

**Dr. Paul Rich:  
RI 502 / Masters – Spring 2003**

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Syllabus: RI 502 / Master

## UNITED STATES: STATE AND SOCIETY Reconstruction to Bush

**SPRING TERM, 2003**

**DR. PAUL RICH**

**TEACHING ASSISTANT: David Merchant**

This syllabus is a contract between Dr. Rich and you as a graduate student. You agree that all work you do will be your own, that you will not plagiarize. You further agree that you will keep up with the readings so the class meeting will be discussions, the essence of graduate education, and not just repetition of material covered in the readings. *Evaluation:* There will be three in-term tests for 1 point each and an end of term test for 3 points, and an end of term paper for 4 points. Any doubts about evaluation will be resolved by reference to the term paper. The three tests *may* be take-home or in-class, as Dr. Rich announces. You must present your term paper topic for approval at the third class. Dr. Rich is freely available to students. You may visit his office anytime you wish without having an appointment. The teaching assistant, David Merchant, is also available to answer questions. Think seriously about developing one of your papers for Dr. Rich into a thesis topic or conference paper. The course covers the United States in the period from the end of Reconstruction (c.1880) to the present Bush. **Papers must fall in that time zone.** Tell course assistant if you have any troubles in accessing materials. As you already know, there are many attractive web sites that will add to your research papers and general appreciation of this period. Some choice sites will be discussed in class. There are three large databases stored on the university mainframe computer for the use of this class: Theodore Roosevelt election campaigns, the Vietnam War, and Martin Luther King. Find them the first week of class. Sometimes we have trouble with their access.

**I. Today, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003. American Studies Today. *Social Science in North America Today. The fifty states.***

When no page numbers are listed, as in this case, the article or book, as with this one, is to be read in its entirety.

The fifty states fandex will be one of the readings.

Arthur Berger, *Improving Writing Skills*, Sage, London, 1993.

## **II. A Gilded and Imperial Age. *Westward the Path of Empire.***

Alan Brinkley, *The Unfinished Nation: A Concise History of the American People*, McGraw Hill, New York 1993. Chapter Sixteen: "The Meeting of Cultures". Chapter Seventeen: "Industrial Supremacy". Chapter Eighteen: "The Age of the City". Chapter Nineteen: "From Stalemate to Crisis". Chapter Twenty: "The Imperial Republic". 431-554.

## **III. Progressivism and Reform. *A Bull Moose.***

Brinkley. Chapter Twenty-One: "The Rise of Progressivism". Chapter Twenty-two: "The Battle for National Reform". 556-604.

Teddy Roosevelt election database on university mainframe.  
This is a big thing, so to speak, and will be discussed in class.

## **IV. World War and The Roaring 20s. *A Bull Market.***

Brinkley. Chapter Twenty-Three: "American and the Great War". Chapter Twenty-Four: "The New Era". 606-652.

Seymour Martin Lipset and Earl Raab, *The Politics of Unreason*, 2nd ed

*Wilson*. Video.

## **V. Depression, New Deal, and FDR. *Soup Kitchens.***

Brinkley. Chapter Twenty-Five: "The Great Depression". Chapter Twenty-Six: "The New Deal". Chapter Twenty-Seven: "The Global Crisis". 653-722.

Donald R. Stoltz and Marshall L. Stoltz, *Norman Rockwell and the Saturday Evening Post: The Middle Years*, MJF Books, New York 1994.

## **VI. World War II. *To Live in Infamy.***

Brinkley. Chapter Twenty-Eight: "America in a World at War". 723-746.

*War & Peace in the Nuclear Age: Dawn.* ( No.1.) *Pearl Harbor. The Battle of China.* Videos.

## **VII. The Cold War. *Almost Armageddon.***

Brinkley. Chapter Twenty-Nine: "America and the Cold War". 747-776.

Donald R. Stoltz and Marshall L. Stoltz, *Norman Rockwell and the Saturday Evening Post: The Later Years*, MJF Books, New York 1994.

## **VIII. Crisis in Authority. *The Chickens Come Home.***

Brinkley. Chapter Thirty: "The Affluent Society". Chapter Thirty-One. "The Ordeal of Liberalism". Chapter Thirty-Two: "The Crisis of Authority". 778-870.

Seymour Martin Lipset, *Rebellion in the University*, rev. ed., The University of Chicago Press, 1976.

Seymour Martin Lipset, *The Confidence Gap*, rev.ed., Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 1987.

Seymour Martin Lipset, *Passion and Politics*, Little, Brown, Philadelphia, 1971, 124-196.

*Richard M. Nixon. Ethics in America - Under Orders, Under Fire: Parts I and II.* Videos.

Vietnam War and Dr. Martin Luther King databases on university mainframe.

## **IX. Towards 2003. *The Lone Super Power.***

Brinkley. Chapter Thirty-three: "The Unfinished Nation". 872-912.

*Inside the White House. The Road to the White House '92.* Videos

Seymour Martin Lipset, *Political Man: The Social Bases of Politics*, rev.ed., The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore (Maryland), 1981, 524-565.

Seymour Martin Lipset, *American Exceptionalism*, W.W. Norton, New York, 1996, 267-292.

Due last class: twenty page paper using the micro records of the US State Department in the library.