Kennesaw State University
History 4499
Senior Seminar
The United States in World Affairs, 1914-1990
M/W 3:30 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.
SO 3032
Spring 2016

Dr. Jim Piecuch
SO 4116
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Office Phone: 470-578-6059
Office Hours: M/W 2:00-3:00 p.m., and by appointment

Course Description: This course will cover the history of American diplomacy from 1914-1990. Topics will include American involvement in World Wars I and II, the origins and progress of the Cold War, and the U.S. interventions in Korea and Vietnam. Key elements that shaped American policy in this era including presidential leadership, political and ideological factors, economic interests, and external threats to American security will be emphasized. Students will read a variety of works on these subjects in preparation for researching and writing an article-length essay (the senior thesis). Students will also make a formal in-class presentation of their research findings at the end of the semester.

Course Goals: The goal of this course is to develop and enhance students’ skills in the discipline of history as introduced in earlier courses. These skills include critical reading and analysis of historical sources, both primary and secondary; conducting research in a broad range of sources; interpretation of sources to draw conclusions and make a historical argument (thesis); demonstration of understanding and analysis of sources in oral form (class discussion) and written form (assigned papers). Upon successful completion of the seminar, the student should have acquired and utilized all the skills of a historian.

Expectations: Success in this course requires regular attendance, prompt completion of all reading and written assignments, and active participation in discussions. Because of the importance of the material we cover, excessive absences will affect your grade. Each absence that is not made up will reduce your final average by three points. You can make up absences (no more than three) by submitting written makeup assignments. Any student with more than five absences will fail the course.

Required Texts:
Thomas Fleming, The Illusion of Victory
Patrick Hearden, Roosevelt Confronts Hitler
Walter Lafeber, America, Russia, and the Cold War (10th edition)
Ellen Schrecker, The Age of McCarthyism (2nd edition)
Grading: Your grade will be based upon the following factors:
10 Short Papers @ 3.5% each: 35%
Discussion: 25%
Research Presentation and Paper: 40%

Schedule: (Subject to Change)

Jan. 11: Introduction

Jan. 13: Discussion, America and WWI
Readings: Fleming, chapters 1-2

Jan. 17: End of Add/Drop Period

Jan. 18: No Class – Martin Luther King Holiday

Jan. 20: Discussion, America and WWI
Readings: Fleming, chapters 3-5

Jan. 25: Discussion, America and WWI
Readings: Fleming, chapters 6-8

Jan. 27: Discussion, America and WWI
Readings: Fleming, chapters 9-11

Feb. 1: Discussion, America and WWI
Readings: Fleming, chapters 12-13

Feb. 3: Discussion, America and WWII
Readings: Hearden, chapters 1-3

Feb. 8: Discussion, America and WWII
Readings: Hearden, chapters 4-6

Feb. 10: Discussion, America and WWII
Readings: Hearden, chapters 7-8

Feb. 15: Discussion, The Cold War
Readings: Lafeber, chapters 1-3

Feb. 17: Discussion, The Cold War
Readings: Lafeber, chapters 4-6

Feb. 22: Discussion, The Cold War
Readings: Lafeber, chapters 7-9
Feb: 24: Discussion, The Cold War
   Readings: Lafeber, chapters 10-12

Feb. 29: Discussion, McCarthyism
   Readings: Schrecker, Introduction-chapter 6, Document sections 1-6

Mar. 2: Discussion, McCarthyism
   Readings: Schrecker, chapters 7-12, Document sections 7-12
Last Day to Withdraw from Classes Without Academic Penalty

Mar. 7: Discussion, McCarthyism
   Readings: Schrecker, chapters 13-16, Document sections 13-22

Mar. 9: Research Discussion
   Make a 5-minute presentation on your research topic, preliminary findings, and research plans.

Mar. 14: Conferences

Mar. 16: Conferences

Mar. 21: Conferences

Mar. 23: Conferences

Mar. 28: Research Day

Mar. 30: Research Day

Apr. 4, 6: No Class – Spring Break

Apr. 11: Research Day

Apr. 13: Research Day

Apr. 18: Research Day

Apr. 20: Research Day

Apr. 25: Presentations

Apr. 27: Presentations

May 2: Presentations

Research Paper Due Date 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 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.

**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.

**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](http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds).

Contact information is as follows:
- SDS Email: [sds@kennesaw.edu](mailto:sds@kennesaw.edu)
- Primary number for Kennesaw campus: **470-578-2666**
- Primary number for Marietta campus: **678-915-7244**