HIST 2270/03 – Introduction to Themes in History  
#50778 – Summer Semester, 2009  
Instructor: Dr. Thomas A. Scott  
TuTh 2:00 - 4:45 P.M. – SO 3010

Office: SO 4100

Office Hours: TuTh 1-2, immediately after class, or by appointment. I expect to be on campus practically every day. Drop in any time you see the door open or make an appointment if you would like to see me at times when I don’t have office hours. I will also respond to e-mail or phone messages as soon as I receive them.

Phone: 770-423-6254 (office) or 404-421-8319 (cell)  
FAX: 770-423-6432  
e-mail: tscott@kennesaw.edu  
Website: http://ksuweb.kennesaw.edu/~tscott/

Books:

Please purchase the following required books:


Purpose:

This is a “how-to-do-it” course, designed to teach how historians think, conduct research, and write. If the class is successful, you should acquire skills and perspectives that will be helpful in any history class. The Kennesaw State University 2008-2009 Undergraduate Catalog indicates that “the content of the course will focus on a particular historical theme, topic, or period.” This semester we are going to focus on the Civil Rights movement in the United States after World War II. The catalog description further explains that “students will regularly engage in the close reading of scholarly historical work; learn and practice a variety of research methods; analyze historical sources; and develop analytical papers.” The final product in this class will be a term paper of 12 to 15 pages in length plus an annotated bibliography. Footnotes and bibliographic entries should be in Chicago style, following the examples in Turabian’s
Manual for Writers. At all stages in your progress through this course, I am here to help you. So please don’t hesitate to call on me any time you have a problem.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct:

Academic Honesty: Please refer to policy stated in the current KSU Undergraduate Catalog. See Student Code of Conduct regarding section II Academic Honesty (plagiarism and cheating). It reads as follows: 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 as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.) 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.

Grading:

All work will be graded on a scale of A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, and F = 0-59. The final grade will be determined in the following manner:

1. Test over Readings – 25 percent: The format of this written exam will be discussed in class. Please bring a blue examination book to take the test.
3. Library/Internet Assignments – 5 percent. If you complete them all, you will receive the full 5 points.
4. Preliminary bibliography – 10 percent.
5. Rough draft of four pages – 10 percent.
6. Term paper – 30 percent.
7. Class participation – 5 percent.
8. Class presentation – 5 percent. You will have about 10 minutes to tell the class about the primary sources you used to write your paper and about your argument and major findings. Hopefully, this will be a time we can all enjoy. If you do a reasonably good job, and if you are present to hear everyone else’s presentation, you will receive the full 5 points.

Daily Class Schedule:


Thur., June 4.  Turn in Library/Internet Exercise 2. Library-Internet Exercise 2.doc
Read Presnell, The Information-Literate Historian, Chapters, 2-4, pp. 19-85, and
Turabian, Manual for Writers, Chapter 2, pp. 12-23.  At 3:30 PM today we are
going to the Library, Room 209, to meet with Dr. Tamara Livingston, Director
of the KSU Archives and Ms. Anne Graham, Digital Collections Archivist.  Dr.
Livingston will give us an overview of what archivists do and what the KSU
Archives hold, and Ms. Graham will talk specifically about the KSU collection of
papers of the Cobb County NAACP.  They can be reached at 770-423-6289 or
tlivings@kennesaw.edu and agraha31@kennesaw.edu.  The Website address is
www.kennesaw.edu/archives/

Read Presnell, The Information-Literate Historian, Chapters, 5-6, pp. 86-135, and
Lewis, Race, Politics, and Memory, Introduction, pp. xi-xxxiv.

Read Presnell, The Information-Literate Historian, Chapters, 7-9, pp. 136-205,
and Lewis, Race, Politics, and Memory, Chapter 1, pp. 1-40.

Tues., June 16.  Turn in Library/Internet Exercise 5. Library-Internet Exercise 5.doc
Read Presnell, The Information-Literate Historian, Chapter 10, pp. 206-38, and
Lewis, Race, Politics, and Memory, Chapter 2, pp. 41-76.

Skim Lewis, Race, Politics, and Memory, Chapters 3-5, pp. 77-187.  Bring to
class today a 400-word book review of Race, Politics, and Memory.  The
review should summarize the key points of the book and provide a critical
analysis of the authors’ main arguments.

Tues., June 23.  Test over all readings.

Wed., June 24.  Last day to withdraw without academic penalty.

Class today will be over the Chicago style footnoting and bibliographic citations.

Tues., June 30.  Preliminary bibliography is due today by 5 P.M.  You may send it
through WebCT as a Word document.  It should consist of at least fifteen (15)
citations, including both primary and secondary sources pertaining to your paper.
At least eight of the sources should be secondary.  Separate the list into Primary
Sources and Secondary Sources.  In identifying secondary sources, look for
broad topics that will provide background for understanding your topic. Include
books, journal articles, newspapers, and dissertations.  In the bibliography you
should not cite every newspaper article you intend to use.  One citation to all
the articles will be sufficient.  Give a citation such as, Marietta Daily Journal,
1941-45. The footnotes are the proper places to give specific data on the name of reporters, article titles, page numbers, etc.

Thur., July 2. No class; work on your paper.

Tues., July 7. Rough draft due by 5 P.M. today. Turn in today at least three pages of your paper with footnotes in proper style at the bottom. You can drop it by my office or send it as a Word attachment to an e-mail message.

Thur., July 9. Brief class to discuss term papers and schedule individual appointments where needed.

Tues., July 14. No class. Keep working on your paper.


Tues., July 21. Presentations for half the class. You will have about 10 minutes to tell the class about the major findings in your paper and your sources.

Thur., July 23. Presentations for the remaining half of the class.

Tues., July 28. All term papers are due today. You may send your paper as a Word attachment to an email message. As soon as I have graded your paper, I will contact you by WebCT to tell you how you did and when you can pick it up.