks. These will be discussed in detail with you during our first class meeting and are listed below:

• Ten minute oral report on assigned secretary of state, beginning 2/16. Worth 25% of course grade.

• One page written analyses of each chapter in the textbook, Robert Schulzinger’s *U.S. Diplomacy Since 1900*. Each chapter analysis is due on each Wednesday. For example: Chapter One analysis is due 1/21; Chapter Two analysis is due 1/28. Worth 25% of your course grade.

• Final essay-type exam, 11:30 a.m. 5/5. Worth 25% of course grade. Late reviews, missed presentations/chapter analyses/ exams are unacceptable.

Goals And Objectives

As the assignments make clear, students will be given several opportunities to interpret historical data and to orally and in written form use evidence to support our understanding of this data. The course’s subject matter is fertile ground to fulfill Winthrop University’s student learning objectives and university-level competencies. Students will communicate in standard English, use critical thinking, familiarize themselves with historiography, recognize and appreciate human diversity, understand the interconnected nature of the United States and the world, and to share their research with their peers.

Disabilities

Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of Disabilities, 323-3290.

Welcome to History 515!