

Spring 2025 DE Modern U.S. History @ Cosby High School

**Instructor**

**Email**

**Office Location & Hours**

**A. Hillery Griffin**

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3:15-3:45, CHS RM 111,  
Daily

## **General Information**

**Required Text: Alan Brinkley, Unfinished Nation**

### **Instructional and Evaluation Methods:**

- Exams and quizzes, Essays and Assignments - 60%
  - All essays must be submitted via DropBox on eLearn. They will be rated by TurnItIn which checks for plagiarism. A TurnItIn rating greater than 50% will not be graded and the student will either accept a zero grade or resubmit the assignment.
  - Each student may choose to resubmit up to 3 essays to improve his/her grade.
- Participation and Discussion Board – 25%
  - Students will have a weekly discussion board, especially if the school/college is not meeting in-person.
  - Participation will involve in-class activities and cannot be made up if absent.
- National History Day – 15%
  - Students will complete an in-depth research project related to the theme “Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideas.”

### **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy**

The use of AI for assignment-generation is strictly prohibited. Do not use AI to write essays or assignments. All essays will be run through Turn It In which will flag the essay as plagiarized which will result in a zero for the assignment, per WSCC Academic Integrity policy. For non-essay assignments, I reserve the right to reverse search any text.

The use of AI for research assistance is permitted. If you use AI to help with your research, make certain to cite it properly. However, this is much like using Wikipedia for research. It is a starting point, but not an authority.

Grades will be maintained on eLearn, not ASPEN.

# Assignments/Projects:

**Assignment 1: Gilded Age Comics** (see description in eLearn)

**Discussion Board** Men like Carnegie and Rockefeller are called “Captains of Industry” but also “Robber Barons.” What did they do to earn the title of “Captains of Industry?” What did they do to earn the title “Robber Barons?” Which title do you think is more fitting? Defend your answer.

**Assignment 2: Progressives Chart** (available on eLearn)

**Discussion Board:** Most Important Progressive Policy

**Essay** The US emerged as a world power between the end of the Civil War and 1920. What were the three most important events that thrust the United States onto the world stage? Describe those events in detail. Where were they located? Why was the United States involved? How was the US involved? What was the outcome? Why do you think those events pushed the United States into world power status? Was it necessary for the United States to become a world power? (Support your opinion) (30 points)

**Assignment 3: New Deal Chart** (available on eLearn)

**Discussion Board: New Deal**

**Assignment 4: Civil Rights Terms** (available on eLearn)

**Discussion Board: Easy Living**

**Assignment 5: Twentieth Century Court Cases** (available on eLearn)

**Discussion Board: Current History**

**ESSAY 7 Choose one** - Choose a current world event/issue. How has the study of this period of American history helped to be able to better understand what is going on in the world today?  
**OR** Choose an event we have studied this semester that is similar to a current event. Compare the two events. (24 points)

I will be looking for you to write details in the essay, not generalities. Remember to cite any outside sources (news articles or reports, etc.) that you consult. **All Essays must be submitted via eLearn and have a Turn-It-In score lower than 50% and an AI Score lower than 20%.**

**Inclement Weather Policy**

If we are out for weather, please check your eLearn. I will upload audio lectures, especially if we are out for an extended period of time.

# Tentative Course Schedule

Jan 6	Conquest of the West	
Jan 13	Industrial Revolution	
Jan 21	Age of the City	
Jan 27	Imperialism	Feb 3 - NHD UTK Registration Deadline
Feb 3	Progressive Era	
Feb 10	WWI	
Feb 18	The Roaring Twenties	
Feb 24	The Great Depression	Feb 27 - UTK Competition
Mar 3	The New Deal	
Mar 10	The Global Crisis	
Mar 17	WWII	Mar 18 - NHD State Registration Deadline
Apr 1	The Cold War	Apr 5 - State Competiton
Apr 7	The Affluent Society The 60s	
Apr 14	Crisis of Authority	
Apr 21	The 80s and 90s	
Apr 28	The 2000s	
May 5	Exam Week	