

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Hum 2
 American Society and Politics
 Section 1, T 2:30-4, Th 2:30-4, 210 Baxter
 Section 2, T 7:30, F 2-3:30, 210 Baxter

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SYLLABUS

Books to be bought (in bookstore)

Joseph M. Williams, *Style* [9th edition] (hereafter referred to as Williams)

Eric Foner, *Forever Free* (Foner)

Leon Fink, *Major Problems in the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era* (Fink)

Roger Daniels, *Not Like Us: Immigrants and Minorities in America, 1890-1924* (Daniels)

Elizabeth Sanders, *Roots of Reform* (Sanders)

Assignments

Week of	Tuesday (<i>Williams</i>)	Thursday/Friday
Sept. 30	ch. 10-11 (no exercises)	
Oct. 7	ch. 1-3, ex. 3.4-3.6	Foner, foreward & 1-127
Oct. 14	ch. 4, ex. 4.2, 4.4, 4.6	Foner, 128-238
Oct 21 [paper due] (no Thursday or Friday classes)		Fink, chapters (ch.) 1, 2
Oct. 28	ch. 5, ex. 5.2-5.3	Fink, ch. 3-7
Nov. 4	ch. 6, ex. 6.1-6.2	Daniels, whole book
Nov. 11	ch. 7, ex. 7.1, 7.3, 7.4	Fink, ch. 8-11
Nov. 18 [paper due]	ch. 8, ex. 8.1-8.2	Fink, ch. 12-15
Nov. 25 (no Thursday or Friday classes)	ch. 12, ex. 12-1, 12-2	Sanders, 1-178
Dec. 2	Appendix, ex. A-3	Sanders, 179-420

Course Requirements, Hum 2

This course has three objects:

- ☞ to give you a sense of how historians think;
- ☞ to improve your writing style through practice with comments;
- ☞ and to deepen your knowledge about issues of race, immigration, industrialization, and politics during the period from the Civil War through World War I, when Modern America emerged.

There will be two papers and a three-hour, closed-book, closed-notes, final exam. In addition, there will be weekly writing assignments from Williams. Each of the four tasks will count equally in your grade, with the proviso that anyone who fails *any* of them *badly* will fail the course. You will be given opportunities to rewrite papers if you fail. Since you will be responsible for everything in the reading, lectures, and classes on the final, I encourage you to **attend classes** and to **take good, extensive notes**.

The two papers and the assignments in Williams should be **typed**, double-spaced, with 1.5" margins.

I'm serious about writing, and unless you are, I encourage you to take some other course. Accordingly, we will discuss the weekly writing exercises in Williams for approximately one-half hour of each discussion class weekly. I will collect your versions of the assigned exercises **every Tuesday in class, before** we discuss them in the Thursday or Friday afternoon classes. If you fail to hand in more than two of the Williams assignments, you will fail the course, everything else to the contrary notwithstanding.

Williams isn't a grammar book, but a manual about effective writing. To get the most out of it, you must work hard at the exercises. Don't do the minimum. Feel free to rewrite, reorder, and prune sentences from the very beginning.

Writing is rewriting. Almost nobody gets it right at first, so leave yourself time to think about your sentences. Please don't look at the proposed sentences in the back of Williams until you have written and at least once rewritten your assignment.

Because of recent controversies at other universities, I should say a word about plagiarism. Plagiarism is borrowing others' words or thoughts without attribution. You may and should borrow from the books assigned, as well as from the lectures. But that's the limit. If I catch you in what seems a case of plagiarism, I will give you a chance to defend yourself. But if you don't do so satisfactorily, you will fail the course and a harsh note will be placed in your permanent Caltech file.

I should also say something about collaboration. To get the most out of this class, you should NOT collaborate on anything. If you must get help on writing, please get in touch with the Hixon Writing Center, and please indicate on the assignment that you hand in the nature and extent of help you received from the Writing Center.

Because the faculty handbook prevents giving proctored exams, I cannot offer students the insurance that proctoring would give them that they will not be charged with cheating on the exam and brought before the Board of Control and the Dean. The final exam will therefore be a take-home exam. I will police all assignments myself.

The two longer papers will be due on **Tuesday** of the weeks noted on the syllabus.