

HIST 2112
America since 1877
Semester: Summer 2017
Location: Social Sciences Building-Room 2021
Time: M-W, 11:00 AM-1:45 PM

Instructor: Dr. Charles T. Wynn

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Office: Social Science 4089

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10:00-11:00. Other hours available upon request.

Course Description: An examination of the major themes of American history since 1890, the multicultural nature of contemporary U.S. civilization, and the nation's role in the global arena.

Introduction: The primary focus of this course is to help students construct a meaningful and applicable understanding of the flow of key historical events in the U.S. and beyond from 1877 to the present, and how these events have affected and shaped conditions in which we live. This course is organized around the premise that learning in history survey courses should be active, meaningful, and challenging. Relevant historical problems and issues provide the context through which students construct meaning and apply knowledge and skills. Problem/issue-based activities allow students to make informed, reasoned decisions about important issues and events in U.S. history, while enhancing their skills of historical inquiry.

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

Student Outcomes: Students will:

1. construct a meaningful and applicable understanding of key historical events and issues in terms of cause and effect relationships and consequences (global and national);
2. recognize and integrate multiple perspectives and opinions regarding historical events and issues;
3. think critically and creatively in order to solve problems and make rational decisions;
4. articulate and communicate ideas clearly and creatively;

Recommended Reading and Materials:

Divine, Robert A., Breen, T., Fredrickson, G., Williams, R., Gross, A., Brands, H. (2012). America Past and Present, Volume II. Pearson, 10th edition.

Attendance Policy/Course Policies:

- Attend each class session and be participatory.
- Two unexcused absence are allowed. After a student’s second absence, 50 points (from a 1000 point total grading scale) will be deducted from the student’s total grade for each subsequent absence.
- Twice being tardy for class will equal 1 absence.
- If you are tardy, it is your responsibility to see me after class so I may change the recorded absence to a tardy. If you fail to do so, the recorded absence may stand.
- It is the student’s responsibility to promptly contact me regarding the reason for any absence or tardy.
- A student with more than 4 absences will fail HIST 2112.
- A student must be in class for a minimum of 120 minutes to be counted as present for the class.
- **Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.**
- Cell phones must be turned off during class. Please notify me prior to class if you are expecting an important call that must be answered. (BUZZ!)
- No cell phone or laptop use is allowed during exams. If a cell phone or similar device is discovered on a student during an exam, the student may be prohibited from completing the exam.
- Laptop use is allowed only if directly related to class activities. Active engagement is critical for success in this course. If I suspect that your laptop is limiting your level of engagement or distracting other students, I will ask you to put it away.
- All exams and quizzes must be completed and submitted in order to pass this course.
- Any student who is disrespectful or who distracts from, or disrupts, our ability to complete any in-class activity will be asked to leave the class session and will be counted absent. Such behavior can affect the entire class negatively and may affect the offending student’s grade. The student will also need to schedule an appointment with me before attending another class session.

Course Assessments:

Assignment	Points (1000 total)
Exam I	400
Exam II	400
Quiz I	50
Quiz II	50
Class Participation	100

Students who miss either exam due to an unexcused absence may not make-up the exam. Dates for both exams and due dates for each quiz may be found in the Course Schedule/Topical Outline section below in red. There will be a 10 point deduction per day for late assignments.

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(Course Assessments continued)

Class Participation

As stated in the Attendance/Course Policies section of the syllabus on page 2, attendance and class participation is expected. Your class participation total grade is calculated as the average of your class participation grade in each of the 16 classes during the summer session (out of a possible 100 pts.). You are allowed **two** absences. However, you will receive no points for each day you are absent. A score of 90 will be recorded for each student present for each regular class (this includes 8 class sessions). A score of 100 will be recorded for each student present who actively participates during the problem/issue-based activities/discussions (this includes 8 class sessions). Each student's point total will be divided by 16 to get her/his class participation average. Students with perfect attendance will receive a class participation grade of 100 points.

Grading:

Grade Calculations

Grading is based on a 1000 point total. Each student's final grade is based on total points accumulated from Exam I, Exam II, the two quizzes, and class participation average.

Grading Scale

Students are evaluated on the following scale:

A - (900 to 1000 points)

B - (800 to 899 points)

C - (700 to 799 points)

D - (600 to 699 points)

F - (599 points and below)

I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and 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 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

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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>.

Students suspected of violating the KSU statement of Academic Honesty will meet with the instructor to discuss the violation **AND** will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct according to the process outlined at the following link:

<https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/scai-misconduct-procedures>

Students who violate any provision of this code on any assignment will receive zero points on the assignment. Students with two violations will receive a final grade of F. Please see the sites below to assist you in avoiding plagiarism:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>

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 the 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. Student Success Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the Student Success Services website at sss.kennesaw.edu/sds for more information, or call the office at 470-578-2666.

D2L:

Activities, assignments, and assessments will be heavily supported by D2L. All Power Points, additional readings, handouts, grading rubrics, etc. will be posted under the relevant heading on D2L as indicated in the Course Schedule/Topical Outline section below.

<http://d2l.kennesaw.edu/>

Course Schedule/Topical Outline (Dates are tentative):

May 31, An Overview of Post-Reconstruction America (1877-1890)

June 5 *Reading: Text-Chapters 16, 17, 18, 19

-The Legacy of Reconstruction and the Southern Response

-Settlement of the West and Crushing Native Americans

-The Dynamics of Capitalism and Industrialization

-Urbanization/Life in the City

*Summary: Benefits and Costs of Industrialization

-An Overview of American Political Dynamics in the 1890s

*Reading: Text-Chapter 20

-Political Realignments in the 1890s

-The Rise of Populism

-The Crisis of Depression

*Summary: Summary of Social, Economic, and Political Conditions in 1895

June 5 -The U.S. as an Empire: Global Power Structure (1890-1905)

*Reading: Text-Chapter 21

-The Global Power Structure in the Early 1890s

-America Looks Outward

-War with Spain

-Acquisition of Empire

*Summary: Changes in the U.S. from 1890 to 1905

Activity 1: The Question of U.S. Expansion: Expansionists v. Anti-Expansionist

June 7 - The U.S. as an Empire (continued)

-Social and Political Dynamics in the Progressive Era

*Reading: Text-Chapters 22 and 23

-The Spirit of Progressivism

-Reform in the Cities and States

-Roosevelt Progressivism at Its Height

-The Ordeal of William Howard Taft

-Woodrow Wilson's New Freedom

*Summary: The Fruits of Progressivism

D2L quiz will be released at 2:00 pm, June 7 and is due 11:00 pm, June 9.

June 12, 14 -The Nation at War

*Reading: Text-Chapter 24

-Causes of the War

-Stalemate and Carnage (The Dynamics of Trench Warfare)

-A Rationale for U.S. Involvement

-Over There (overview of key battles)

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- Over Here (domestic impact of the war)
- Wilson's 14 Points and the Treaty of Versailles
- *Summary: The Legacy of the Treaty of Versailles

Activity 2: Wilson and the Paris Peace Conference: Constructing the Treaty of Versailles

June 19 **Exam I – (Study Guide on D2L)**

June 21 **Economic Expansion of the 1920s; Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal**

- *Reading: Text-Chapters 25 and 26
- Understanding the Economic Expansion of the 1920s
- Republican Politics in the 20s
- Causes of the Depression
- The Election of 1932
- The New Deal
- Challenges to the New Deal
- Success of the New Deal?
- *Summary: Legacy of the New Deal

Activity 2: Solving the Problems of the Depression: Constructing the New Deal

June 26 **Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty**

June 26, 28 **America and the World (1921-1945)**

- *Reading: Text-Chapter 27
- The League of Nations
- Isolationism
- The Road to War
- Turning Point Battles in Europe and the Pacific
- The Home Front
- Yalta
- Victory in Europe
- Victory in the Pacific
- *Summary/Conclusion: Bipolarization - Global Power Realignment; Costs of the War and the "Greatest Generation"

Activity 4: Using the Atomic Bomb: Truman's Decision

D2L quiz will be released at 2:00 pm, June 28 and must be completed by 11:00 pm, June 30.

The Post War Era and Beyond - 1945 to Present

July 3, 5 The Cold War and Beyond

- *Reading: Text-Chapter 28
- The Potsdam Summit
- The Cold War Begins
- Containment: Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan and Beyond
- The Cold War Expands
- The Cold War at Home
- Kennedy: Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis
- Vietnam: Johnson and Nixon
- Détente and Nixon
- Ford and Carter: Politics and Diplomacy after Watergate
- Afghanistan
- Reagan and the World
- The Wall Comes Down
- The Soviet Union Collapses
- Current Challenges-Tracing the War on Terror, Syria, ISIS, Iraq,
Iran Nuclear Agreement, Ukrainian Civil War/Putin, North Korea, etc.
- *Summary/Conclusion: Legacy of the Cold War on East and West

**July 10, 12 Civil Rights in the U.S.: Tracing Social, Economic, and Political Dynamics in
the Last Half of the 20th Century**

- *Reading: Text-Chapter 29, 30, and 31
- Overview
- 50s
- Eisenhower
- The Postwar Boom and Segregation
- Struggles over Civil Rights
- 60s
- Struggles Continues
- JFK's New Frontier
- The Introduction of Affirmative Action
- The Civil Rights Act of 1964
- The Voting Rights Act of 1965
- LBJ's Great Society
- Years of Turmoil
- Richard Nixon and Affirmative Action
- 70s
- Progress?
- Stagflation: Its Causes and Impact
- Challenges to Affirmative Action
- 80s

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(Course Schedule/Topical Outline continued)

Reagan and America's Shift to the Right
Supply-side Economics and Challenging the New Deal
Challenges to Affirmative Action Continue
-90s
The Changing Faces of America
The New Democrats: Clinton
The Republican Revolution and Its Impact
Challenges to Affirmative Action Continue
Summary/Conclusion: Civil Rights and Related Issues from 1950 to 2000
Activity 5 - The Issue of Affirmative Action: The Atlanta Case

July 17, 19 Challenges of the New Century

*Reading: Text-Chapter 32
-Bush v Gore 2000
-9/11 and the U.S. Response
-Obama's 2008 Victory and Policy Initiatives
-The 2012 Election Results
-2014 Election Results
-2016 Election Results and Related Issues – Potential topics include:
*Obamacare – Repeal/Replace? If so, with what?
*Immigration Reform
*National Debt, Tax Policy (Corporate and Personal Income Tax),
Regulatory Reform, Entitlement Reform
*Energy Policy (EPA Regulatory Policies)
*Minimum Wage
*Review for Exam II (Study Guide posted on D2L)

Exam II – Wednesday, July 26 – 11:30am-1:30pm