History of Georgia
History 3304, Spring 2015
TTh, 9:30-10:45
Social Sciences Building, 3030

Dr. Albert Way
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Course Description

This course will cover the history of Georgia from the pre-contact period until present day. With such a broad chronological purview, we could never hope to cover everything with equal weight; instead, we will discuss the major historical themes, trends, and events that have created the Georgia we know today. From the pre-colonial native inhabitants, Spanish exploration and English settlement, Cherokee removal, and slavery, to the state’s role in Civil War and Reconstruction, Jim Crow segregation, the Civil Rights Movement and Massive Resistance, the New Right, Suburbanization, and more, we will study the history of Georgia as both a microcosm and aberration of the broader American experience. In many ways, Georgia is a prototypical representative of a national culture, but unique decisions and historical forces also converged to make it a distinctive place on the national map.

Course Objectives

The primary objectives of the course are to develop your skills as critical readers of primary and secondary historical documents, to improve your ability to communicate in an organized and analytical fashion, and to provide you with fundamental knowledge about the events, people, and institutions that have shaped Georgia’s past. Toward those ends, students will:

- Evaluate primary and secondary historical documents
- Participate in discussion of primary and secondary historical documents
- Demonstrate skills in historical writing via essays
- Demonstrate content knowledge of the major topics and themes of Georgia history via essays, exams, and quizzes.

To accomplish these objectives, we will approach the subject matter in a variety of ways. The traditional stuff of a history course – reading, writing, discussion, and lecture – will be central to the student’s workload. The required reading list includes a balance of good historical writing, primary documents, slave narrative, and memoir, all of which is essential to understanding how we, as historians, tell about the past. This course is reading and writing intensive, so please study the course schedule and plan ahead.

Readings
You are not required to purchase a general textbook; for general reference questions, I suggest that you consult the New Georgia Encyclopedia (georgiaencyclopedia.org), or purchase a copy of Kenneth Coleman, et al., *A History of Georgia*. You will read several articles from the New Georgia Encyclopedia early in the semester.

**Required Texts:**

**Course Requirements**

**Exams:** You will have two exams this semester (a midterm and a final). They will consist of identification and essay questions, which will be taken from the lectures and assigned readings. The final exam will take place on the designated day for the final in this course, but it will not be comprehensive—it will only cover material since the midterm. We will discuss some strategies for studying for these exams, as well as how to write an effective exam essay in class. You will need to bring a large blue book to class for each exam.

**Book Essays:** You will choose between the Joyner, Crews, and Kruse books to write two formal analytical essays. 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 should also consult the writing guides posted on D2L.

I encourage you to make an appointment with the KSU Writing Center if you need further assistance on any writing project. Experienced writing assistants work with you on any aspect of your writing – topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment (appointments are strongly encouraged), visit www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter, or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.

**Quizzes:** You will have in-class quizzes on all of the readings throughout the semester. These quizzes will focus most heavily on the Meyers book and the New Georgia Encyclopedia articles, but the other books are fair game as well. You will not have an opportunity to make up quizzes, but I will drop your lowest grade.

**Grading**

- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Final Exam: 20%
- Essay #1: 20%
Essay #2:  20%
Quizzes:  20%

Late Work
Your formal papers are due at the beginning of class on the due dates listed below. Late work will lose one letter grade (10 points) for each day the work is late. If an emergency results in a missed exam, you should contact me as soon as possible. Under ordinary circumstances, no make-ups will be permitted if you do not contact me within 24 hours.

Class Participation
In addition to the above, you are expected to fully participate in classroom discussion. You should come to class each day prepared to engage the readings with thoughtful comments and questions. Be ready to present, articulate, and defend your ideas, as well as listen to and comment on the ideas of others. The success of this class depends, in large part, on your willingness to participate in discussion. Your grade for the course will be adjusted downward by up to 10% if you do not participate.

Academic Integrity
All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of your academic careers. If you have not already read KSU’s Student Code of Conduct, you should do so immediately. You can find it here: http://www.kennesaw.edu/scai/code_of_conduct.shtml.

You should pay particular attention to Section II.A., which I have copied here:

A. Plagiarism and Cheating
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).

Attendance
Attendance is mandatory, and I will take role every day. If you are more than fifteen minutes late for class, or if you leave early, it will count as a ½ day. Each absence over four will result in five points subtracted from your final grade. Your physical and mental presence in the classroom is essential to your ability to do well in this course.

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.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify me as soon as possible and provide the necessary documentation from Student Disability Services. You can find their website here: [http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html).

**Classroom Rules**

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 Schedule**

*This schedule is a general outline for the semester. If I need to change anything, I will give you plenty of notice.*

**Week 1:**
Th, 1/8: Course Introduction

**Week 2:**
Tu, 1/13: The Pre-contact Southeast
Read: *NGE: Geographic Regions of Georgia
  *Meyers, Introduction
  Mississippian Period: Overview
  Late Prehistoric/Early Historic Chiefdoms
  *Meyers, Introduction

Th, 1/15: Native Americans and the Spanish
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 1 (Read Document #1 and Essay #1)

**Week 3**
Tu, 1/20: James Oglethorpe’s Noble Experiment
Read: *Meyers, Finish Chapter 1
  *Begin Remember Me

Th, 1/22: Trustee Georgia
Read: *NGE, Trustee Georgia
  Malcontents
  Colonial Immigration
  George Whitefield
  John Wesley
  Women in Colonial Georgia
War of Jenkins’ Ear

Week 4
Tu, 1/27: Royal Georgia and Revolution I
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 2 (Documents 1-6)

Th, 1/29: Royal Georgia and Revolution II
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 2 (Both Essays)

Week 5
Tu, 2/3: Slavery on the Coast
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 6
*Discuss Remember Me

Th, 2/5: Slavery and Inland Expansion
Read: *Meyers, Chapters 3 & 5
*Discuss Remember Me

Week 6
Tu, 2/10: Negotiation and Betrayal
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 4
**Joyner Essay Due

Th, 2/12: The Coming of War
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 7

Week 7
Tu, 2/17: The Civil War in Georgia
Read: *NGE, Joseph Brown
   Battle of Kennesaw Mountain
   Atlanta Campaign
   Sherman’s March to the Sea
   The Andrews Raid
   Unionists
   Women during the Civil War

Th, 2/19: Catch Up and Review

Week 8
Tu, 2/24: EXAM I

Th, 2/26: Reconstruction
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 9
*Begin Reading Crews, A Childhood

Week 9
Tu, 3/3: Postwar Economy and Ideology  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 10  
  *Last day to withdraw without penalty

Th, 3/5: Jim Crow Georgia  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 11  
  *Via D2L: Booker T. Washington: Atlanta Compromise Speech  
  W.E.B. DuBois: Of Mr. Booker T. Washington and Others

Week 10  
Tu, 3/10: The 1906 Atlanta Race Riot  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 12  
  *Via D2L: “Walter White Recalls...”  
View: *http://withoutsanctuary.org/main.html

Th, 3/12: Depression, New Deal, and Ol’ Gene  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 13

Week 11  
Tu, 3/17: Discuss Harry Crews, A Childhood

Th, 3/19: No Class – American Society for Environmental History

Week 12  
Tu, 3/24: World War II Hits Home  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 14  
  **Crews Essay Due

Th, 3/26: The Civil Rights Movement I  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 15 (Docs 1-5, Essay #1)  
  *Kruse, Introduction & Chapters 1 & 2

Week 13  
Tu, 3/31: The Civil Rights Movement II  
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 15 (Docs 6-9, Essay #2)  
  *Kruse, Chapters 3 & 4

Th, 4/2: The Sunbelt and Urban Renewal in Atlanta  
Read: *Kruse, Chapters 5 & 6

Week 14

Spring Break

Week 15  
Tu, 4/14: Modern Rural Georgia
*In-class Film/Discussion, Cabin Field

Th, 4/16: The Rise of Suburban Politics
Read: *Meyers, Chapter 16
    * Kruse, Chapters 7 & 8

**Week 15**
Tu, 4/21: Kruse, Chapter 9 and Epilogue

Th, 4/23: Making Sense of the Atlanta Olympics (and the East Dublin Redneck Games)
Read: *James Cobb, Selection from Georgia Odyssey (D2L)
    **Kruse Essay Due

**Week 16**
Tu, 4/28: Catch Up and Review

**Tuesday, May 5: FINAL EXAM, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**