United States History
1890-present
Comprehensive Examination Bibliography

**Overviews**

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)


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)


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

de Grazia, Victoria. Irresistible Empire: America’s Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe (2005)
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)
Patterson, James T. Restless Giant: The United States from Watergate to Bush v. Gore (2007)
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.