Instructor: Juan Pablo Valenzuela

Office Hours: By Appointment

Email: jpv4479@kennesaw.edu, Or through GA View Vista

Required Texts:


Course Description and Objectives: This course is designed to be an introduction to the history of the United States from pre-colonial settlement to the end of the Civil War. In this course, we will try to understand what history means to citizens of the 21st century: how do we understand it, why does it matter, and can our understanding of our own past change the present and possibly our future? This course is organized around a central theme of freedom. We will spend the semester exploring the changing definitions of freedom, the social conditions that have made freedom possible, and the ever-shifting boundaries of freedom that have determined who has been able to enjoy their own individual “liberty,” and who has not. With this organizing theme in mind, key topics for this class will include the settling of the First Americans, the impacts of European exploration and conquest, the emergence and growth of British America, the struggle for colonial independence and the creation of the United States of America, the increasing dependence upon and conflict surrounding slavery, the growth of the federal government, and the ways in which the rise of the market economy, the expansion of democratic ideals, and nineteenth century reform movements contributed to the sectional conflict and eventually the Civil War. Special emphasis will be given to the significance to the State of Georgia at various stages of its development. Class will consist primarily of lectures and discussions.
Attendance and Participation: Regular prompt classroom attendance and participation is expected, but I do not penalize for absences. In other words, I do not have an attendance policy. I do, however, highly recommend that you come to class regularly to receive credit for the reading quizzes and to deepen your understanding of the material, which will probably reflect on your test grades. Participation will also be considered at the end of the semester when your final grades are being calculated. Class discussions may take place formally and/or informally. Formally through scheduled activities and readings, informally through spontaneous conversation. Remember, come the end of the semester, I may not know your name, but I will know your face.

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. If you have a previous engagement that precludes you from staying in class the entire time, please see me before class to let me know.

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 the last day to withdraw without academic penalty. Any exceptions must be approved by the Dean of Students.

Grading Policy:
Grades will be determined as follows:
Tests...........................................80%
Reading Quizzes..........................20%

Tests: There are no make-ups for tests. You will take three multiple choice tests. If you are happy with the average of the first three tests for the 80% of your final course grade, then you do not need to take the final exam. If you miss one of the first three tests, or you made a lower grade than you are happy with, then you can make that up with the final exam. If you take all four tests, I will drop the lowest grade. The final exam will be cumulative, covering anything discussed in the entire semester. I will grade and post any assignments on GA View as quickly as I can.

Reading Quizzes: There will be five (5) unannounced quizzes that will cover the assigned readings for that week. They will consist of ten (10) questions worth ten (10) points each. If you do the readings and come to class, you should have no problem with this portion of your grade. Since they are unannounced, you will need to be here to take it, and there are absolutely no make ups for reading quizzes.

Calculating your grade
Take the average of the 3 highest test scores and multiply by .8 (80%)
Take the average of your 5 Reading Quizzes and multiply by .2 (20%)
Add the two together for your final grade (100%)
### Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 and below</td>
<td>F</td>
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**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.

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](http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html)

### Academic Integrity

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.

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 which 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).

**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

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


**Undergraduate Advising Center:** General information about undergraduate advising. Make appointments on line or through a telephone number.

[http://www.kennesaw.edu/hssadvising/home.php](http://www.kennesaw.edu/hssadvising/home.php)

**PET PEEVES:** (These will be highly considered at the end of the semester)

- Sharing amusing information with your neighbor to the point of distraction.
- Walking out of the room after class has started because you do not like what we are doing that day. If you are indecisive, do not come in at all. If you have a previous engagement that you need to leave early for, tell me before class.
- Walking in late repeatedly. I am lenient with situations outside of your control that make you tardy, but there is a problem if it happens every day.
- Ready to go before I have dismissed class. If I go over our scheduled time, please raise your hand and remind me. Sometimes the lecture or discussion is just that engaging.
- Walking in late to tests and final exam. Do not do it. Automatic five (5) point reduction from the final grade of that test or final exam.
- Cell phones going off any time, but especially during test or final exam. I understand that emergencies need to be relayed, so put it on silent. If a cell phone rings during a test or final exam, it also results in an automatic five (5) point reduction for that test or final exam.
- Snacking is fine, but please do not break out a salad, sandwich, chips, seafood platter, etc.
**TIPS:**

- Please refer to the syllabus. It will probably answer most of your questions.
- Keep up with GA View. This includes the syllabus, emails, and announcements. I use it profusely if I need to communicate anything to you. Also, from time to time I will post additional readings that I may come across, and in an effort to minimize expenditures, I make them available. You will be responsible for anything posted in GA View, so if technical difficulties arise, please let me know.
- **ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING** we cover in class through reading, lecture, discussion, films, video clips, and anything else I may discover minutes before class, is fair game for tests. It will be to your advantage to be here as often as possible. Even if you believe you can make an acceptable grade, when you miss class you also miss several spontaneous opportunities for learning that will contribute to your overall academic experience.

* 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.

**Tentative Course Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>WEEK 1: 8/21-8/23</th>
<th>Introduction / Ch.1</th>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 2: 8/28-8/30</td>
<td>Ch.1 / Ch.2</td>
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<td>WEEK 3: 9/4-9/6</td>
<td>Ch.2 / Ch.3</td>
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<td>WEEK 4: 9/11-9/13</td>
<td>Ch.3-Ch.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 5: 9/18-9/20</td>
<td>Ch.4-Ch.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 6: 9/25-9/27</td>
<td>Ch.5 / <strong>TEST 1</strong></td>
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WEEK 7: 10/2-10/4
Ch.6 / Ch.7

WEEK 8: 10/9-10/11
Ch.7 / Ch.8
FRIDAY, 10/12: MIDPOINT-LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

WEEK 9: 10/16-10/18
Ch.8 / Ch.9

WEEK 10: 10/23-10/25
Ch.9 / Ch.10

WEEK 11: 10/30-11/1
Ch.10 / TEST 2

WEEK 12: 11/6-11/8
Ch.11 / Ch.12

WEEK 13: 11/13-11/15
Ch.12 / Ch.13

WEEK 14: 11/20-11/22
Ch.14 / OFF 11/22: HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

WEEK 15: 11/27-11/29
Ch. 14 / TEST 3

12/4: LAST DAY OF CLASSES / REVIEW FOR FINAL

CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2012, FROM 1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM
ROOM 2038: Please do not come in between 1 and 3 pm. Final exam begins at 1 pm and ends at 3 pm. It is subject to the same rules of tardiness outlined above.