“There is an underside to every age about which history does not often speak, because history is written from records left by the privileged.” – Howard Zinn

Instructor: Juan Pablo Valenzuela

Office Hours: By Appointment

Email: jpv4479@kennesaw.edu. This is the absolute best and only way to communicate with me as I do not frequent Georgia View Vista.


Course Description and Objectives: This course is a history of the U.S. roughly from the end of the Civil War to the end of the Cold War. It will explore the usual study of social, political, and economic movements during said time frame. This class aims to examine the history of the United States from the perspective of the “disfranchised” section of the population. We will examine disfranchisement caused by race, national origin, social status, religion, gender, and sexual orientation. We will also strive to steer away from the exceptionalist view of U.S. history, and analyze the major historical events presenting them as linked not only to each other, but also to the contemporary international scene.

Attendance and Participation: Regular prompt classroom attendance and participation is expected, but not consequential outside of a full and deep understanding of the material covered. I do not penalize for absences, but I highly recommend that if you miss a class, you get with somebody to capture anything we may have covered that is neither in the PowerPoint nor the readings. I will post the PowerPoint presentations for each chapter covered on GA View. I expect you to familiarize yourself with these, as sometimes we will have discussion in class, and will not cover the PowerPoint word-for-word. The PowerPoint slides will also serve as your study guide for exams.

Tardiness: Although I am lenient with attendance, I expect you to be considerate of the instructor and other students by arriving to class on time. Also, please wait until class is over before gathering up books and materials to leave.

Withdrawal from the Course: Withdrawal before the midpoint of the semester (October 12) entitles the student to receive the grade of “W” if performance up to that point has been
satisfactory. A student doing failing work will receive the grade “WF” as well as students who withdraw after October 12. Any exceptions must be approved by the Dean of Students.

**Make-Ups:** There are no make-ups for exams. The grading policy has been kept simple to spare the student any unnecessary complications. **Also, you will be allowed to drop the lowest grade, so if you miss an exam it will be a zero. Make sure that this zero is your lowest grade.**

**ESL Study and Tutorial Center:** ESL students may seek assistance from professionally trained staff in the ESL Study and Tutorial Center.

**Examinations:** There will be four (4) in-class examinations for this course. Each will count as 25% of your final grade. There will be no comprehensive exams, as the fourth and last exam will be your final. Please note that the only difference between the three exams and the final is that the final will cover four chapters, not three. The exams will be made up of, but not limited to, multiple choice, and short answers. You will not have to memorize dates, but, you will need to have a general understanding of the eras covered. This emphasis on exams should shed some light on my above philosophy of attendance and participation: **READ, BE HERE, AND TAKE NOTES.** I will often reference outside reading, recommend books for further deepening, and recommend movies that bring the point home. I will be very clear on what will be on the exams. The first two exams will be taken and a grade given prior to the drop date. You may assume that all exams will be very similar to each other, and so determine what you would like to do at that point.

**Grading Policy:**
Grades will be determined as follows:
Exams 4 (Three and one non-comprehensive final)…25% each

**Course Rules and Policies:** Instant Messaging, Two-way paging, and Text Messaging are all strictly prohibited. **Be sure to turn all cell phones to vibrate or silent off before entering the classroom.** Likewise, no headphones, iPods, mp3 players, or other music devises are allowed in class. Students using any of the above in class will be asked to leave. In addition, laptops are allowed only for purposes of taking notes. Anyone engaging in any other activity on their laptops will be asked to turn the device off and/or leave the classroom.

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class – no exceptions, and no excuses. Anyone doing so will be reported to the Office of Judiciary Programs, and will receive an automatic F for the course. Please read the KSU Statement of Academic Integrity below:

To promote academic integrity among Kennesaw State University students and ensure that students understand the expectations of their professors, all faculty members are required to include the following statement, under the heading "Academic Integrity," in their class syllabus:

> Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and
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 one semester suspension requirement.

Students are expected to treat each other with the utmost respect in this class. Students who do not show respect for others, including the professor, will be asked to leave the classroom. Students are advised that this course covers very socially sensitive subject matters, and need to govern themselves accordingly. I expect and hope for some healthy discussions as the class proposes to view U.S. history in a less conventional manner.

Students have a right to privacy. The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) strictly prohibit me from discussing a student’s performance (including grades) with anyone unaffiliated with the University without the express written consent of the student. This includes parents, spouses, and other family members. Although there are very few exceptions, students should refer to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html

**Food and Drink:** Please do not eat food during lectures. Drinks are fine, just open them before we start please.

**Students with Disabilities:** If a student has a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the professor as soon as possible and provide the necessary documentation from Disabled Student Support Services. Students with questions or concerns should contact:

Carol Pope, Assistant Director
Student Center, Suite 267
770-423-6443
cpope@kennesaw.edu

* Note - The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. In other words, this entire syllabus is subject to adaptation and change. I reserve the right to make changes as necessary.
Course Schedule

August 18
Introduction/Go over syllabus/Bring historical events up to speed

August 23, 25
Reconstruction, Chapter 15

August 30, September 1
Gilded Age, Chapter 16

September 6, 8
Freedom’s Boundaries, Chapter 17
Review for Exam I

September 13
Exam I

September 15, 20
Go over exam I
The Progressive Era, Chapter 18

September 22, 27
World War I, Chapter 19

September 29, October 4
The Twenties, Chapter 20
Review for Exam II if time permits

October 6
Exam II

October 11, 13........OCTOBER 12 IS THE LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY!!!!!!!!!!!!
Go over Exam II
The New Deal, Chapter 21

October 18, 20
World War II, Chapter 22
October 25, 27
The Cold War, Chapter 23
Review for Exam III if time permits

November 1
Exam III

November 3, 8
Go over Exam III
Affluent Society, Chapter 24

November 10, 15
The Sixties, Chapter 25

November 17, 22
The Triumph of Conservatism, Chapter 26

November 23 – 27….. No Class!!!!! Have a great Thanksgiving Break!!!

November 29, December 1
Globalization and Its Discontents, Chapter 27
Review for Final Exam

December 5 – Last Day of Classes

December 8 – Final Exam (IV) – 11:00 am to 1:00 pm