HIST 2112
America since 1890
Semester: Fall 2014
Location: Social Sciences 3028
Time: TTH, 2:00-3:15

Instructor: Dr. Albert Way
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Office: Social Sciences Building, 4096
Office Hours: TTH, 11:00-12:00, and by appointment

Course Description: An examination of the major themes of American history since 1890, the multicultural nature of contemporary U.S. civilization, and the nation’s role in the global arena.

Learning Objectives:

HIST 2112 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University’s general education program requirements. It addresses the US Perspectives learning outcome. The learning outcome states: Students identify the historical, political, social, or institutional developments of the United States. For more information about KSU’s General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=10&poid=704

Required Reading:


Attendance Policy:
Attendance will be recorded at each class meeting. Each absence over four will result in five points subtracted from your final grade. If you are more than fifteen minutes late for class, you will be counted as absent for that day. I make no distinction between excused or unexcused absences. If you anticipate any problems about attendance, please talk with me in advance. Students are solely
responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

**Electronic Devices Policy:**
I aim to create a congenial classroom experience guided by the imperative of mutual respect among participants. The ring of the cell phone, the lowered head and hidden hands of the texter, and the disinterested gaze of the web surfer all amount to a breach of that respect. So, turn off all of your electronic devises before entering the classroom; it’s just that simple. I will allow the use of laptops to take notes, but if I see that you are using it for other means, you will not be allowed to use it for the remainder of the semester.

**Course Assessments/Assignments:**

**Quizzes**
You will have pop quizzes throughout the semester on the assigned readings and films. These will take the form of multiple choice, short answer, or discussion. These will usually be administered in class, but may occasionally be online via D2L’s discussion function. The in-class quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class period, so please arrive on time. You will not have an opportunity to make up quizzes, but I will drop your two lowest grades.

**Book Essays**
You will write two formal analytical essays this semester, one on Laura Wexler’s *Fire in a Canebrake*, and one on Philip Caputo’s *Rumor of War*. These essays will be 4-5 pages in length, and will address a question or theme that we develop in class. You should feel free to develop your own topic as well (with my approval). We will further discuss my expectations for these papers in class, and you must consult the writing guides posted on D2L.

**Exams**
There will be three exams: two midterms and a final. The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions and short-answer identifications. The final will be cumulative. We will discuss the form and substance in more detail as the exam dates approach. You must bring your own scantron to the exam.

**Participation**
In addition to the above, you are expected to fully participate in classroom discussion. You should come to class prepared to engage the readings with thoughtful comments and questions, especially when we discuss outside readings. Be ready to present, articulate, and defend your ideas, as well as listen to and comment on the ideas of others. Your grade for the course will be adjusted downward by up to 10% if you do not participate.

**Note on Requirements**
Please note that the course syllabus is a general plan for the course, and I may deviate if necessary. This means that course readings and requirements are subject to change.

**Grading:**
- Exam I 20%
- Exam II 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Book Essays 25%
- Quizzes 15%

**Grading Scale**
Students are evaluated on the following scale:
- A - (90-100%)
- B - (80-89%)
- C - (70-79%)
- D - (60-69%)
- F - (59% or below)

I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

**Academic Honesty:**
The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of high standards of academic integrity is crucial since the validity and equity of the University’s grades and degrees depend upon it.

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 suspected of violating the KSU statement of Academic Honesty will meet with the instructor to discuss the violation AND will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct according to the process outlined at the following link: https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/scai-misconduct-procedures. For a detailed description of plagiarism and how to avoid it, see here: http://plagiarism.org/

ADA Compliance:
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Public Law 101-336, gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities. This statute guarantees equal opportunity for this protected group in the areas of public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications.

If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify me as soon as possible and provide the necessary documentation from Disabled Student Support Services. You can find their website here: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html.

Contacting Me
I will hold regular office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00-12:00. If these hours do not work for you, feel free to knock on the door to see if I’m in, or we can make an appointment for a convenient time. You can also contact me via office phone or email, but keep in mind that I sometimes do not check email at night.

Course Schedule:
*You should complete the readings for the day on which they are listed.*

Tu, 8/19: Course Introduction

Th, 8/21: Getting Up to Speed: Reconstruction
Read: UAP, Chapter 16

Tu, 8/26: Industrial Capitalism I
Read: UAP, Chapter 18
D2L: *William Gilmore Sumner on Social Darwinism (1880)*
*Henry George, Progress and Poverty (1879)*

Th 8/28: Industrial Capitalism II
Read: UAP, Chapters 19 & 20

Tu, 9/2: Progressivism
Read: UAP, Chapter 21
D2L: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, “The Solitude of Self”
Th, 9/4: The New South and the Rise of Jim Crow
Read: D2L: *Booker T. Washington, 1895 Atlanta Compromise Speech
*W. E. B. DuBois, Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others

Tu, 9/9: World War I
Read: UAP, Chapter 22

Th, 9/11: The 1920s: Opportunity and Oppression
Read: UAP, Chapter 23
D2L: *Transcript of the Scopes Trial

Tu, 9/16: The Great Depression
In-class Film: “Surviving the Dust Bowl” (submit response via D2L discussion by Thursday at 2:00)

Th, 9/18: The New Deal
Read: UAP, Chapter 24
Begin Wexler, Fire in Canebrake

Tu, 9/23: EXAM I

Th, 9/25: World War II At Home (Meet at KSU Museum of History and Holocaust Education, 3333 Busbee Drive)
Read: UAP, 762-775
Continue Wexler, Fire in a Canebrake

Tu, 9/30: World War II Abroad
Read: UAP, 744-761
Discuss Fire in a Canebrake, through pg. 114

Th, 10/2: The Cold War Emerges
Read: UAP, Chapter 26
“The Truman Doctrine” and Henry A. Wallace’s Response

Tu, 10/7: Discuss Fire in a Canebrake
*October 8th is the Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty

Th, 10/9: Crabgrass Frontier
Read: UAP, Chapter 27

Tu, 10/14: Origins of the Civil Rights Movement
Read: UAP, Chapter 28
*Essay #1 Due in Class

Th, 10/16: Civil Rights Movement
In-Class Film: “Eyes on the Prize” (submit response via D2L discussion by Friday at 2:00)
*Begin Caputo A Rumor of War

Tu, 10/21: Vietnam
Read: UAP, Chapter 29
*Caputo, A Rumor of War, through pg. 150

Th, 10/23:  **EXAM II**

Tu, 10/28:  Movement Politics: The New Feminism  
**Read:** D2L: *Shirley Chisholm Speech and Obit*

Th, 10/30:  From Woodstock To Altamont To Muscogee: Politics and Popular Music

Tu, 11/4:  Discuss Caputo, A Rumor of War

Th, 11/6:  Nixon  
**Read:** *UAP*, pgs. 896-904

Tu, 11/11:  Jimmy Carter and 1970s Malaise  
*UAP*, pgs. 905-912

**Essay #2 Due in class**

Th, 11/13:  **No Class – Southern Historical Association**

Tu, 11/18:  The Rise of Ronald Reagan  
**In-Class Film:** Reagan (submit response via D2L discussion by Thursday at 2:00)

Th, 11/20:  Morning in America: Ronald Reagan and the New Right  
**Read:** *UAP*, 913-920

11/25, 11/27:  **FALL BREAK**

Tu, 12/2:  End of the Cold War and the 1990s  
**Read:** *UAP*, pgs. 921-943

Th, 12/4:  Catch up and Review

**Final Exam:** Thursday, December 11, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.