HIST 2112
US History Since 1877
Fall Semester, 2015

Location: Social Sciences Building (SO) 2025
Meeting Time: Monday, Wednesday, 5:00 PM – 6:15 PM

Dr. Albert Churella
Office: Social Sciences (SO) 3003C, Phone # 470-578-7941 (direct line);
470-578-6294 (History and Philosophy Department main office)
E-mail: achurell@kennesaw.edu
Web page: http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/
Office Hours: Monday, 1:00 PM – 1:45 PM and 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM;
Wednesday, 1:00 PM – 1:45 PM and 3:30 – 4:45 PM; and by appointment

Course Communication: In-person, face-to-face communication is by far the best way to discuss issues with me – in class, before or after class, or during the office hours listed above. Please note that you should not discuss sensitive or personal issues (such as grades, learning disability accommodation, etc.) with me when other students are present. If you cannot talk with me in person, then your best bet is to send me an e-mail – but please note the section on electronic communications, below. DO NOT SEND ME A TEXT MESSAGE – EVER.

Electronic Communications: The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

Course Description: This course examines the major themes in the social, cultural, political, and economic history of the United States since 1877, the multicultural nature of contemporary U.S. civilization, and the nation’s role in the global arena.

Course Themes: Briefly four major themes (or questions) emerge in the study of modern America. We will refer to these themes throughout the semester:
First, how did the United States become the world’s great economic superpower, and how has this status affected the lives of ordinary Americans? How well has industrialization and the rise of big business meshed with such cherished elements of American mythology as the classless society and a purely capitalistic market-driven economy? How have Americans attempted to reconcile the seeming disconnect between our political philosophy of democracy and our economic philosophy of capitalism?

Second, how did the United States become such a diverse and inclusive society, in matters of race, ethnicity, gender, class, and religion?

Third, how did government, and especially the federal government become so important in our lives? Why, at a time when we are more reliant on government than ever before in our nation’s history, do so many Americans agree with the statement of former President Ronald Reagan that “Government is not a solution to our problem, government is the problem.”?

Fourth, how did the United States become the world’s great military superpower, with an aggressive, activist foreign policy agenda? How have American ideals and values contributed to this nation’s participation in wars ranging from World War I to Vietnam to Iraq?

Learning Outcomes: After satisfactorily completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify historical issues in and cite knowledge of the American past.

2. Reach informed conclusions about historical sources and develop multiple explanations for historical events.

3. Describe the ways in which the past affects current events.

4. Identify the cultural values of the U.S. and the role of minority views in reshaping those values.

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: The following book is available at the Kennesaw State University campus bookstore. It is NOT available through amazon.com or any other online
supplier, nor is it available in an electronic format. You are expected to have read (and, if necessary, reread) assigned materials prior to the class meeting for which those readings were assigned.

*Retrieving the American Past* (a.k.a., RTAP) – This is NOT a textbook – Because this is a customized reader, do not purchase a version at any other bookstore, or from a previous semester – this is probably also a book that you should buy directly from the KSU bookstore, as they are the only ones with new, unmarked, current copies of RTAP Textbook (there isn’t one), BUT – a textbook serves three functions. First, and most importantly, you will need to read ahead, so that you will be familiar with basic information on a particular topic BEFORE we discuss it in class. There are no specific chapter assignments, but you can read ahead in the text simply by charting our progress in the class relative to the course outlines. Obviously, the less familiarity you have with U.S. history, the more thoroughly you will have to read the text. Second, the text will enable you to fill in things that you might have missed in class, particularly if you are absent on a particular day. Third, the text will provide an alternate perspective and interpretation to the material presented in lecture. Any good quality, college-level Modern U.S. History survey text is acceptable. Two good possibilities are Eric Foner, *Give Me Liberty!*: An American History, Second Seagull Edition, Volume 2, W. W. Norton & Company, ISBN 978-0-393-93256-0, and Pauline Maier, et al., *Inventing America*, 2nd Edition, Volume Two. W. W. Norton & Company, ISBN 978-0-393-16816-7.

**Attendance Policy:**

- I do not regularly take attendance in class, although for recordkeeping purposes I will from time take roll by passing around an attendance sheet.
- If the University is closed, for weather or any other reason, then this class will not meet (obviously). We will remain in contact via e-mail and GeorgiaVIEW Desire2Learn. If the University is open and you believe that weather conditions in your area will make travel difficult or dangerous, then please do not take the risk of coming to campus. However, if you expect to be given the opportunity to complete a missed quiz, exam, or other assignment, you must contact me (preferably by e-mail) prior to the class meeting time, letting me know that weather conditions have prevented you from attending class.
- The ten-minute rule: Owing to the large number of students who consistently arrive late for class, and owing to the large numbers of students who leave class and then return, in order to use their cell phones, I will close and lock the door at ten minutes past the beginning of class time. No one will be admitted to the classroom after that point. This also applies to students who leave during class – i.e., no “in and out” attendance. If a student leaves the class after the first ten
minutes, he / she will not be readmitted. If the instructor is late for class, students will be expected to wait for ten minutes after the beginning of class time (this is standard University policy). After ten minutes, you may leave, and class will be cancelled

- All exams, quizzes, etc., will be given at the beginning of class. Students who arrive late to class will NOT receive additional time in which to complete these assignments.
- Once an exam, quiz, etc., has begun, students may NOT leave the classroom for any reason before they complete that assignment.
- If a student takes a quiz, and then leaves class prior to a discussion or lecture following the quiz, then he/she will receive a zero on that quiz.
- Pay attention to the withdrawal date – I will not authorize any withdrawals (with a “W”) after this date, except under extraordinary circumstances, that are clearly beyond the student’s control.
- Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Electronic Devices Policy:

- Turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc., before entering the classroom.
- Any student using a cell phone or similar device during class (except to turn it off) will have his / her course grade reduced by one letter grade for each infraction.
- Owing to the frequency with which your fellow students have chosen to use laptops, smart phones and similar electronic devices for purposes wholly unrelated to the course, those devices may NOT be used during class time, except under exceptional circumstances and ONLY with permission from the instructor.
- Tape recorders and similar recording devices interfere with student privacy, and as such they may not be used in the classroom, unless recommended by Student Disabilities Services.

Other Class Policies:

- Please refrain from private conversations in class—if you have a question, ask the instructor, not your neighbor.
- Students will not be allowed to use any tobacco products (including chewing tobacco) while in the classroom.
• Students may not, under any circumstances, work on material from any other course during class time, nor may they do their readings for this course, while in class.
• While there will be some extra credit opportunities available on the weekly quizzes, no additional extra credit is available. No student will be permitted to engage in a unique extra-credit assignment in an effort to improve his / her grade – so please do not ask. Each student is judged by the quality, and not the quantity, of their work.
• The course content is copyrighted and is legally the property of the instructor and of Kennesaw State University. While it is certainly fine to share your class notes with another student on an occasional basis, you may not routinely distribute copies of your notes to anyone who is not enrolled in the class, nor may you exchange your notes for any monetary or other compensation.
• By taking this class, you agree to abide by all of the conditions listed above, as well as all relevant Kennesaw State University regulations.
• If you do not agree with the policies listed above, then you should not take this course.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Carefully read the course syllabus and ask the instructor if anything is unclear
2. Review the course website: http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/
3. Read the material on the FAQ page: http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/FAQsandlinks.php, paying particular attention to material relating to note-taking skills and grading standards.
4. Go to D2L Brightspace http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/ to view / download the Course Outlines BEFORE we discuss the material in class. Copy the relevant outline material into a notebook (with plenty of space between each line) and BRING THE OUTLINES TO CLASS WITH YOU.
5. Attend class every day that the class meets, unless prevented by illness or personal crisis
   a. Listen actively
   b. Prioritize information
   c. Take notes
   d. Formulate questions
   e. Contribute to discussions
   f. Demonstrate interest and enthusiasm in the subject
6. Invest 2-3 times outside of class (5-8 hours per week in addition to time spent in class)
   a. Read the assignments
   b. Build your vocabulary – use a dictionary
c. Reread, if necessary  
d. Take notes on the readings – mark up your books  
e. Recopy notes  
f. Outline notes  
g. Integrate notes covering lecture, discussion, text, and supplemental readings – I do not lecture from any textbook, and DO NOT expect that lectures will be on the same topic as the readings, or that discussions will be simply a review of the readings.  
7. Study regularly and incrementally – don’t put things off to the last minute

Grading:

Your final grade will consist of the following:

**Wednesday Quizzes (25%)** – On the weeks listed in the “Important Dates” section, twelve quizzes in all. These will be short (typically five multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, or true / false questions, designed to assess how effectively you have learned both the readings assigned for that week (if any) and the lecture material from the previous two class days (i.e., Monday of the quiz week and Wednesday of the prior week). These will be CLOSED BOOK quizzes. The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped and the average of the ten remaining quiz scores will constitute this portion of your overall course grade.

**First Exam (20%) – Wednesday, September 23**  
This exam will cover material from the first third of the semester and will be CLOSED BOOK. This exam will consist of a series of objective questions (which may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, timelines (chronology), etc.) and a short-answer component.

**Second Exam (25%) – Wednesday, October 28**  
This exam will cover material from the middle third of the semester and will be CLOSED BOOK. This exam will consist of a series of objective questions (which may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, timelines (chronology), etc.) and a short-answer component.

**Final Exam (30%) – Wednesday, December 9**  
This exam will be CLOSED BOOK. This exam will include a series of objective questions (which may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, timelines (chronology), etc.) from the last third of the semester. There will also be an essay which will be comprehensive (i.e., it will cover material from the entire semester).
Grading Scale:

89.5%-100% A
79.5%-89.4% B
69.5%-79.4% C
59.5%-69.4% D
Below 59.5% F

A grade of “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.

Useful information regarding grading standards is available on my course FAQ page: http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/FAQsandlinks.php

Make-up Policy:

Because I drop the two lowest quiz scores, make-ups are not available for weekly quizzes. Students with a legitimate excuse (serious illness, death in the family, etc.) may make up a missed midterm or final exam. If you anticipate missing a midterm exam or the final exam, you must contact me prior to the scheduled date and time of this assignment (e-mail is preferable in this case). Failure to do so will result in an automatic grade of zero for that assignment. Make-up assignments will only be given to those students who can document a serious medical emergency or personal crisis.

The Department of History and Philosophy schedules a make-up exam day at the end of the semester, which may be used to make up an excused absence for the final exam (and only for the final exam). Students who use the make-up day are required to bring their KSU photo ID with them. All makeups must be completed within one week after the originally scheduled date for the assignment, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Academic Integrity Statement:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5.C of the Student Code of Conduct 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 Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), 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. See also https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct

University policy requires that the instructor report all instances of suspected academic misconduct to the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. After reviewing the issue with the student, in the presence of another faculty member, I will impose a penalty that will include either a requirement to rewrite the assignment in question (generally reserved for minor and inadvertent instances of plagiarism) to a grade of zero on the assignment in question (generally accompanied by a requirement that the assignment be rewritten) to a grade of F in the course (the typical penalty for egregious examples such as the use of cheat sheets on an exam, wholesale cutting and pasting of material into a paper, etc.). All students have the right to appeal the penalty to the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

Here are some examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:
http://plagiarism.org/
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html

ADA Compliance:

Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the Student Disabilities Services website at www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds for more information, or call the office at 470-578-6443.
Course Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>TEST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26</td>
<td>Discussion of RTAP, <em>The Temperance and Prohibition Movement</em>, <strong>PLUS</strong> additional online readings from the Office of National Drug Control Policy: <a href="http://www.ncjrs.gov/ondcppubs/publications/pdf/mj_rev.pdf">http://www.ncjrs.gov/ondcppubs/publications/pdf/mj_rev.pdf</a> and from NORML: <a href="http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/NORML.pdf">http://facultyweb.kennesaw.edu/achurell/NORML.pdf</a> (these readings are also available on D2L Brightspace)</td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The Grueling Battle for Woman Suffrage</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The Debate Over Annexing the Philippines, 1898-1900</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>FIRST EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The First Sexual Revolution</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The Expulsion and Relocation of Japanese Americans in World War II</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>Truman’s Decision to Drop the Atomic Bomb</em>, <strong>PLUS</strong> additional readings available on D2L Brightspace</td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Reading/Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 28</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>SECOND EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>Nonviolence and the Civil Rights Movement</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>Why Did the United States Lose the Vietnam War?</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The Vietnam Era Antiwar Movement</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>RTAP, <em>The Energy Crisis of the 1970s</em></td>
<td>QUIZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 9, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM</td>
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<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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**NOTE:** The dates listed above are only those when readings, quizzes, tests, or other assignments are due. Unless announced otherwise, class will always meet according to the schedule listed in the University calendar.