HIST 2112
U.S History since 1877
Semester: Fall 2015
Location: Social Sciences 3007
Time: TTH, 9:30-10:45

Instructor: Dr. Albert Way
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Phone: 770-794-7760
Office: Social Sciences Building, 4096
Office Hours: TTH, 11:00-12:00, and by appointment

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.

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 devices 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 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 will 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 3-4 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 30%
- Quizzes 10%

**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 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.

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:
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.

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.

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

Tu, 8/18: Course Introduction
Th, 8/20: Reconstruction
Read: UAP, Chapter 16
*Begin reading Black Boy

Tu, 8/25: Industrial Capitalism I
Read: UAP, Chapter 18

Th 8/27: Industrial Capitalism II
Read: UAP, Chapters 19 & 20

Tu, 9/1: Progressivism
Read: UAP, Chapter 21

Th, 9/3: The New South and the Rise of Jim Crow
Read: D2L: *Black Boy*, pgs. 1-144
*Booker T. Washington, 1895 Atlanta Compromise Speech
*W. E. B. DuBois, Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others

Tu, 9/8: World War I
Read: UAP, Chapter 22

Th, 9/10: The 1920s: Opportunity and Oppression
Read: UAP, Chapter 23
Black Boy, pgs. 145-260

Tu, 9/15: The Great Depression
In-class Film: “Surviving the Dust Bowl” (submit response via D2L discussion by Thursday at 2:00)

Th, 9/17: The New Deal
Read: UAP, Chapter 24

Tu, 9/22: EXAM I

Th, 9/24: *Discuss Black Boy

Tu, 9/29: World War II At Home (Meet at KSU Museum of History and Holocaust Education, 3333 Busbee Drive)
Read: UAP, 762-775

Th, 10/1: World War II Abroad
Read: UAP, 744-761

Tu, 10/6: The Cold War Emerges
Read: UAP, Chapter 26
*ESSAY #1 DUE
*October 7th is the Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty

Th, 10/8: Crabgrass Frontier
Read: UAP, Chapter 27

Tu, 10/13: Origins of the Civil Rights Movement
Read: UAP, Chapter 28
*Essay #1 Due in Class

Th, 10/15: 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, 10/20: Vietnam  
*Read: UAP, Chapter 29  
*Caputo, A Rumor of War, through pg. 150

Th, 10/22: **EXAM II**

Tu, 10/27: Movement Politics: The New Feminism  
*Read: D2L: *Shirley Chisholm Speech and Obit

Th, 10/29: From Woodstock To Altamont To Muscogee: Politics and Popular Music

Tu, 11/3: Discuss Caputo, A Rumor of War

Th, 11/5: Nixon  
*Read: UAP, pgs. 896-904

Tu, 11/10: Jimmy Carter and 1970s Malaise  
*Read: UAP, pgs. 905-912  
*Essay #2 Due in class

Th, 11/12: **No Class – Southern Historical Association**

Tu, 11/17: The Rise of Ronald Reagan  
*In-Class Film: Reagan* (submit response via D2L discussion by Thursday at 2:00)

Th, 11/19: Morning in America: Ronald Reagan and the New Right  
*Read: UAP, 913-920

11/24, 11/26: **FALL BREAK**

Tu, 12/1: End of the Cold War and the 1990s  
*Read: UAP, pgs. 921-943

Th, 12/3: Catch up and Review

**Final Exam:** Thursday, December 8, 10:30 p.m.-12:30 p.m.