HIST 3100-01: Introduction to Themes in History  
Spring 2016  
T/R 9:30-10:45 a.m.  
SO 2033

Dr. Bryan McGovern  
phone: 470-578-2296  
SO 4122  
bmcmgov@kennesaw.edu  

office hours: MW 2-3

Required books/readings:

Brundage, Going to the Sources  
Graf, They Say, I Say  
Reynolds, Waking Giant  

Additional reading assignments (on D2L) listed on the schedule.  
Strongly suggested: Turabian, A Manual For Writers

This section of Introduction to Themes in History will emphasize the Jacksonian era (roughly 1815-1848), but the class should be interesting and useful to students pursuing any concentration in the history major.

Grades for the course are based on a series of article reviews (30% of the course grade); a historiographical essay (20%); quizzes/exercises/participation (20%); and the final project (30%). These assignments will be explained more fully in class and on D2L.

Attendance/Participation: This grade, worth 20% of your final grade, takes into consideration participation in discussion, asking questions, engaging the material, attendance (including promptness), attitude, and classroom behavior. **Attendance is mandatory, and I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences.** After two absences, ten percent will be deducted from your participation grade for each following absence. If you miss more than five classes, you will automatically fail the course. **If you are late (arrive after we have started) or leave during any part of the class, this will count as one-half of an absence.** Habitual tardiness or inappropriate behavior in class may lead to your dismissal from class. All students are expected to follow the student code of conduct as stated in the Kennesaw State University Handbook; this applies to student behavior in class particularly in regard to cheating and plagiarism.

If you have any difficulties regarding this class, please make an appointment so we can talk about them. The sooner we can resolve problems, the better for all concerned.

**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.

Plagiarism could lead to an automatic F for the class. It is recommended that you review the Student Code of Conduct as related to Academic Integrity.

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:
http://plagiarism.org/
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html

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 Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success 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. For more information please visit their website, sss.kennesaw.edu/sds.

Contact information is as follows:
SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu
Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666

The following are the approved course objectives for History 3100.

At the end of this course, students will:

- be able to articulate what is encompassed by the discipline of history.
- recognize and follow ethical conventions of the discipline.
- understand the concept of an historical argument.
- know how to read monographs and articles in a scholarly way. Specifically, students will be able to identify the author’s argument and type of evidence used; explain how the author relates his/her argument to other work in that area; analyze the organization of the piece and/or argument; and evaluate the author’s success in proving his/her argument.
- be able to identify different types of sources (primary/secondary).
- be able to locate secondary sources and book reviews using electronic and hardcopy indices.
• know how to write a scholarly review.

• have visited and become familiar with the structure and philosophy of finding aids and other research aids available in an archive.

• have become practiced in evaluating and interpreting primary resources.

• be able to develop a valid historical argument from primary sources.

• understand how academic historians locate and develop research topics, and be able to do this themselves.

• understand how historians position their research within a larger framework, and be able to do this themselves.

• know and be able to apply the Chicago Manual of Style as it is used by major journals in the history profession.

• have become practiced in giving formal presentations.

• understand the differences between academic and public history.

• have become practiced in planning, drafting, and completing formal written work. It is expected that students will have completed a total of at least 15 pages of formal written work at the conclusion of the course.

SCHEDULE

Readings listed below should be completed before class.

Jan. 12  T  introduction— to the course and to each other

14  R  read Reynolds, Waking Giant, prologue, ch. 1

19  T  read read Reynolds, Waking Giant, ch. 2

21  R  history, historians, and historical sources: read Going to the Sources, chaps. 1-2

26  T  read Turabian, Part 3 (esp. Chaps. 20-25); grammar/punctuation/style exercise due

28  R  read They Say, I Say, Intro and Part 1; more on grammar, style, punctuation, etc.

Feb. 2  T  more on bibliographical databases; read Going to the Sources, chap. 3
Read reviews on *Waking Giant*. You will need to find 3 reviews on this book.

Finding books: read *Going to the Sources*, chap. 4 and Sellers, “Andrew Jackson vs. the Historians (D2L)

Read *Going to the Sources*, chap. 6 and Reynolds, ch. 3.

Read Reynolds, ch. 4

Turabian, Part 2 (Chaps. 15-17 only); citation exercise

Read *They Say, I Say*, Part 2; more on citations and historical writing.

Read Reynolds, ch. 5. article review of Sellers

March

1 T  read Cheathem, “Andrew Jackson, Slavery, and Historians (D2L) and

2 W  Last day to withdraw w/o academic penalty.

3 R  read *They Say, I Say*, Part 4

8 T  historiographical essay due

10 R  read *Going to the Sources*, chaps. 5, 7-8

15 T  read Reynolds, ch. 6; article review of Cheathem

17 R  no class—individual conferences, work on projects!

22 T  read Reynolds, ch. 7; article review (from your bibliography)

24 R  read Reynolds, conclusion

29 T  read Inabinet, “Whigging Out: Controversy in the Age of Jackson” (D2L)

31 R  no class—individual conferences, work on projects!

April

5 T  no class (spring break!)

7 R  no class (spring break!)

12 T  class meets to discuss projects; no new assignment

14 R  no class—individual conferences, work on projects!

19 T  class meets to discuss projects; no new assignment
21 R no class—individual conferences, work on projects!
26 T presentation of final projects
28 R presentation of final projects

May  3  T presentation of final projects, continued; **final papers due** (note: This is our assigned final exam time, 10:30-12:30).

The instructor reserves the right to change these assignments as appropriate.

At the end of the semester, grades will be assigned according to the following point values:

- 900-1000 points = A
- 800-899 points = B
- 700-799 points = C
- 600-699 points = D
- fewer than 600 pts. = F

For additional help with writing, use the following resources:

1. The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced, friendly writing assistants work with you on thesis development, organization, research documentation, grammar, and much more. They help you improve your paper AND teach you strategies to become a better writer on your own. For more information or to make an appointment, visit [http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter](http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter), or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.

2. The KSU Writing Center uses the Purdue University online writing guide wherein you will find user-friendly examples and clear information about composition rules. An excellent source of information! You can access it through the KSU Writing Center’s website or at [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar).

3. “A Few Writing Tips” (accessible on D2L).