

Kennesaw State University
History 2111
America to 1877
M/W 2:00-3:15 p.m.
SO 1020
Fall 2017

Dr. Jim Piecuch
SO 4116
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Office Hours: MW 12:30-1:30 p.m., or by appointment

Course Description: This course will examine how the United States emerged from an array of competing cultures and colonial empires as an independent nation with its own unique social and political institutions. We will analyze how American society and political culture developed and responded to both internal and external challenges during the first century of national existence. In order to encourage familiarity with a broad range of historical approaches, we will at various times cover aspects of social, political, economic, diplomatic, and military history.

Course Goals: In addition to acquiring the basic information described above, you will learn basic principles of historical thinking, including how to analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources, how to develop your own ideas based on historical evidence, and how to communicate those ideas effectively in both written and oral form.

Expectations: Success in this course requires regular attendance, prompt completion of all reading assignments, active class participation, and a solid effort on all 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 credit, you must explain your absence and complete a makeup assignment. Makeup exams are not allowed except in extraordinary circumstances, subject to verification of the reason for absence and my approval.

Required Texts:

Keene, Cornell and O'Donnell, *Visions of America*, Vol. 1, 3rd edition
Kennedy and Bailey, *The American Spirit*, 13th edition

Grading: Your grade will be based upon the following criteria:

Three Exams – 20% each

Final Exam – 25%

Discussion – 15%

Discussion is an important part of class and can affect your final average by as much as two letter grades. Each discussion is the equivalent of a quiz and should be treated as seriously.

Course Schedule and Assignments:

(Subject to Change)

Aug. 14: Introduction
Readings: None

Aug. 16: Background of European Expansion
Readings: None

Aug. 21: Native Peoples of Central and South America; The Spanish Conquest
Readings: Keene, 4-7; 16-19
End of Add/Drop Period

Aug. 23: The Spanish Conquest; Discussion – Native/Spanish Encounters
Readings: Kennedy, 1-10

Aug. 28: Native Peoples of North America; France in America
Readings: Keene, 8-9, 27

Aug. 30: Background of English Colonization; The Chesapeake
Readings: Keene, 36-41

Sept. 4: No Class – Holiday

Sept. 6: The Chesapeake; Discussion – Chesapeake Society
Readings: Kennedy, 24-28, 39-45

Sept. 11: Puritan New England
Readings: Keene, 42-48; 58-60

Sept. 13: New England; Discussion – New England Society
Readings: Kennedy, 30-38

Sept. 18: Colonial Politics and Society
Readings: Keene, 72-85

Sept. 20: Discussion – Becoming American
Readings: Kennedy, 45-53, 54-57

Sept. 25: First Exam

Sept. 27: Imperial Warfare

Readings: Keene, 90-95

Oct. 2: The Revolutionary Crisis

Readings: Keene, 100-108

Oct 4: Discussion – Origins of the Revolution

Readings: Kennedy, 79-92

Last Day to Withdraw from Classes Without Academic Penalty

Oct. 9: The American Revolution

Readings: Keene, 109-120

Oct. 11: Discussion – Revolutionary America

Readings: Kennedy, 92-109

Oct. 16: The Confederation Era and the Constitution

Readings: Keene, 141-157

Oct. 18: Discussion – Shaping the New Nation

Readings: Kennedy, 114-128

Oct. 23: The Early Republic, Part I

Readings: Keene, 162-177, 183-188

Oct 25: The Early Republic, Part II

Readings: Keene, 198-215

Oct 30: Discussion – The Early Republic

Readings: Kennedy, 132-133, 134-146, 164-167

Nov. 1: Second Exam

Nov. 6: The Market Revolution

Readings: Keene, 262-270

Nov. 8: The Jacksonian Era

Readings: 232-245, 249-250

Nov. 13: Discussion – The Effects of Economic Change and Jacksonian Politics

Readings: Kennedy, 184-199. 205-209

Nov. 15: Westward Expansion and the Sectional Crisis

Readings: Keene, 325-328, 331-342

Nov. 20/22: No Class – Holiday

Nov. 27: The Civil War

Readings: Keene, 380-390, 396-405

Nov. 29: Discussion – Slavery and the Civil War

Readings: Kennedy, 245-249, 255-259, 275-280, 367-373

Dec. 1: History Department Exam Makeup Day

Dec. 4: Reconstruction

Readings: Keene, 416-431

Final Exam to be announced

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.

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>.

Include a statement of consequences for violation of this code. It is recommended that you review the Student Code of Conduct as related to Academic Integrity with your students by following the link above. You might also include a link(s) to websites designed to avoid plagiarism.

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.

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 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.

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.

E-Mail Contact Requirement

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.**

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.