Kennesaw State University
History 4411
The American Revolution, 1754-1789
Spring 2016
M/W 8 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Kennesaw Hall 1104

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Office Hours: M/W 2:00-3:00 p.m. and by appointment

Course Description: This course examines the American Revolution from the beginning of the colonists’ disputes with Britain through the ratification of the Constitution. We will study the differences between the colonial and British political systems, conflicts that arose during and after the Seven Years’ War, and the decade-long dispute over the issue of taxation. We will also review the American decision to declare independence, the war between Britain and the colonies, including its international dimension and the American and British home fronts, the peace agreement, Confederation government, and the creation and adoption of the Constitution. In addition, we will examine the roles of women, Native Americans, African Americans, and loyalists in the conflict.

Course Goals: This course has two major goals. First, you will learn about the origins of the Revolution, the conduct and outcome of the war, its effects on the larger society, and the creation of the American system of government. Second, you will develop critical thinking and analytical skills, and your ability to express ideas verbally and in writing, through reading, discussion, and written work.

Expectations: Success in this course requires regular attendance, timely completion of all reading assignments, active class participation, and a solid effort on all exams and written assignments. You are responsible for all of the assigned readings whether or not the material is covered in class. Attendance will be taken regularly 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 to me in person 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:
Steven C. Bullock, The American Revolution: A History in Documents
Jim Piecuch, The Battle of Camden: A Documentary History
Jim Piecuch, Three Peoples, One King: Loyalists, Indians, and Slaves in the Revolutionary South
Grading: Your final grade will be determined as follows.
   Short Paper 1 – 15%
   Short Paper 2 – 20%
   Short Paper 3 – 20%
   Final Exam – 25%
   Discussion – 20%

Discussion is an important part of the 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)

Jan. 11: Introduction


Jan. 17: End of Add/Drop Period

Jan. 18: No Class – Martin Luther King Holiday

Jan. 20: Cooperation and Conflict: The French and Indian War

Jan. 25: Pontiac’s Rebellion, British Indian Policy, and Wartime Tensions

Jan. 27: Colonial Politics and Ideology

Feb. 1: The Stamp Act Crisis and the Townshend Acts

Feb. 3: Discussion: The Dispute over Taxation
   Readings: Bullock, 21-34

Feb. 8: The Tea Protests and the British Response

Feb. 10: Discussion: To the Brink of War
   Readings: Bullock, 34-39, 42-44

Feb. 15: Independence and a New Government

Feb. 17: Discussion: Declaring Independence
   Readings: Bullock, 45-59

Feb. 22: Preparing for War

Feb. 24: The War in the North

First Short Paper Due
Feb. 29: Diplomacy and French Intervention; Discussion
Readings: Bullock, 60-67

Mar. 2: The War in the South
Last Day to Withdraw from Classes without Academic Penalty

Mar. 7: Discussion: The Military Dimension of the Revolution
Readings: Piecuch, *Battle of Camden*, all

Mar. 9: Civil-Military Relations in the Emerging Republic

Mar. 14: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans, Part 1

Mar. 16: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans, Part 2
**Second Short Paper Due**

Mar. 21: Discussion: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans
Readings: Bullock, 72-88

Mar. 23: Discussion: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans
Readings: Piecuch, *Three Peoples*, through chapter 3

Mar. 28: Discussion: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans
Readings: Piecuch, *Three Peoples*, chapters 4-5

Mar. 30: Discussion: Loyalists, Native Americans, and African Americans
Readings: Piecuch, *Three Peoples*, chapter 6-end

April 4, 6: No Class – Spring Break

Apr. 11: Women and Families in the Revolution; Discussion
Readings: Bullock, 93-99, 147-148

Apr. 13: Religion and the Revolution; Discussion
Readings: Bullock, 128-138
**Third Short Paper Due**

Apr. 18: The Confederation Era; Discussion
Readings: Bullock, 102-118

Apr. 20: The Constitution

Apr. 25: Discussion: The Constitution
Readings: Bullock, 118-125

Apr. 27: Catch-Up Day
May 2: 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, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned off before you enter the classroom. Any student whose phone or pager 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.
Additional University-Required Information

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.

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.

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
   Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244