

Course Syllabus ~ History 7 ~ US History in Film

Last updated 9/17/2019

PLEASE NOTE: Our class will be meeting on 10/7 & 9 and 11/25 & 27 - these are not Delta holidays and we need these days to keep on track with our schedule!

Semester/Instructor: Fall, 2019 with Kaliopi Pappas, J.D.

When: MW, 3-4:30pm

Where: Room 1 at PLA

Final exam: Last class meeting (Wednesday, 12/18)

Section Number: 11476

Instructor Email: kaliopi.pappas@deltacollege.edu

Texts:

Both textbook and website readings are REQUIRED.

- 1) *The American Yawp* @ <http://www.americanyawp.com/> - US History online textbook - it's free!
- 2) Course reader with primary source readings, compiled by the instructor and available online at <http://www.civ.strangeirl.com/>

About The Course:

Prerequisites: Reading Level II required. **Advisory:** English 1A with a grade of C or better. Course and program learning outcomes can be found on the District's webpage at <https://www.deltacollege.edu/div/slo/>.

This course is a study, overview, introduction, and survey of American feature films as historical documents relevant to United States history since the end of the Civil War. The course emphasizes a historical analysis of how films, as cultural and historical documents, add to our understanding of the time period during which they were made.

Students in this course examine how films from the past have commented upon race, gender, war, class, politics, and other important topics. (CSU, UC) - SJDC Course Catalog

Student Obligations:

- There will be a fair amount of required reading, all of which will be discussed in class. We have online textbook readings and a brief online reader compiled by the instructor. **You must have regular access to the web/our course website, as our readings are *only* available there.**
- Read this syllabus carefully and keep it handy, as it is the administrative backbone of the course.
- You are responsible for knowing and understanding the information presented here. That said, you should also understand that anything presented here, especially our schedule and particular assignments, may be adjusted as we go along. I know this all sounds very uptight, but once we dispense with the formalities, we can begin to have fun with the material. :)

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- As a Delta student, you should familiarize yourself with your rights and responsibilities. They are located in your Student Handbook and at <http://www.deltacollege.edu/dept/ar/catalog/current/1931.htm>

Important Enrollment Dates (Important to know if you may be moving out of the district)

- Refund Date: BEFORE 9/9
- Last Drop Date without a W: BEFORE 9/15
- Last Drop Date (with W): BEFORE 10/22
- In accordance with Title 5; Section 55024, and AP 5075, students who remain enrolled in a full-term course after the final drop date for the term must be assigned a grade for the course. It is the student's responsibility to drop/withdraw from courses.

Enrollment Information

- Everyone should be officially enrolled as a Delta student.
- Everyone should have already been added to the class by your high school.
- If you are a late addition to the course and haven't officially added yet, see your counselor ASAP.

Remember to **CHECK YOUR ENROLLMENT** now and periodically over the course of the semester, as it's your responsibility to make sure you are appropriately enrolled. It's also your responsibility to drop yourself if you need to, for **ANY** reason. If you are in **ANY** doubt over the status of your enrollment, **CHECK!** If there's a problem, contact me and your counselor and we'll try to help.

Attendance

- You must attend class regularly, take notes, and participate in discussions and activities. Participation, and by extension attendance, will affect your grade (See excused absence policy below).
- Please be on time, and plan to stay the whole class period. If you leave early without clearance from me, you may not get credit for the day's attendance!

If you miss **any** of the **first three** class meetings for any reason, you may be dropped. Regarding attendance, Board Policy 5075 states:

"A student who fails to attend any of the first three class sessions at the beginning of a term may be dropped from that class unless the student has advised and obtained an absence approval from the faculty member.

After the first three class sessions, faculty may drop students for excess absenteeism providing the withdrawal deadline for the semester/term has not passed. Excess absenteeism is defined as "one more time than the class meets per week."

However, if you need to drop the course at any time during the semester, please use the appropriate official channels to do so. **DO NOT simply stop coming to class; I will not automatically assume you aren't coming back.**

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Excused Absences

- Jury duty and official Delta field trips are the only board-sanctioned excused absence types. In both cases, you must provide me with written documentation well in advance so I'll know why you're not in class.
- Other absences may be excused at my discretion on a case-by-case basis.

No Late Work/No Make-ups Policy

- All students must turn in all assignments and take all exams ON TIME. I cannot give credit for assignments or exams which have not been completed and turned in to me.
- **I don't generally accept late work, nor do I schedule makeup exams.** We are not equipped to proctor makeup exams.
- **Exceptions:** I will reschedule *exams and in-class responses only* in cases involving excused absences (see above) with written documentation provided well in advance. Excused absences will generally not affect your ability to turn in your paper assignments early, so there will be no paper extensions.
- In cases involving extreme illness (you or an immediate family member), death of an immediate family member, or something similarly sudden and severe, I reserve the right to schedule make-ups or accept late work at my discretion and with no guarantees.
- Whether your situation involves an "officially excused" absence or not, get in touch with me RIGHT AWAY to discuss your options. Don't wait. Also, follow my instructions PRECISELY. If I ask you for written verification, bring it to me ASAP. If I tell you to give me an assignment by a certain day, do it. If I tell you to show up for a makeup exam on a certain day, do it.

Using Turnitin dot Com

We're using turnitin.com to submit our paper (and perhaps some video responses if we are unable to finish them in class). If you already have a turnitin.com account, you can use it again this semester! Use the information below to associate your account with our class submission area. If you don't already have a turnitin.com account, you can easily register one using your Delta College student email address and a personal password you pick for yourself.

Simply go to turnitin.com and begin the registration process. When prompted for a course ID number and course enrollment key, enter:

22056280 for the ID number

FALL for the passcode

Remember, these are not your personal Turnitin credentials; you have to create your own account using your Delta email address and a password you pick.

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Also, once you've registered for a Turnitin account, don't forget your login credentials! You MUST submit your papers and exams via Turnitin, and Turnitin is where your feedback for these assignments will be located.

Assignments & Tests

- **WEEKLY READINGS:** Textbook chapters listed on the course website and primary source texts on the course website are required.
- **RESPONSES:** Responses are 2+ page, handwritten, in-class assignments based on the films we watch in class. You will be expected to directly address every aspect of the VR prompts using examples/illustrations from the films and readings assigned. Your responses should be double-spaced. They will take about 15-30 minutes. They are somewhat informal and completely separate from the paper assignments mentioned above. If we run out of time in class, you will be asked to complete them at home and hand them in at the next class meeting (or, less often, submit them via Turnitin).
- **PAPER:** You'll need to pick an American film that depicts an aspect of American history or culture that you'll be analyzing as an historical document. It can be a more contemporary film that covers a historical period or event OR an older film that can be viewed as a representation of its time. You'll evaluate the historical accuracy and completeness of the film AND how the film presents a perspective from its own time.
 - It must be 1200 words or more
 - This is the **ONLY** assignment for which you are encouraged to to "outside research" (using sources outside the assignments made for this class). You'll need to pick at least five "outside" sources to use (you can also use readings and films assigned for class, in addition). Primary sources (from the eras being studied) and scholarly articles and books are best. You are strongly encouraged to obtain pre-approval of your film and outside sources from me, in advance.
 - MLA style is fine
 - To be submitted via Turnitin.com
- **EXAMS:** We'll have **one in-class midterm** and a **cumulative final** covering everything that we've read and everything that we've discussed in class.
 - The exams will be in-class, open-note, and open-book essay tests (**NOT** multiple choices, true-false, or short answer).
 - You will be expected to directly address all aspects of the prompts given in a well-organized manner, using examples/illustrations from the primary source assignments.
 - Use **ONLY** the sources assigned to you within the context of this class in writing your exams.
 - Bluebooks (available at the Delta bookstore for cheap!) or stapled packets of binder paper and blue or black ballpoint ink pens will be required for the exams.

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Grades:

If you want to figure out how you're doing in the class, or find out what you have to score on remaining assignments to get a particular grade, here's the breakdown:

- Midterm: 75 points
- Final Exam: 100 points
- Paper/Project: 100 points
- 8 Responses worth 50 points each: 400 points total
- In-class Participation: 25 points
- Total: 800 points

Overall letter grades are determined by the usual 0-100% scheme. Divide your current point total by the current total possible to discover your running percentage in the class.

90-100%=A, 80-90%=B, 70-80%=C, 60-70%=D, and below 60%=F.

Things to Remember About Assignments & Tests

- **Use ONLY sources provided in the context of the class in completing tests and assignments. Do NOT cite, copy, or refer to outside sources on assignments or tests (film research paper excepted).**
- **All coursework** should be well-organized, well-written, error free, and **completely original to you.**
 - While I encourage you to study and compare ideas with other students in class, I do NOT want team-written assignments or exams.
 - You are expected to complete your assignments on your own; this means that your assignments should NOT contain any wording or structure similar to those of other students.
- **Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated.**
 - If you copy another person's work without proper citations, in whole or in part, you are guilty of plagiarism.
 - Do not copy phrases, sentences, or paragraphs from the textbook, from websites, from student essays, or from any other source.
 - If you ask for help in completing an exam, or give help in completing an exam, it's cheating.
 - Anyone who using disallowed materials on an exam (e.g. someone else's notes, outside sources, prewritten exam answers) is cheating.
- **Plagiarism or cheating will result in a "zero" for the assignment or exam at issue, and possibly more.** If you have specific questions about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, ask me. You can also learn more about plagiarism at the Writing Center in Holt Center on Main Campus.
- **You must submit your assignments on time and via the methods I've specified**
 - **Turn in the project/paper via Turnitin.com, NOT via email or any other way.**
 - No rewrites. No re-scores.

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- Once I have graded an assignment or exam, I will “return” it to you (online at Turnitin.com for online submissions and in class for video responses and midterms).
 - Normal grading turnaround time is about 2 weeks, though it may take more (or less) time depending on our calendar and other circumstances.
 - If you do not come to class on the day(s) I pass an assignment back, you must arrange to pick it up from me. Originals will be destroyed if you do not pick them up from me within two weeks of grading.
 - Final exams will not be returned unless you arrange with me beforehand.
 - I have an assistant who sometimes helps me score video responses and papers. While I make the final decision on all scores, you may be receiving comments from him.

Help & Accommodations

- You are encouraged to ask me questions about course material before, during, and after class if you have them, circumstances permitting. I may ask you to hold some questions for after class if we are running short on time. Remember to keep questions and comments ON TOPIC (I digress a lot, so I know it's hard sometimes).
- Drop-in and appointment-based tutoring is available to you as a Delta student. General assistance with substantive course content, paper brainstorming help, and writing tutoring are all available at “**The ATTIC**” in **202/204 Danner Hall on main campus. Every student is automatically approved for subject tutoring, though late adds may experience a delay.** If you go to make a tutoring appointment and find that you haven't yet been approved, private message or email me and I'll check on it for you.
- **Limited drop-in tutor assistance is also available at Mountain House.**
- **If you have a documented disability and need accommodations for this class,** please see me as soon as possible. I recommend that you also contact Delta's Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS) for assistance. DSPS is located in the DeRicco Building, 2nd Floor. The phone number is (209) 954-5151 x6272.

Other Obligations

- Please be courteous, pleasant, and group-adaptable when dealing with classmates and the instructor. :) In other words, play nice.
- In particular, don't disrupt class. That means, among other things, no talking, whispering, passing notes, texting, playing with laptops/smartphones/tablets, reading, doing other assignments, or otherwise disturbing the instructor or other students while in the classroom.
- If a student is repeatedly disruptive, he or she will be immediately removed from the classroom and possibly removed permanently from the course.
- Also, realize that according to Delta College policy, **persons not enrolled in the class are absolutely prohibited from attending class meetings or otherwise being present in the classroom.** This means no children and no guests.

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- Computers, tablets, phones, and other electronics should be off/muted and put away during class. If you have a disability (temporary or permanent) that makes it necessary for you to take notes with a laptop, that's fine - just let me know and it shouldn't be a problem.
- Recording devices are **not allowed** during class without my express permission. Recordings of lectures, conversations, or anything else are not allowed in my classes (or anywhere) without my explicit permission.
- **Stay tuned for more details. I reserve the right to clarify or change sections of this syllabus - including my course policies - to better serve the class. :)**

Tentative Schedule:

This is a list of topics, by class meeting, and the tentative assignments to be discussed during each period. This is only a general guide. We may extend/ contract discussions, or add or subtract reading materials as we go along. Pay attention in class and **ALWAYS go to the course website for updates and specific assignments.**

PLEASE NOTE: There will be some SUSD holidays that we WILL be meeting. These are not Delta holidays and we'll need these days to stay on schedule!

The assignments in parentheses, bolded, will be discussed on the dates next to which they are listed:

- 8/26 - Class Intro., plagiarism video

- 8/28 & 9/4 (**NO CLASS 9/2 - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**) - Myth vs. Reality: Reconstruction and beyond (**Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary sources: *Fighting a Vicious Film vs. The Klan's Fight for Americanism***)
- **Film excerpts and Video Response 1: *Birth of a Nation*, 1915**

- 9/9, 11 & 16 - A Truly Modern Decade: The 1920s (**Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: *Now We Can Begin***)
- **Film and Video Response 2: *Our Dancing Daughters*, 1927**

- 9/18, 25 & 30 (**NO CLASS 9/23 - SCHOOL INSERVICE DAY**) - Depression & New Deals: The 1930s Part 1 (**Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: Roosevelt's *Second Inaugural Address***)
- **Film and Video Response 3/4 (including *My Man Godfrey*, below): *The Grapes of Wrath*, 1940**

(PLEASE NOTE: Our class will be meeting on 10/7 & 10/9 - these are not Delta holidays and we need these days to keep on track with our schedule!)

- 10/2 & 7 - Depression & New Deals: The 1930s Part 2
- **Film and Video Response 3/4 (including *Grades of Wrath*, above): *My Man Godfrey*, 1937**

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- 10/9, 14 & 16 - At Stake in War (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: *Fireside Chat on the Great Arsenal of Democracy*)
 - Film and Video Response 5: *Casablanca*, 1942

- 10/21 & 23 - An Affluent Society (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: *The American Standard of Living*)
 - Film and Video Response 6: *Disneyland Goes to the World's Fair*, 1964

- 10/30 (NO CLASS 10/28 - SCHOOL INSERVICE DAY) - MIDTERM EXAM in class. Bring a bluebook or stapled packet of binder paper, a blue or black ballpoint ink pen, and your notes!

- 11/4, 6 & 13 (NO CLASS 11/11 - VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY) - The Cold War: Red Scare in Hollywood & Age of Nuclear Anxiety (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary sources: *McCarthy's Wheeling Speech*, *Eisenhower's Farewell Address*, *Atoms for Peace*)
 - Film and Video Response 7: *Salt of the Earth*, 1952

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- 11/18, 20 & 25 - Civil Rights (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary sources: LBJ's *Voting Rights & the American Promise*, John Lewis' *March on Washington Speech*)
 - Film and Video Response 8: *In the Heat of the Night*, 1967

- 11/27, 12/2 & 4 - Disillusionment of the Late Mid-Century (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: John Kerry's *Vietnam Veterans Against the War*)
 - Film and Video Response 9 (Combined with *All The President's Men*, below): *The Graduate*, 1967

- 12/9, 11 & 16 - Watergate and the Scandalous 1970s (Textbook chapter(s) linked on course website; Online primary source: *White House Conversations*)
 - Film and Video Response 9 (Combined with *The Graduate*): *All The President's Men*, 1976

- 12/18 - FINAL EXAM in class (our last meeting). Bring a bluebook or stapled packet of binder paper, a blue or black ballpoint ink pen, and your notes!
 - Paper due at [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com)!