



## Graduate Course Syllabus

### HIS 603: The Gilded Age and Progressive Era

Center: Online

#### Course Prerequisites

HIS 501 and HIS 502

#### Course Description

This course examines the period between Reconstruction and the first World War, paying particular attention to the emergence of industrial capitalism, the rise of the modern American city, the shifting nature of rural life in America and the rise of Populism, immigration, racial tensions, Progressivism, the conquest of the West, and the rise of the United States as a global power militarily, economically, and politically.

#### Course Outcomes

- Assess current historiographical trends on topics within the Gilded Age and Progressive Era for their implications for concepts of historical realities
- Critically evaluate historical interpretations of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era for their credibility, methodologies, and biases
- Draw connections between political, cultural, or economic developments in the Gilded Age or Progressive and corresponding shifts in American society
- Evaluate roles of race, immigration, industrialization or wealth/poverty in forging modern American nationalism
- Create original interpretations substantiated by secondary sources that contribute to an ongoing scholarly historical dialogue on the nature of the period

#### Required Materials

Using your learning resources is critical to your success in this course. Please purchase directly through the [SNHU Online Bookstore](#) rather than any other vendor. Purchasing directly from the bookstore ensures that you will obtain the correct materials and that the IT Service Desk, your advisor, and the instructor can provide you with support if you have problems.

##### *The Gilded Age*

Charles Calhoun

Rowman & Littlefield

Second Edition

2007

ISBN: 978-0-7425-8168-5

*Rebirth of a Nation*

Jackson Lears

Harper-Collins College Division

2009

ISBN: 978-0-06-074750-3

*Age of Betrayal: The Triumph of Money in America, 1865–1900*

Jack Beatty

Ballantine Books

2007

ISBN: 978-1-4000-3242-6

*A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870–1920*

Michael McGerr

Oxford University Press

2003

ISBN: 978-0-19-518365-8

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

As indicated in our core values, SNHU is committed to “embrace diversity where we encourage and respect diverse identities, ideas, and perspectives by honoring difference, amplifying belonging, engaging civilly, and breaking down barriers to bring our mission to life.”

This may or will be reflected in SNHU’s curriculum as we embrace and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) to provide the most transformative experience for our students, faculty, and staff. Because topics pertaining to DEI can be sensitive, please remember that embodying and practicing diversity, equity, and inclusion is one of our core values that you will encounter throughout the academic experience. In higher education, we are expected to think and engage critically. Use a growth mindset to embrace the diverse readings, course assignments, and experiences of your peers and faculty.

For more information about DEI at SNHU, please visit our website at the [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#).

**Instructor Availability and Response Time**

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor’s answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours. Instructors will post grades and feedback (as applicable) within seven days of an assignment’s due date, or within seven days of a late submission.

## Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Discussions	10	25	250
Source Papers	3	50	150
Peer Review	1	50	50
Final Project			
Milestone One	1	30	30
Milestone Two	1	40	40
Milestone Three	1	60	60
Milestone Four	1	70	70
Final Submission	1	350	350
			<b>Total Course Points: 1,000</b>

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

## University Grading System: Graduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4.00
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3.00
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2.00
F	0–72	0.00
I	Incomplete	
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
W	Withdrawn	

\* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

## Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignment Guidelines and Rubrics section of the course.

## Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and

discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	<p>The Legacy of the Past</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 1–50</p> <p>1-1 Discussion: The Formative (Recent) Path</p> <p>1-2 Source Paper: The Dark Humor in Politics</p> <p>1-3 Final Project Review</p>
2	<p>Big Money and Big Business</p> <p><i>Age of Betrayal: The Triumph of Money in America, 1865–1900</i>, pages 1–191</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 51-91</p> <p><i>The Gilded Age: Essays on the Origins of Modern America</i>, pages 11-52</p> <p>2-1 Discussion: The Rise of Big Business</p> <p>2-2 Final Project Milestone One: Topic Proposal</p>
3	<p>Political Animals</p> <p><i>Age of Betrayal: The Triumph of Money in America, 1865–1900</i>, pages 192–391</p> <p><i>The Gilded Age: Essays on the Origins of Modern America</i>, pages 239-332</p> <p>3-1 Discussion: Politics and Strange Bedfellows in the Gilded Age</p> <p>3-2 Source Paper: The Birth of Modern Politics</p>
4	<p>The Rise of the Worker</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 92-166</p> <p><i>The Gilded Age: Essays on the Origins of Modern America</i>, pages 53–74</p> <p>4-1 Discussion: Working for a Living</p> <p>4-2 Final Project Milestone Two: Thesis Statement and Annotated Bibliography</p>
5	<p>On the World Stage</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 167–221</p> <p>5-1 Discussion: America's First “Vietnam”</p> <p>5-2 Source Paper: The Calm Before the Storm</p>
6	<p>The New Ideal</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 222–275</p> <p><i>A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870–1920</i> pages 1-146</p> <p>6-1 Discussion: The Revenge of the Middle Class</p> <p>6-2 Final Project Milestone Three: Scholarly Book Review</p>
7	<p>The Rhetoric of Reform</p> <p>7-1 Discussion: Redefining Reality</p> <p>7-2 Final Project Milestone Four: Rough Draft</p>

Module	Topics and Assignments
8	<p>The Power of the State</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 276–326</p> <p><i>A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870–1920</i>, pages 147–220</p> <p>8-1 Discussion: The Politics of Reform</p> <p>8-2 Peer Review: Rough Drafts</p>
9	<p>The Legacy of Saint Augustine</p> <p>9-1 Discussion: The Dark Side of Progressivism</p> <p>9-2 Final Submission: Historiographical Essay</p>
10	<p>Making the World Safe for Democracy</p> <p><i>Rebirth of a Nation</i>, pages 327–355</p> <p><i>A Fierce Discontent: The Rise and Fall of the Progressive Movement in America, 1870–1920</i>, pages 221–320</p> <p>10-1 Discussion: America and the Great War</p>

### Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is automatically dropped from the course for non-participation. Review the [full attendance policy](#).

### Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the [full late assignment policy](#).

### SNHU Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

### ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

SNHU prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities. The university has adopted this policy to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints regarding any action prohibited by Section 504, the ADA, or the ADAAA.

For questions about **support services, documentation guidelines, general disability issues, or pregnancy accommodations**, please visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) (OAC).

As a student, you must complete an interactive intake process, with supporting documentation, in order to be granted accommodations. Once reasonable accommodations are approved by the OAC, you will receive an accommodations letter. You are then responsible for sharing the letter with your instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

If you feel you've been subject to discrimination on the basis of disability, by any party, you may file a complaint or grievance. For more information on the ADA/504 Grievance Policy, go to the [Disability and Accessibility Services](#) website.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the [full academic integrity policy](#).

### **Copyright Policy**

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the [full copyright policy](#).

### **SNHU Withdrawal Policy**

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

### **Southern New Hampshire University Policies**

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).