Course Syllabus

U.S. 1890 to the Present

HIST 2112

Mon/Wed 9:30AM - 10:45AM
And
12:30PM - 1:45PM

Instructor: Diana K. Honey
Office: Social Sciences 4005
Office Hours: (Usually) Mon - Wed 11:00AM - 12:00AM
Or By Appointment Only
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Course Objectives:

As part of the General Education Program at Kennesaw State University, this course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge of contemporary U.S. history expected of an educated resident living in the U.S. We will look at U.S. history from 1890 to the present day. This survey course will help students develop an appreciation of people, cultures and traditions that have contributed to the fabric of American society.

Within our survey we will discuss issues of race, gender, social class, politics, economics, and religion. All of these, and how they have developed over the last 125 years, have shaped who we are today as a country and a people, and how we are perceived as a member of the international community.

This class will be challenging both in the range of materials covered and in the volume! It will also challenge the way you think about the US today, what our trajectory has been through the 20th century, and where we are heading. We have a vast amount of material to cover in one semester. You will be expected to be an active participant through careful readings, thoughtful discussions (yes - you are expected to participate and contribute!), substantial lesson notes, and reflective responses both oral and written.

WebCT/Vista/Blackboard/GeorgiaView:

This course is supplemented through Web CT/Vista/GeorgiaView (Web Course Tools). This course requires all students to use the Internet to access some supplemental materials and information housed on our class WebCT/Vista/GeorgiaView site. All students should be computer literate and proficient in this class. If you do not have a computer at home, the University Library or Computer Labs are good places to access the WebCT site, as well as, prepare any written materials required in this course.
PreRequisite:  Successful completion of English 1101 with a minimum grade of a “C.”

Attendance

Attendance is an essential and required part of participation in this class. Since this is a full semester course, and the material covered will be in broader scope, any and all absences, however, will be taken into consideration when calculating the final grade. If you must miss a class it will be your responsibility to get class notes, handouts, or any announcements from your fellow classmates. Consistent absence from class will result in a failing grade for the course. ALL absences count. All absences will be factored into attendance grade. Additionally, falling asleep in class will constitute an absence - no exceptions.

Electronic Equipment and Disruptive Behaviors:

It is essential that we conduct class with the minimum of interruptions, particularly the electronic kind. No beepers, cell phones or PDA interruptions will be permitted, text messaging included; turn this equipment off upon entering the classroom or risk losing 5% off of your final grade for each interruption. If you have an emergency that requires accessibility you must clear it with the instructor in advance.

Some examples of disruptive behaviors include:
1. arriving late and/or leaving early,
2. moving around and/or leaving the classroom,
3. talking to your neighbor,
4. sleeping or reading unrelated materials,
5. unrelated surfing the Web, playing games, or reading your email during class time.

Those using laptops in class are expected to find seats in the back of the classroom so as not to distract others around you. If you cannot make a commitment to attend classes regularly, on time, and with focused energy, withdraw from this course. Please do not enter the class if you are more than 15 minutes late. Failure to comply with these requests will not only result in a penalty towards your attendance (e.g. two tardies/ leaving early, etc. count as one absence), but may also result in your dismissal from the classroom.
Course Requirements:

Textbook: All readings will be assigned from James L. Roark, et al, *The American Promise: A History of the United States, Volume II: From 1865*, Fourth Edition (Bedford/St. Martins, 2005). Additionally, a supplemental reader is bundled with your text. *Reading the American Past: Selected Historical Documents, Volume II: From 1865* by Michael P. Johnson is bundled with your text at no additional charge. This reader offers primary documents to enhance your understanding of each topic. Other supplemental materials may be distributed in class, posted on WebCT/Vista/GeorgiaView, or assigned on an ad hoc basis.

Any assignments to be turned in must be word processed, stapled, and in presentable form. All assignments to be turned in are due at the beginning of the class period. Any unstapled assignments will be penalized with a 10% reduction in grade.

**NO COMPUTER EXCUSES WILL BE ACCEPTED!** Students should complete and print their assignments well before the date due. Problems with computers and/or printers can be remedied by using one of the computer labs located on campus. After hours computer services are available (for a fee) at any Kinko’s location (which is open 24 hours, seven days a week). A hard copy turned in for grading is required. Do not email papers unless specifically instructed to do so.

Exams: There will be 3 exams including the final. Most exams can include multiple choice, matching, and True/False including the final. The multiple choice questions will come from lecture, the text, video presentations, and any additional readings assigned, therefore, reading the material will be very important to your success in this class. There may be an essay exam, as well, details will be forthcoming.

There will be 2 multiple choice geography exams. These will consist of maps included in your textbook. You will have ample time to study for each exam and will be expected to identify locations, rivers, mountain ranges, etc. on ScanTron sheets.

There will be **ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** unless your situation is truly exceptional. You must make every effort to be present in class each day that class is scheduled! Missed exams will be dealt with according to the discretion of the instructor. If a make-up is deemed appropriate it must be taken within two class sessions. At best, you will have a smaller sample from which to calculate an average for your final grade.

Video Participation: Video worksheets are on *WebVista/GeorgiaView*. You must print these off and have them with you in class. These worksheets are to be completed during presentations of the videos shown in class. Please write your
responses in full, complete sentences as this fulfills your writing requirement. The videos are a means of visually conveying the spirit of particular time periods or events portrayed. **There are no make-ups** on them, as the videos cannot be loaned out individually, you must be present. If you miss a video you lose the points associated with the missed worksheet. No, you cannot make them up outside of class. Besides, they are a participation grade; you must be present to win....

Word of advice: print the video worksheets in advance and keep them in your book, binder, book-bag, whatever you bring to class to ensure that you have them when needed.

**In Summary**, your grade will be calculated based on the following:

- **Multiple Choice Exams** 60%
- **U.S. Constitution Quiz** 10%
- **Geography Quizzes** 20%
- **Video Participation** 10%

**Grading**: Grading is on a 10-point system where:

- A= 90 to 100, B= 80 to 89, C= 70 to 79, D= 60 to 69, and F= Below 60

If there is a question concerning any grades, the student must submit a typed request explaining the concern to the instructor **within one week** of receiving the graded assignment or test. The instructor will consider the request and schedule a meeting with the student if necessary. After one week, the instructor will consider all matters concerning grades closed and will no longer discuss previous grades.

**Professional Expectations**:

The college classroom is considered a **professional setting**. You are beginning your professional careers in the classroom. This requires that you assess your attitudes and develop your professional personalities and demeanors. Higher education involves far more than mere conveyance of information.

The university setting requires that you conduct yourself with intellectual diligence in your assignments and with social maturity, both in the classroom and in terms of your academic responsibilities. **All higher education carries with it the expectation of deeper analysis and critical thinking**.

University coursework is not easy nor is it meager in quantity. You have made a choice in being here and in the course load for which you have registered; there are corresponding consequences in that workload. Whatever your choices, you are expected to fulfill your responsibilities in this class.
University Policy on Student Honesty
A person's reputation is their most prized possession, and one, which the individual has sole control over. Academic honesty is a choice of honest people. Below is the Kennesaw State University policy for academic honesty. Please read carefully as it pertains to all of us here at KSU.

Every student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University policy regarding plagiarism, cheating, unauthorized access to University materials; misrepresentation/ falsification of University records or academic work; malicious removal, retention or destruction of library materials; malicious/ intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services; and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an informal resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum on year suspension requirement.

Cheating and plagiarism will result in an automatic failing class grade. There is zero tolerance for either cheating or plagiarism. If you do not know whether you are plagiarizing there are resources available to assist you in determining your course of action. In addition to the Writing Center (Rm 242 Humanities), the following websites are available for on-line assistance:

http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/plagiar.html

A. Plagiarism and Cheating
No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.) When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated; when the language, ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged.

The preceding statements are from the Student Handbook can be viewed on-line for further verification by going to:
All students are strongly encouraged to refer and read the full text of the Student Code of Conduct. If you have any questions regarding academic honesty as it relates to this or any other of your classes consult the Student Code and discuss any further concerns with your instructor.

The instructor reserves the right to make substantive changes to the syllabus at any point during the semester.