

Course Requirements and Grading:

Textbooks:

There is a required reading packet which I will hand out in class, and a text book that you must purchase entitled *Crossing the Next Meridian: Land, Water, and the Future of the West*, by Charles F. Wilkinson (Island Press, Washington DC, 1992). In the syllabus, readings in the text

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Exams:

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam, the final exam is not cumulative. Each exam will account for 30% of your total final grade. Exams will take place in class and will be **closed book**. Exam questions will be drawn from the required readings, lectures, and the classroom discussions. A close understanding of the course material is important as exam questions may require you to apply information you learned in class to new situations, rote memorization will often not be enough to get an A. Exams will include essay and short answer questions. Please make sure that you write legibly as illegible answers may not be graded. There will be no makeup exams, if you are unable to take the exam on the date scheduled and you have a good reason, please see me as soon as possible.

Assignments and Quizzes:

There will be 2-4 take home assignments and 2-4 quizzes worth a total of 30% of your grade.

Assignments will be **open note**, and may require additional research. You may not work together, except to prepare for in-class debates. Assignments must be typed and must be handed in on time. Late work will lose 10% of the total available points each day it is late.

Quizzes will be in-class, pop quizzes. They will be **open note** and will take place in the first 15 minutes of the class period, so timeliness is crucial. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Attendance, Preparation, and Class Participation:

Attendance and proper preparation for each class session are mandatory. Regular class participation is strongly encouraged and will impact your grade. Together these three components will make up 10% of your final grade.

Grades:

This course is graded with a letter grade corresponding to the numerical score you receive. This class will use +/- grades.

Extra Help:

If you find, at any time during the semester, that you are having trouble understanding the