HIST 2112 – U.S. History Survey
1865 to the Present
Kennesaw State University
Summer 2014

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Office Hours: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The course examines the major themes of American history since 1865, the multicultural nature of contemporary U.S. civilization, and the nation’s role in the global arena.

In addition, students will examine United States history by viewing the past not only from the perspectives of the elites, such as politicians, generals, aristocrats, and the intelligentsia, those who often monopolize historical accounts, but also from the perspectives of the underclasses, marginalized, and subalterns of American society. It is through these various perspectives that we can understand better IDENTITY formation.

WARNING:
YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO TAKE A HIGHLY ACCELERATED AND EXTREMELY CHALLENGING EIGHT-WEEK ONLINE CLASS. THE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL COVERED IN THIS COURSE IS THE SAME AS THAT COVERED IN A SIXTEEN-WEEK COURSE. YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO SPEND A MINIMUM OF TWO OR THREE HOURS PER DAY ON THIS COURSE. READ THIS SYLLABUS CAREFULLY; IT IS OUR CONTRACT FOR THE COURSE.

COURSE THEMES
• Continuity and Change
• IDENTITY, collective and individual

PREREQUISITES:
• ENGL 0099 and READ 0099, if required.

REQUIREMENTS:
• Students must be computer literate.
• Student must have access to reliable, up-to-date computers with audio capabilities and speakers.
• Students must have access to fast and reliable Internet access.
• Students must use Microsoft Word for all written assignments
• Students must be able to use Microsoft PowerPoint.
• Students must be able to devote 5-10 hours a week to the course.

REQUIRED TEXT:
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
HIST 2112 satisfies one of Kennesaw State University's general education program requirements. It addresses the US Perspectives learning outcome. The learning outcome states: Students identify the historical, political, social, or institutional developments of the United States. For more information about KSU’s General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please visit http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=10&poid=704

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
After completing History 2112, students will be able to:
1. Identify and evaluate the major issues, personalities, and trends in U.S. history since 1865.
2. Evaluate trends in intellectual and cultural history and relate them to topics in U.S. History.
3. Determine the relationship between local and national issues and events.
4. Place issues and events of U.S. History in a global context.
5. Analyze the trials and contributions of the many cultures that make up American society.
6. Recognize the role of diversity in American society.
7. Exhibit comprehension of the historical process of continuity and change.
8. Appraise how and why the interpretations of the issues and problems have changed over time.
9. Describe the ways geography has impacted historical processes.
10. Read and interpret maps.
11. Develop skills in critical thinking, collaboration, and organization.
12. Undertake research using a variety of materials.
15. Formulate a convincing historical argument using primary and secondary sources.

THE DISTANCE LEARNING FORMAT
The course is entirely Web-based. One might assume that the course will be easier because students need not attend class in the traditional sense or because students need not commute to places inconvenient or too distant. One might assume also that the course will be easier because students are able to fit reading, assignments, and research into busy schedules. Allow me to dispense with these assumptions.

First, even though you need not attend class in the traditional sense, you still must devote considerable time to the course material. Studies show that for every three hours students attend class (one three-semester-hour course meets two times per week for a TOTAL of three hours per week), successful students (those who make As and Bs) dedicate 2.5 times the number of in-class hours on the course outside the four walls of the classroom. In other words, if you take a three-hour class, then you should spend about seven hours on that class BEYOND THE THREE HOURS YOU SIT IN THE CLASSROOM EACH WEEK. So the experts tell us that you should spend ten hours per week on each three-hour class if you expect to make an A in the course. Therefore, I expect you to be able to devote ten hours per week to the course, and I have designed the course to accomplish just that. If you dedicate the time and follow my advice, you will learn the material, succeed in the course, and have fun doing it, the last of which is the most important.

Second, you must be a disciplined self-starter to succeed in this class. You will be asked each week to master a lot of material independently and with little personal interaction with Kennesaw State or your professor beyond your computer. I suggest you “power block” a few times each week so you can devote time only to this course with no distractions. In other words, dedicate a block of uninterrupted time to this course a few times each week and SCHEDULE some alone time to devote to the course.

Finally, D2L (the distance learning interface) boasts many, many tools. We will use some, but not all of them. In general, I will use D2L as a communication tool, one that will allow me to deliver course content in the form of: written assignments; reading assignments (from the text and other sources); audio
lectures; discussion topics (Ponderables and Questions for Consideration); and assessments (exams and quizzes). If I use other tools throughout the course, I will let you know in advance.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA:

All of the assignments and exams, when applicable, are to be written in Microsoft Word, are to be completed independently, and will be submitted via D2L. You will not come to campus for exams.

Participation (100 points):
You will be measured by how often and how well you engage in the online class discussions, which will be conducted online in the Weekly Discussion Forum. You engage by posting responses to my questions, responding to your classmates’ posts, by asking questions in the forum, and by otherwise showing that you are engaging and mastering the material. I post several questions throughout the week, so you should login every day to see what is new. You will use the Discussion Forum to post and answer questions. I will give you Ponderables or Questions for Consideration each week, and you will engage in vigorous discussion with me and your classmates almost daily. This component is worth 100 points.

Again, you can earn a maximum of 100 points for participation in the course. I will post questions daily, so you will have ample opportunity to participate every day and every week. Your participation is measured in two ways: quantitatively and qualitatively. First, participation is assessed quantitatively, which means that you must submit at least SEVEN quality posts each week.

In addition, and more importantly, participation is assessed qualitatively, which means you will be measured on the quality of your post. In other words, in addition to your post being mechanically correct (proper spelling, grammar, syntax and form), your post must be materially correct. In addition, your post should contribute to the conversation and accurately display your grasp of the material. You must cite your work using the Chicago style and contribute to the conversation in a meaningful way.

Each post must meet the following guidelines:
- Each post must exceed 100 words, not including quotes and citations.
- Posts are supported by the textbook readings or other sources and are cited correctly in Chicago format.
- Posts exhibit your understanding of the material and lay out the basic ideas of the topics.
- Posts link theory to relevant examples or experiences and use the vocabulary of the concepts correctly.
- Posts must contain no errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling or syntax.
- Posts analyze and expand on the post you are responding to in light of the theories and topics covered.
- Posts apply critical thinking.
- Posts do not reference sources such as Wikipedia, Answers.com, or About.com.

Exams (400 points total):
You will have four exams, the dates of which are listed below. All exams will be conducted online. Exams could be any combination of multiple choice, true/false OR short essay questions. You will have a time limit to finish each exam and no late submissions will be accepted. The exams will assess your knowledge of the topics covered throughout the semester and include content from the text, and any other material assigned, mentioned, or touched in the next EIGHT weeks. You are responsible for all of the material in the text as well as any material covered in the discussions not in the text.
Grading: Assignments and assessments will be weighted as follows:

- Participation: 100 points
- Exam One: 100 points
- Exam Two: 100 points
- Exam Three: 100 points
- Exam Four (cumulative): 100 points
- Total: 500 points

Final course grades will be determined based on the scale below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>TOTAL POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>450-500 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>400-449 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>350-399 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>300-349 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>BELOW 300 points</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
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An incomplete grade for the course will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Cheating is a violation of school policy. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment, and may include copying answers from other students or using unauthorized notes during tests. Cheating includes gaining prior access to exams or content of exams or discussions, either directly or indirectly, from former students who have completed this course. Plagiarism is a particular form of cheating that involves presenting as one’s own the ideas or work of another, and may include using other people’s ideas without proper attribution and submitting another person’s work as one’s own. Violation of the honor code constitutes grounds for suspension or expulsion from the university.

The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of high standards of academic integrity is crucial since the validity and equity of the University's grades and degrees depend upon it.

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, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a 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 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. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT
If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services. A CDS counselor will coordinate those services. Go here for more information: www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT
No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age, or disability, be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT
Kennesaw State University adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.
COURSE SCHEDULE

PART I: RECONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTITUTION

WEEK 1 MAY 28, 2014
Chapter 16: Reconstruction
Chapter 17: The West

WEEK 2 JUNE 2, 2014
Chapter 18: The Gilded Age
Chapter 19: The City
EXAM ONE DUE Sunday, June 8, 2014 AT 11:59 PM

PART II: A NEW WORLD ORDER

WEEK 3 JUNE 9, 2014
Chapter 20: Populism
Chapter 21: Progressivism

WEEK 4 JUNE 16, 2014
Chapter 22: The Great War
Chapter 23: The New Era
EXAM TWO DUE Sunday, June 22, 2014 AT 11:59 PM

PART III: DEMOCRACY TESTED AND CHALLENGED

WEEK 5 JUNE 23, 2014
Chapter 24: The Great Depression and New Deal
Chapter 25: World War II

WEEK 6 JUNE 30
Chapter 26: The Cold War
Chapter 27: Cracks in the Consensus – 1950s
EXAM THREE DUE Sunday, July 6, 2014 AT 11:59 PM

PART IV: NEW GLOBAL CHALLENGES

WEEK 7 JULY 7, 2014
Chapter 28: Social Upheaval – 1960s
Chapter 29: The ‘Nam

WEEK 8 JULY 14, 2014
Chapter 30: The Lurch to the Right
Chapter 31: New Global Challenges
EXAM FOUR DUE MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014 AT 11:59 PM

Notes:
1. Syllabus and Course Schedule are subject to change based on contingencies encountered throughout the semester.
2. All readings are from The American Promise, unless otherwise noted.
3. Visit the weekly folder on the course website in D2L for detailed instructions, objectives and tasks for each week.
4. Each week ends Sunday at 11:59 pm and begins at NOON each Monday, unless otherwise noted.
5. Exam and assignment deadlines are non-negotiable.
6. I give no makeup exams or assignments and no extra credit.