

**HISTORY 225-G11**  
**Colorado History**  
**Beginning to Present**  
**Aims Community College**  
**Spring 2009**

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays  
Westview 682

9:10am to 10:00am

Mr. Clint Heiner, M.A.

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Office Hours: MWF = 10am to 11am

Tu/Th = 11am to Noon

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**Required Books** (Available for Purchase at The Aims Bookstore)

Abbott, Carl. Colorado: A History of the Centennial State, Fourth Edition. Boulder, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 2005.

Secrest, Clark. Hell's Belles: Prostitution, Vice, and Crime in Early Denver, With a Biography of Sam Howe, Frontier Lawmen, Revised Edition. Boulder, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 2002.

Four Blue Book Exam Booklets (Must Have These for Exams)

**Ideas About The Course/ Objectives**

This course is a survey of Colorado History from its beginnings to the present. We will be covering a lot of material and a lot of history in a short time, so be sure to keep up on reading assignments and attend class often. Although it is a survey course, it will not focus primarily on mundane facts, names, dates, and figures. Although facts, names, dates, and figures are important in the study of history, what is more important is the ability to analyze, discuss, and interpret historical data. More profoundly, the central goal to the study of history is to bring the past to life; to try and put yourself in the shoes of the people who lived through the time period we are about to study. To that end, the main goal of this course is to help you develop oral and written communication and critical thinking skills concerning trends and ideas from this particular time period of American History, in this case, the history of the state (or land) we call Colorado. You will be asked to read valuable works about the period, to participate in class discussions and activities, and to be attentive listeners to lectures and films. Then it will be up to you to analyze the information and ideas and come up with your own interpretations of this most fascinating period in American History. Furthermore, this course, once completed with a passing grade, does satisfy general education competencies and requirements in critical thinking and writing.

**Expectations**

**Reading**

Reading is a critical component of this or any history course. If you do not like to read, or feel you have no time to read, this course is not for you! Each week, you will be expected to read one to three textbook chapters (about 25-30 pages per chapter). Furthermore, you will also have to conduct a good bit of research and do a lot of outside reading in order to complete two writing assignments. The writing assignments will be two 5-6 page research papers/essays. The writing assignments will be handed out during the third week of class and we will go over them together in detail then. The point here is: Be prepared to read this semester!!

## **Attendance and Participation**

It is also very important that you attend every class session so that you do not miss any important material that will be covered on exams, and information that can help you on your writing assignments. Attendance and participation (coming to class, asking questions, participating in discussions, keeping up on the reading, and just overall involvement) will always make the difference between a poor grade and a grade you will be pleased with. Attendance and participation have the ability to improve your final grade, especially in borderline cases. If you do not attend class and participate often, it will show on your exams and essays, and of course, on your final grade. There is a direct correlation between students who attend class regularly and those who are pleased with their overall grade in the class. Again, there is a direct correlation between regular attendance and high academic achievement. Students who wish to do well in this course should attend class regularly and take good, detailed lecture notes.

## **Evaluation**

The most important aspect of this course is learning how to utilize the processes and resources of historical data and inquiry (those critical thinking and writing skills I mention on page one). To that end, the central components of your evaluation and final grade will be based upon your performance on two exams, two 5-6 page writing assignments, and five interactive class discussion and group work opportunities.

## **Exams**

A portion of your grade will be determined by your performance on two exams. Each exam will be worth 20% of your final grade, worth 100 points each. Each exam will be comprised of two sections. Each exam will take two class periods to conduct, except the final, which only takes one. The IDs section is worth 40% (40 points) of each exam, and the essay portion is worth 60% (60 points) of each exam. To study for the IDs sections of every exam see "Important Terms and People" at the end of every note set, I will draw all ID material exclusively from those banks of terms. For the essay portion of each exam I will hand out study guides one week before every exam. We will discuss the exams and the exam format in thorough detail together during the third week of class.

## **Writing Assignments/ Analytical Essays/ Research Papers**

In addition to the two exams you will be expected to write two 5-6 page essays each worth 100 points, each worth 20% of your final grade. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade for every day they are late. To avoid late penalties, always try and hand your papers in on time. Writing assignment #1 is a 5-6 page essay based upon the textbook and primary source readings. Writing assignment #2 is a 5-6 page research paper, with a proposal completed before any writing begins. Both of these assignments (three all together including the proposal for the research paper) will be handed out during the third week of class, and we will go over all of them and the exam format in detail, together.

## **Class Discussions, Attendance, and Participation**

Throughout the duration of the semester we will also have five interactive class discussions/group activities (some will be group based activities and discussions, some will be discussions among the entire class; in either case, all of them will require and be based upon primary source readings). Participation in all five class discussions is mandatory, as participation and contributions in all five class discussions, and regular attendance, is worth the remaining 100 points (or 20%) of your final grade.

## **Important Policy Reminders**

(1) If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what was covered and get a copy of the lecture notes from a classmate. You can talk with me about missed material and I will be glad to answer **any** questions, however, **I will not email or give out my lecture notes.**

(2) Late writing assignments will be penalized one full letter grade for every day they are late. The writing assignments will be due at the **beginning** of class on the days they are due, after that they will be considered one day late. Be sure to hand in the writing assignments on time to avoid penalties.

(3) **I do not offer make-up exams so make-up exams will not be given.** Be sure to show up on the appropriate exam days.

(4) If you have any special educational/disability needs or requirements talk to me, and more importantly, contact Barbara Crane in the Disability Access Center in Horizon Hall 327. Phone: 970-339-6388. E-mail: [disabilities@aims.edu](mailto:disabilities@aims.edu) Fax: 970-506-6937.

(5) Turn off all cell phones and behave like an adult in class.

(6) **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words, ideas, or writing without giving them their deserved credit. Buying a paper off the internet, copying and pasting pieces of information from the internet into your paper, or retyping a paper your roommate or classmate used last semester are all considered forms of plagiarism (just to name a few). Students who plagiarize typically get caught. Each writing assignment submitted to me will be carefully screened for plagiarism. Students who plagiarize will fail this course and possibly face further disciplinary action from the Dean of Students. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!!!!**

**Questions:** Please see me if you have additional questions about the course or about materials covered in class. Also, be sure to inform me if you have any special educational/disability needs or requirements.

### **Grade Distribution**

Midterm Exam (Wednesday, March 4 <sup>th</sup> , and Friday, March 6 <sup>th</sup> ).....	100 points = 20%
Writing Assignment #1 (Monday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> ).....	100 points = 20%
Writing Assignment #2 (Research Project) (Due at the beginning of class on Monday, April 13 <sup>th</sup> ); Don't forget about the Proposal for the Writing Assignment (Due much earlier at the beginning of class on Monday, February 16 <sup>th</sup> ) Proposal worth 10pts, Research Project worth 90pts All of it together is worth.....	100 points = 20%
Contributions in all FIVE class discussions (check the schedule for days).....	100 points = 20%
Final Exam (Monday, May 4 <sup>th</sup> , from 9:10am to 11am in Westview 682).....	100 points = 20%
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	500 points total = 100%

**AN "F" ON THE FINAL EXAM OR FAILURE TO TAKE THE FINAL EXAM WILL RESULT IN AN "F" FOR THE COURSE, REGARDLESS OF THE FINAL AVERAGE FOR THAT STUDENT**

### **Course Assignments and Schedule:**

The following schedule is tentative and subject to change. Because the changes will be announced in class, it is the student's responsibility to attend class regularly in order to learn of any schedule changes. Also, all readings must be completed before the days scheduled events.

#### **Introductory Unit: Pre-History of Colorado**

Week 1: M, January 12 = Introduction to the course

W, January 14 = Introduction to Colorado History and an Important Overview

Read Abbott, Introduction and Chapter #1, introduction to page 9

F, January 16 = Finish Overview and Give Out Discussion #1 Assignment

Start Reading Clark Secret's *Hell's Belles*

Week 2: M, January 19 = NO CLASS FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY  
W, January 21 = Class Discussion #1:  
The Role of Geography and Environment in Shaping Human History in Colorado  
F, January 23 = Finish Class Discussion #1

Week 3: M, January 26 = VERY IMPORTANT TECHNICAL DAY = We will discuss the exam format  
and I will hand out both Writing Assignments and the Proposal.  
We will deal with all technical issues on this day, and go over everything as class  
W, January 28 = Finish with all technical issues, exam format, writing assignments, on this day  
F, January 30 = The First Coloradoans and Colorado as Spain  
Read Abbott, Chapter #2 All, pages 10 to 23

### **UNIT ONE: Colorado in the Old/Wild West, 1800-1900**

Week 4: M, February 2 = Finish Chapter #2  
W, February 4 = Colorado as Spain, France, Mexico, then America  
American Explorers, Trappers, and Traders  
The Mexican-American War  
Read Abbott, Chapter #3 All, pages 24 to 42  
F, February 6 = Continue with Above, Chapter #3

Week 5: M, February 9 = Finish Chapter #3  
W, February 11 = Colorado and the Old/Wild West: Gold Rush, Mountains, Cities, and Civil  
War  
Read Abbott, Chapter #4 All, pages 43 to 63  
F, February 13 = Finish Chapter #4

Week 6: M, February 16 = **Proposal for Writing Assignment #2 (Research Project) Due at Beginning  
Of Class**  
Colorado and the Old/Wild West: Growth After the War, Indian Policy, Indian  
Wars, and the Sand Creek Massacre; Growth of Railroads  
Read Abbott, Chapter #5 and Interlude: Coloradoans in 1876, pages 64 to 90  
W, February 18 = Finish Chapter #5  
F, February 20 = Major Growth and the End of an Era (Indians Gone!)  
Read Abbott, Chapter #6 and Chapter #7, pages 91 to 134  
Hand Out Study Guide for Midterm Exam  
Hand Out Reading for Class Discussion #2

Week 7: M, February 23 = Continue with Chapter #7  
W, February 25 = Finish With Chapter #7  
F, February 27 = NO CLASS (I'm attending a conference on this day)

Week 8: M, March 2 = Class Discussion #2: The Conditions of Indians in Colorado and the American West  
Up to 1890 and the turn of the century (1900)  
W, March 4 = **Midterm Exam (IDs Section)**  
F, March 6 = **Midterm Exam (Essay Section)**

### **UNIT TWO: Modern Colorado, 1900-2000**

Week 9: M, March 9 = The Industrial Era in Colorado; Industrialization and the Ludlow Massacre  
Read Abbott, Chapter #8 All  
W, March 11 = Farming and Ranching in the American Desert and the Rise of Greeley  
Read Abbott, Chapter #9 All  
F, March 13 = Women in Politics and Society in Colorado  
Read Abbott, Chapter #10 All  
Finish Reading Clark Secret's *Hell's Belles*, and write your paper over break

Week 10: March 16-20 = NO CLASS ALL WEEK FOR SPRING BREAK

Week 11: M, March 23 = **Writing Assignment #1 Due at the Beginning of Class**

Class Discussion #3:

Women of the West and Colorado (Sabin's Famous Quote)

Women in Denver and Discussion Revolving around what you wrote about for Writing Assignment #1

W, March 25 = Immigrant Diversity in Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #11 All

F, March 27 = Tourism, National Parks, Forests, and Monuments;

The Rise of Denver as the Rocky Mountain Metropolis;

The Progressives and World War I in Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapters #12, #13, and Interlude: Coloradoans in 1917, pages 220 to 264

Week 12: M, March 30 = Finish with Chapter #13 on this day

W, April 1 = The Roaring 1920s in Colorado; The Rise of the KKK

Read Abbott, Chapter #14 All

F, April 3 = The 1930s, the Great Depression, and the New Deal in Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #15 All

Week 13: M, April 6 = World War II and Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #16 All

W, April 8 = WWII and Its Aftermath and Impact on Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #17 All

F, April 10 = Class Discussion #4: WWII

Week 14: M, April 13 = **Writing Assignment #2 (Research Paper) Due at the Beginning of Class**

The 1950s and Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #18 All

W, April 15 = The 1960s and Colorado

Read Abbott, Chapter #19 All

F, April 17 = Finish with the 1960s on this day (Chapter #19)

Week 15: M, April 20 = Colorado: 1970 to Today (2009)

Read Abbott, Chapter #20 All

W, April 22 = Colorado: 1970 to Today (2009)

Read Abbott, Chapter #21 All

F, April 24 = Colorado's Culture Wars (Then and Now)

Read Abbott, Chapter #22 All

Hand Out Study Guide for Final Exam

Hand Out Assignment and Reading for Class Discussion #5 (Presentations)

Week 16: M, April 27 = Class Discussion #5 (Presentations)

W, April 29 = Class Discussion #5 (Presentations)

F, May 1 = Finish Class Discussion #5 (Presentations)

**\* Note on the Final Exam: Because it is longer, both IDs and Essay Sections will be completed**

**Final Exam: Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:10am to 11:00am in Westview 682**