Course Description

This course examines the major themes of American history since 1890, the multicultural nature of American civilization, and the nation’s role in the global arena.

Methods and Objectives

History is about change. Historians tell the story of the past, how events unfold and how change leads to change. Their first task is to observe specific events, but their ultimate job, especially when surveying American history, is to discover general patterns and processes that help them understand and explain those events and the changes they bring. This course is designed to help the student see those patterns. It is a compelling story.

There are many reasons for studying history. Its practice requires reading, writing, and argument – skills that are essential for success in virtually any profession. It also acquaints students with geographic features and place names that remain relevant in today’s world. But perhaps the overarching reason for studying history is this: studying the past helps us understand the present. The present is simply the current moment of that process we call “history.”

Policies

Grades

Grades for the course will be determined by five graded items: an essay to be submitted to turnitin.com no later than June 27 and four exams (I, II, III and IV). The exams (See course calendar and bring a no. 2 pencil to class.) will contain about 40-50 multiple choice or other short answer questions. These exams are not cumulative. The essay will be written on a topic chosen by the student from several options. Late submissions will draw a grade of zero. Students are expected not to plagiarize; work that is plagiarized will draw a grade of zero. The essay should demonstrate not only the student’s command of the subject, but also his or her ability to make a written argument that is clear and coherent. In addition to submitting the essay to turnitin.com no later than June 27, students must also submit a hard copy to instructor on the next class day following its online submission. The essay must conform to all requirements as
Specified on turnitin.com. Failure to write an essay that conforms to all requirements and/or is not submitted on time (either the electronic or the hard copy) will be subject to a grade penalty of up to zero. During exams all materials other than scantron and question sheet, must be placed under desks, not in aisles. No electronic devises may be used during an exam.

Missed Exams
No make-up exams will be given. However, the course grade will be calculated by dropping the lowest grade of the five graded items and averaging the remaining four. Thus students are protected from the eventuality of being unable to attend class on one of the test days.

Extra Credit
In class students are urged to ask questions and to share their thoughts about material presented in the text and in lectures. Students who make particularly insightful contributions to class discussion will be awarded bonus points which will be added to their numerical grade average. Usually one to four points will be awarded to students who excel in class participation, although on rare occasion students have earned up to five points. In order to keep class on schedule, the instructor may from time to time limit students’ remarks, however. No other extra credit will be awarded.

Attendance
Regular class attendance is mandatory. No absences will be excused. However, a student’s first two absences will not be penalized; each additional absence will draw a half letter-grade penalty. Students who are not in class when roll is taken or whose absence is otherwise documented will be counted absent.

Georgia View Vista
All grades will be posted on Georgia View Vista (except the course grade which will be submitted to the Registrar) The instructor will post grades for at least one graded item before the last day to drop without academic penalty (June 27). Students may contact the instructor by way of e-mail on Georgia View Vista. I will not respond to emails asking for information that appears in this syllabus.

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, terms, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devises during an exam, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which the 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 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 prior written permission of the
current professor.

Letter-Grade Values
Course Letter grades are assigned as follows: A= 90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69;
F= 0-59.

Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty
**June 27, 2012** is the last day a student may withdraw with academic penalty.

Contact Instructor
The instructor can be contacted through the History Department (770) 423-6294 or by
using the email on Georgia View Vista. Instructor will also be available for consultation
in the Part Time Faculty Office on the fourth floor of the Social Science Classroom
Building between 9:30 AM and the beginning of class or following class by appointment.
Appointments at other times convenient to the instructor and the student may be
arranged. **Instructor will not respond to emails asking for information that can be
found in this syllabus.**

In-class announcements
Students are as responsible for understanding and acting upon information announced or
discussed in class as they are for information given in this syllabus. Students are,
therefore, urged to acquaint themselves with at least one other class member with whom
they can share class notes and other pertinent information that may have been made
during an absence.

**Course Calendar** (subject to change if necessary)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Why study history? How do historians approach their subject?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suggestions for doing well in this course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 18</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5&amp;7</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 19 &amp;20</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&amp;14</td>
<td><strong>Exam I (12th)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 21 &amp; 22</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19&amp;21</td>
<td><strong>Chapters 23, 24 &amp; 25</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
26 & 28  
**Exam II (26th)**
Chapters 26, 27, 28 & 29

27  
**Last Day to withdraw without Academic Penalty**

**Essay Due before Midnight of June 27, Hard Copy Submitted in Class on June 28**

July 3 & 5  
Chapters 30, 31, 32 & 33

10 & 12  
**Exam III (10th)**
Chapters 34 & 35

17 & 19  
Chapters 36 & 37

24  
Catch-up and review

26  
**Exam IV 11:30 A.M.**

---

**Note:** From time to time we may move ahead or fall behind this schedule. However, except for an unscheduled closing of the University or an unavoidable absence of the Instructor, no exam dates will be changed. In no event will an exam cover material that has not been covered in class.