History 2112: Survey of United States History

MON/WED 8:00-9:15, SS bldg 1017
CRN 81475
Office Hours: M / W 9:30-10:30

Instructor: Lauren Moran
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REQUIRED TEXTS

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION
History 2112 is a survey of United States History since 1890. Because we only have a short time to cover everything, we will not try to cover everything. Instead, each class period will focus on a specific topic or event. Lectures, films, readings and discussions will allow us to analyze each event in depth. The overarching goal of this class is to help you to have the historical knowledge to think critically about current political, social, and economic developments. The class assignments are designed to strengthen your skills as critical readers and effective writers.

GRADES
Exams = 60% ( Exam 1 = 15%, Exam 2 = 20%, Exam3 = 25%)
HW = 30% ( 10 assignments total)
Participation = 10%

The tests will consist of matching, multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and (very) short answer.

Each day that a reading assignment is due, you must send me an email to lmoran3@kennesaw.edu before class begins. In the body of the email (no attachments) should be the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page of notes on the reading. The page must conclude with a brief paragraph explaining which argument you found most convincing and why. The notes do not have to be complete sentences (“bullet” format is preferable), but the conclusion should consist of a few well constructed sentences. All of the homework assignments will come from Taking Sides: Clashing Views in U.S. History. On the days that homework assignments are due, we will discuss the readings in class. Participating verbally in these discussions will boost your participation grade and will be the only way to make up for any in-class assignments that you miss (see below).

Your completion of in-class document assignments, worksheets to accompany films, and discussions of homework readings will comprise your 10% participation grade. In no circumstances will makeup work for in-class assignments be allowed.

PLEASE NOTE
This syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary

If you wish to use a laptop to take notes in class, I reserve the right to ask you to show me the work that you’ve done on your laptop at the end of class.

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 (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior that a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the 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. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).
Schedules of topics, readings and assignments

Mon 8/20 – intro
Wed 8/22 – post Civil War South
Mon 8/28 – industrialization, urbanization, immigration
Wed 8/30 – the West in the 2nd half of the 19th century; HW 1 due: Issue #2 – “Was the Wild West...”

Labor Day Holiday

Wed 9/5 – 1890s imperialism
Mon 9/10 – progressivism; HW 2 due: Issue #8 – “Did the Progressives Fail?”
Wed 9/12 – review day

Mon 9/17 – Exam 1

Wed 9/19 – World War One
Mon 9/24 - 1920s culture; HW 3 due: Issue #10 – “Was Prohibition a Failure?”
Wed 9/26 – 1920s culture, cont’d

Mon 10/1 – NO CLASS
Wed 10/3 – African American leadership; HW 4 due: Issue #7 – “Did Booker T Washington...”
Mon 10/8 – Great Depression
Wed 10/10 – Great Depression cont’d; HW 5 due: Issue 11 – “Did the New Deal...”

Mon 10/15 – World War 2
Wed 10/17 – World War 2, cont’d
Mon 10/22 – review day

Wed 10/24 – Exam 2

Mon 10/29 – Cold War into; HW 6: Issue 13 – “Was President Truman Responsible for the Cold War?”
Wed 10/31 – Atomic Café Film
Mon 11/5 – 1950s culture; HW 7 due: Issue 14 – “Was Rock and Roll Responsible...”
Wed 11/7 – Early Civil Rights Movement
Mon 11/12 – Civil Rights Movement cont’d; HW 8 due: Issue #15 – “Did John F. Kennedy...”
Wed 11/14 – Vietnam

Thanksgiving Holidays

Mon 11/26 – social movements of the 70s and 80s; HW 9 due: Issue #17 – “Has the Women’s...”
Wed 11/28 – Reagan presidency and the end of the Cold War
Mon 12/3 – globalization in the 1990s and beyond
Wed 12/5 – review day; HW 10 due: Issue #18 – “Is the United States...”

Wed 12/12 – Final Exam, 10:30am