United States History
1890-present
Comprehensive Examination Bibliography

Overview

Classic Works
Hartz, Louis, *The Liberal Tradition in America: An Interpretation of American Political Thought Since the Revolution* (1955)

Johnston, Robert and Burton Bledstein, eds., *The Middling Sorts: Explorations in the History of the American Middle Class.*
Wright, Gavin. *Old South, New South: Revolutions in the Southern Economy Since the Civil War* (1986)

1890-1932

Political Economy/Labor

Classic Works
Gutman, Herbert G. *Work, Culture and Society in Industrializing America* (1966)
Barber, William J. *From New Era to New Deal: Herbert Hoover, Economists, and American Foreign Policy, 1921-1933* (1989)
Montgomery, David. *Fall of the House of Labor: The Workplace, the State, and American Labor Activism, 1865-1925* (1987)

**Politics/Law**

*Classic Works*

Davis, Alan F. *Spearheads for Reform: The Social Settlements and the Progressive Movement, 1890-1914* (1967)

Eisenach, Eldon J. *Lost Promise of Progressivism* (1994)

**Ideas/Culture**

*Classic Works*

Lasch, Christopher. *New Radicalism in America, 1889-1963: Intellectual as a Social Type* (1965)


**Gender/Race**

**Classic Works**


### Foreign Policy

**Classic Works**


Hofstadter, Richard. “Cuba, the Philippines and Manifest Destiny,” in *Paranoid Style in American Politics, and Other Essays* (1965)


Kennedy, Paul “Coming of a Bipolar World and the Crisis of the ‘Middle Powers’:
1930-1979

Political Economy/Labor
Classic Works

Isserman, Maurice. *If I Had A Hammer: The Death of the Old Left and the Birth of the New Left* (1993)
Skocpol, Theda. “Bringing the State Back In,” in Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschmeyer, and Theda Skocpol, eds., *Bringing the State Back In* (1985)

**Politics/Law**

*Classic Works*


Edsall, Byrne, and Mary Edsall, *Chain Reaction: The Impact of Rights, Race, and Taxes on American Politics* (1992)
Nickerson, Michelle and Darren Dochuk, eds., Sunbelt Rising: The Politics of Space, Place, and Region (2011)
Phillips-Fein, Kim and Julian Zelizer (eds.), What’s Good for Business: Business and American Politics since World War II
Plotke, David. Building a Democratic Order: Reshaping American Liberalism in the 1930s and 1940s (1996)
Schulman, Bruce. Seventies: Great Shift in American Culture, Society, & Politics (2001)
Skocpol, Theda “Political Response to Capitalist Crisis: Neo-Marxist Theory of the State and the Case of the New Deal,” Politics and Society 10:2 (1980):155
Tomlins, Christopher. State and the Unions (1985)

Ideas/Culture
Classic Works
James, C.L.R. American Civilization (1950)
Lasch, Christopher. The Culture of Narcissism: American Life in An Age of Diminishing Expectations (1979)

Braunstein, Peter, and Doyle, Michael William, eds. Imagine Nation: The American Counterculture of the 1960s and ’70s. New York: Routledge, 2002


Rodgers, Daniel. *Age of Fracture* (2011)


**Gender/Race**

**Classic Works**

Evans, Sara. *Personal Politics: The Roots of Women’s Liberation in the Civil Rights*
Movement and the New Left (1979)
Katznelson, Ira. When Affirmative Action was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America (2005)


**Foreign Policy**

**Classic Works**


Smith, Gaddis. *American Diplomacy during the Second World War, 1941-45*

Smith, Gaddis. *We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History*

---

**1980-2012**


Harvey, David. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*

Herrnstein, Richard J., and Charles Murray. *Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class*
Structure in American Life (1994)
Wilentz, Sean. *Age of Reagan: A History, 1974-2008*
I bought this to help me in AP United States History, and it definitely prepared me for the exam. It's much more concise than most school textbooks. My dad, a former APUSH teacher himself, recommended it to me and recommends it to all other APUSH students.
A sweeping history--and counter-narrative--of Native American life from the Wounded Knee massacre to the present. Dee Brown's 1970 *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* was the first truly popular book of Indian history ever published. But it promulgated the impression that American Indian history essentially ended with the 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee--that not only did one hundred fifty Sioux die at the hands of the U. S. Cavalry but Native civilization did as well. Growing up Ojibwe on a reservation in Minnesota, training as an anthropologist, and researching Native life past and present for hi