Kennesaw State University
History 4412
The Early Republic, 1787-1824
Fall 2012
M/W 3:30-4:45 p.m.
SO 2031

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SO 4116
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Office Hours: M/W 11 a.m.-noon, or by appointment

Course Description: This course explores the history of the United States from the adoption of the Constitution in 1787 to 1824. Topics covered will include the creation and ratification of the Constitution, Washington’s administration, the development of the first political parties, the Jeffersonian era, the Market Revolution, and the beginning of the sectional dispute over slavery. In addition to domestic issues, we will examine American foreign policy and relations with Native Americans. We will also look at how the United States developed its own unique culture.

Course Goals: In addition to learning the material described above, you will develop your skills in the discipline of history, such as analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary sources, developing your own ideas based on historical evidence, and communicating those ideas effectively in written and oral form.

Expectations: Success in this course requires regular attendance, prompt completion of all reading and written assignments, active class participation, and a solid effort on exams. You are responsible for all of the assigned readings whether or not the material is covered in class. Attendance will be taken frequently and used to help assess your level of effort. Students who demonstrate consistent effort may have their final grade adjusted upward. If you miss a lecture class, you should get the notes from a classmate. Should you miss a discussion and wish to receive partial credit, you must explain your absence and complete a makeup assignment.

Required Texts:
    Jack Rakove, ed., The Federalist
    Eve Kornfeld, Creating an American Culture, 1775-1800
    Noble Cunningham, Jefferson vs. Hamilton
    Sheila Skemp, Judith Sargent Murray
    Gunther Barth, The Lewis and Clark Expedition
**Grading:** Your grade will be based on the criteria below.

- Three short papers 45%
- Midterm exam 20%
- Final exam or Research paper 20%
- Discussion 15%

**Schedule:** (Subject to Change)

Aug. 20: Introduction

Aug. 22: Adoption and Ratification of the Constitution

Aug. 23: End of Drop/Add Period

Aug. 27: Discussion – The Constitution
   Readings: Rakove, 18-32, 35-64

Aug. 29: Discussion – The Constitution
   Readings: Rakove, 72-85, 104-109, 172-179, 195-203

Sept. 3: No Class – Labor Day Holiday

Sept. 5: George Washington’s Administration – Domestic Developments

Sept. 10: George Washington’s Administration – Indian and Foreign Affairs
   **First Short Paper Due (Mandatory)**

Sept. 12: Discussion – Jefferson vs. Hamilton 1
   Readings: Cunningham, Introduction-chapter 4

Sept. 17: Discussion – Jefferson vs. Hamilton 2
   Readings: Cunningham: Chapter 5-Epilogue

Sept. 19: John Adams’s Administration

Sept. 24: Discussion – American Identity and Culture 1
   Readings: Kornfeld, 3-38, 88-99, 110-126, 138-143
   **Short Paper Due (Optional)**

Sept. 26: Discussion – Identity and Culture 2
   Readings: Kornfeld, 39-53, 66-80, 149-188, 229-244, 249-260

Oct. 1: The Election of 1800

Oct. 3: Jefferson’s Presidency 1, Review
Short Paper Due (Optional)

Oct. 8: **Mid-Term Exam**

Oct. 10: Jefferson’s Presidency 2

Oct. 12: Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty

Oct. 15: Discussion – The Lewis and Clark Expedition 1  
Readings: Barth, Introduction-chapter 3

Oct. 17: Discussion – Lewis and Clark 2  
Readings: Barth, Chapter 4-Epilogue

Oct. 22: Women in the Early Republic  
**Short Paper Due (Optional)**

Oct. 24: Discussion – Women in the Early Republic  
Readings: Skemp, Part 1

Oct. 29: Discussion – Women in the Early Republic  
Readings: Skemp, Part 2

Oct. 31: The Madison Administration 1

Nov. 5: The Madison Administration 2  
**Short Paper Due (Optional)**

Nov. 7: Tecumseh and the Natives of the Northwest

Nov. 12: Natives of the Southwest

Nov. 14: The War of 1812

Nov. 19: James Monroe’s Presidency

Nov. 21: No Class – Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 26: The Market Revolution

Nov. 28: Discussion – The Market Revolution  
Readings: Handouts to be provided

Dec. 3: Expansion in the West; Religion and Revival

Dec. 5: Slavery, Abolition, and Sectional Crisis; Review
Research Paper Due Dec. 10 by 5 p.m.
Final Exam TBA

**Miscellaneous**

**Academic Honesty:** Please read the section on this subject in your student handbook. I expect all work you turn in to be your own, prepared without outside assistance or collaboration. Plagiarism (presenting someone else’s work or ideas as your own) is easier to spot than you may realize. University rules require that I report suspected cases of plagiarism to the administration, and being found guilty of this offense can result in severe penalties. In addition, I will automatically fail you for the course. Cheating on exams in any form, including providing answers or information to other students, will also result in a failing grade.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify me as soon as possible and provide the necessary documentation so that we can make arrangements to deal with this situation.

**Cell Phones and Pagers:** Cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned off before you enter the classroom. Any student whose phone or pager sounds during class will be asked to leave the room immediately. Repeated violations may result in the offender being banned from the classroom.

**Assignments:** Writing assignments, lists of study terms, additional readings, etc., will be made available well in advance of the due date. We will discuss all assignments in class. Please see me if you have any problem with the assignments.

**Problems and Personal Matters:** If you have any difficulty with this course, such as understanding the readings or lectures, speaking in discussion, or personal issues that may affect how well you do in the course. Please see me immediately. The sooner that I know about a problem, the faster we can solve it.