Kennesaw State University
HIST 2111 Section 02/CRN 10938
America to 1890
Spring 2013
Social Science Building 2036
TTH 3:30 – 4:45 PM

Instructor: Dr. Joel McMahon  
Email: jmcmaho9@kennesaw.edu  
Phone: 678-612-7009  
Office: SO 4005
Office Hours: TTH: 2:00 – 3:00 PM, By Appointment Only

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

Learning Objectives:  
HIST 2111 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:  

Electronic Devices Policy:  
Feel free to bring mobile devices and computers to class, but do not use them without permission.

ATTENDANCE, GRADING, ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS and D2L REQUIREMENT:

Attendance and Participation:  
Attendance will be taken each class period. Students will be expected to attend the scheduled classes and participate in class discussion by demonstrating mastery of the assigned material. If a student misses more than three classes throughout the semester, the student will lose 50 points from her final course grade. The Attendance and Participation grade (100 points) will be based upon, but not limited to, the following:

• Attending class every session  
• Arriving on time, staying until dismissed, and engaging the content each session  
• Participating energetically and enthusiastically during class discussions.  
• Contacting the professor outside of lecture (e-mail, office hours, appointments, phone)  
• Reading the required material before the class for which it is assigned.  
• Exhibiting PMA—Positive Mental Attitude!

Participation is vital to your success in the course. Frequently throughout the term we will break into groups in class to discuss the topics at hand, and I expect vigorous participation from all. In any group setting, leaders will emerge, and I encourage you to step up, stand out, and lead your team when asked. In order to contribute to your group, you must be prepared for each class. That means reading the material, conducting some independent research, and pondering the questions I pose. Every week, I will give you “ponderables,” which are questions for consideration, and these “ponderables” will become the
basis of our weekly discussions and debates. In other words, be prepared. History is a contact sport, so gear up and engage.

**Exams:**
Students will have **THREE** exams, the dates of which are listed below. The final exam is cumulative. The exams will assess your knowledge of the topics discussed in class, the text, and any other material assigned, mentioned, or touched in the next sixteen weeks. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE MATERIAL IN THE TEXT FOR THE LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS, AND EXAMS.** I do not give makeup exams, with the exception of a documented extreme emergency. Other than those with documented extreme emergencies, students who miss an exam will receive a zero.

**Grading:**
Assignments and assessments are weighted as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam One:</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam Two:</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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Final course grades will be determined based on the scale below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>TOTAL POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>450-500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>400-449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>350-399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>300-349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>BELOW 300</td>
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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.

**D2L (Desire2Learn) Requirement:**
D2L (Desire2Learn) is our new, web-based course management system. You must obtain a D2L (Desire2Learn) ID, access this course, and become familiar with D2L (Desire2Learn) within the first week of class. We will communicate via D2L (Desire2Learn) email. It is in D2L (Desire2Learn) where I will post the Syllabus and course schedule, give you hints about the exam, make announcements, post the “ponderables,” return grades, and otherwise communicate with you about the course.

**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

The first violation of plagiarism will result in the failure of the assignment or assessment. The second violation will result in the failure of the course.

**Academic Honesty Assignment**

By January 16, 2013 each student will send me an e-mail via D2L (Desire2Learn) email stating that she has read and understands Kennesaw State University policy on academic honesty; knows what plagiarism is and the penalties associated with it; has read the Syllabus; and thoroughly understands the course policies and objectives including the fact that I do not give makeup assignments. This exercise serves four purposes:

1. To ensure that students have access to a computer can use and navigate D2L (Desire2Learn)
2. To ensure that students understand that I do not give makeup exams.
3. To ensure that students understand the severity of cheating and plagiarism.
4. To ensure each student understands the course requirements and expectations.

If a student fails to contact me in the manner described above by the due date, I will deduct 50** points from the final course grade.

**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.

Should you require assistance or have further questions about the ADA, please contact: Ms. Carol Pope, ADA Compliance Officer for Students 770-423-6443.

**Courtesy and Class Conduct:**
When you enter my classroom, leave your baggage at the door. We all come to every encounter with preconceived notions, biases, prejudices, and opinions that may or may not coincide with those of others in our midst. I challenge you to examine your “baggage,” and I require you to tolerate others’ views and opinions during class. Operate under the following maxim, courtesy of Voltaire: “While I may disagree with your view, I will fight to the death for your right to express it.” With respect to respect: I demand it. The following fall under my concept of respect:

- Turn off ALL mobile communication devices.
- Arrange on time, stay awake, and stay until dismissed.
- Prepare for class. In other words, read the material first, and then come to class.
- Computer use is not allowed in class.

**Expectations:**
We cover a tremendous amount of material and a great number of topics in a short period of time. I have found that it is impossible to “sandbag” in this course. In other words, students who wait to read the text in the days or hours before the exam are in for a tough ride. In short: do not fall behind and do not wait until the last minute...for anything.

This is a “no excuses” environment. The Syllabus is both a road map and a contract. In other words, the expectations are crystal clear, the schedule is set, and you know what lies ahead of us for the next sixteen weeks. I will communicate with you early and often, my door is always open if you have questions or concerns, and I will work hard for you if you work hard for you.

We all enter the classroom each day with life going on outside of our academic world. Work. Family. Friends. Fun. Problems. Challenges. We are all in the same boat. All of that “stuff” will be waiting for you when you leave the classroom. While you are within the four walls of our “history lab,” make the most of it by being prepared, being engaged, and being involved. Transport yourself to the time we are examining and make the moment count. The best way to learn is to ask questions, so do not miss an opportunity to ask. Remember, the dumbest question is the one not asked.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**
### Part I: Before Race, Before Nation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week One:</th>
<th>January 10</th>
<th>Introductions and Expectations</th>
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| Week Two: | January 15, 17 | Chapter 1: America Before 1492  
**ACADEMIC HONESTY ASSIGNMENT DUE January 17, 2013**  
| Week Three: | January 22, 24 | Chapter 2: Old Worlds and New Worlds |
| Week Four: | Jan 29, 31 | Chapter 3: The Southern Colonies |
| Week Five: | Feb 5, 7 | Chapter 4: The Northern Colonies |
| **Week Six:** | **Feb 12, 14** | **Chapter 5: Colonial America in the 1700s**  
**EXAM ONE – THURSDAY, February 14, 2013** |

### Part II: Whose Revolution?

| Week Seven: | Feb 19, 21 | Chapter 6: Marching Toward War  
**SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS** |
| Week Eight: | Feb 26, 28 | Chapter 7: The War for America  
Chapter 8: Building a Republic |
| Week Nine: | March 5, 7 |  
**MARCH 13**  
Last Day to Withdraw w/out Academic Penalty |
| Week Ten: | March 12, 14 | Chapter 9: The New Nation Takes Form  
Chapter 10: The Jeffersonian Republic |
| **Week Eleven:** | **Tuesday, March 19** | **EXAM TWO – TUESDAY, March 19, 2013** |

### Part III: Race and Nation

| Week Eleven: | Thursday, March 21 | Chapter 11: The Opening of America |
| Week Twelve: | March 26, 28 | Chapter 12: The Free North |
| Week Thirteen: | April 2, 4 | Chapter 13: The Old South |
| Week Fourteen: | April 9, 11 | Chapter 14: The House Divided |
| Week Fifteen: | April 16, 18 | Chapter 15: The Crucible of War |
| Week Sixteen: | April 23, 25 | Chapter 16: Reconstruction and the New South |
| Week Seventeen: | April 30 | **FINAL EXAM REVIEW** |

**FINAL EXAM:**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2013  3:30-5:30 PM**

Syllabus and Course Outline are subject to change based on contingencies encountered throughout the semester and as determined by the instructor.