Kennesaw State University
History 4412
The Early Republic, 1787-1824
Fall 2015
M/W 12:30-1:45 p.m.
SO 1022

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SO 4116
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Office Hours: M/W 2-3 p.m., 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*

**Grading:** Your grade will be based on the criteria below.
- Three short papers  60%
- Final exam           25%
- Discussion          15%
Schedule: (Subject to Change)

Aug. 17: Introduction

Aug. 19: The Confederation Era

Aug. 24: Adoption and Ratification of the Constitution
        End of Add/Drop Period

Aug. 26: Discussion – The Constitution
        Readings: Rakove, 18-32, 35-64

Aug. 31: Discussion – The Constitution
        Readings: Rakove, 72-85, 104-109, 172-179, 195-203

Sept. 2: George Washington’s Administration – Domestic Developments

Sept. 7: No Class – Holiday

Sept. 9: George Washington’s Administration – Indian and Foreign Affairs
        First Short Paper Due (Optional)

Sept. 14: Discussion – Jefferson vs. Hamilton 1
        Readings: Cunningham, Introduction-chapter 4

Sept. 16: Discussion – Jefferson vs. Hamilton 2
        Readings: Cunningham: Chapter 5-Epilogue

Sept. 21: John Adams’s Administration

Sept. 23: Discussion – American Identity and Culture 1
        Readings: Kornfeld, 3-38, 88-99, 110-126, 138-143
        Short Paper Due (Optional)

Sept. 28: Discussion – Identity and Culture 2
        Readings: Kornfeld, 39-53, 66-80, 149-188, 229-244, 249-260

Sept. 30: The Election of 1800

Oct. 5: Jefferson’s Presidency 1
        Short Paper Due (Optional)

Oct. 7: Jefferson’s Presidency 2
        Last Day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty
Oct. 12: Women in the Early Republic

Oct. 14: Discussion – Women in the Early Republic
                  Readings: Skemp, Part 1

Oct. 19: Discussion – Women in the Early Republic
                  Readings: Skemp, Part 2
                  **Short Paper Due (Optional)**

Oct. 21: The Madison Administration 1

Oct. 26: The Madison Administration 2

Oct. 28: Tecumseh and the Natives of the Northwest

Nov. 2: Natives of the Southwest
                  **Short Paper Due (Optional)**

Nov. 4: The War of 1812

Nov. 9: James Monroe’s Presidency

Nov. 11: The Market Revolution

Nov. 16: Discussion – The Market Revolution
                  Material to be provided.

Nov. 18: Westward Expansion

Nov. 23/25: No Class – Break

Nov. 30: Religion and Revival

Dec. 2: Slavery, Abolition, and Sectional Crisis

Dec. 7: Review

**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 Electronic Devices**: Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off before you enter the classroom. Any student whose phone 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. To promote and reward regular attendance, assignments will no longer be posted on Desire2Learn.

**Zero Tolerance Policy for Wiki-Idiocy**: If your exams or assignments are found to contain incorrect, inaccurate, or irrelevant information not drawn from the readings or class lecture, and I trace this material to Wikipedia or similar garbage websites, you will automatically receive a zero for the assignment and an F for the course.

**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.