

Kennesaw State University
History 2112/19: America since 1890
T / R 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM
Social Science Room 3019

Professor Robert G. Brooking
 Phone: 770-423-6294
 E-mail: greg.brooking@gmail.com
 Office hours: By appointment

Course Description:

This course will examine how the United States emerged from a divisive and destructive civil war and painful reconstruction to become one of history's most important empires with its own unique social and political institutions. The course will analyze how American society and political culture developed and responded to both internal and external challenges during the twentieth century. In order to encourage familiarity with a broad range of historical approaches, it is necessary to cover aspects of social, political, economic, diplomatic, and military history.

Course Goals:

In addition to acquiring the basic information described above, students will learn basic principles of historical thinking, including how to analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources, how to develop ideas based on historical evidence, and how to communicate those ideas effectively.

Expectations:

Success in this course requires regular attendance, prompt completion of all reading assignments, active class participation, and a solid effort on all exams and writing assignments. Students are responsible for all of the assigned readings whether or not the material is covered in class.

Required Text: Eric Foner. *Give Me Liberty: An American History*, Second Seagull Edition. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2009.

Grading:

| <u>Type</u> | <u>Weight</u> | <u>Percentage</u> | <u>Letter Grade</u> |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Exams (3)*** | 35% | 90-100 | A |
| Quizzes (3)*** | 15% | 80-89 | B |
| | | 70-79 | C |
| | | 60-69 | D |
| ***The lowest exam <u>and</u> quiz score will be dropped. | | | |

Important Dates:

- October 12—Last day to withdraw w/o academic penalty
- November 25-29—Fall break
- December 3—Last day of class / **also**, make-up exams/quizzes will be held
- December 8—Final exam @ 12:30-2:30

Attendance:

While not mandatory, attendance is **highly encouraged**. On exams, students will be responsible for the content of lectures, in-class video, handouts, and class discussions. Because many of the concepts, facts, and interpretations covered in class will be supplemental to the assigned text, each student's success in this course **requires both reading all assignments and attending class regularly**.

Late / Makeup Work:

- Exams/Quizzes—Makeup exams/quizzes will be taken during the regularly scheduled December 3 class.

Academic Honesty:

Read the section on this subject in the [student handbook](#). It is expected that all submitted work be completed by the student, prepared without outside assistance or collaboration. Plagiarism is easier to spot than students may realize. University rules require faculty to report suspected cases of plagiarism to the administration, and being found guilty of this offense can result in severe penalties, including expulsion. In addition, students guilty of plagiarism will automatically fail the course. Cheating on exams in any form, including providing answers or information to other students, will also result in a course failure.

The following websites may help you avoid committing plagiarism:

- [University of North Carolina](#)
- [University of Indiana](#)
- [Northwestern University](#)
- [Turnitin](#)

Students with Disabilities:

If a student has a disability that requires accommodation, please notify the professor as soon as possible and provide the necessary documentation from disAbled Student Support Services. Students with questions or concerns should contact:

Carol Pope, Assistant Director
Student Center, Suite 267
770-423-6443
cpope@kennesaw.edu

Electronics:

Cell phones, pagers, etc. must be turned off before entering the classroom. Any student whose phone or pager sounds during class will be asked to leave the room immediately. Repeated violations may result in the offender being banned from the classroom.

Since non-class related use of laptops can create a distraction for other students, laptops are strictly prohibited.

Issues and Concerns:

Students having difficulty with this course, such as understanding the readings or lectures, speaking in discussion, or personal issues that may affect performance, should immediately consult with the professor.

Overrides:

Only the Chair of the History Department (Dr. Howard Shealy) may approve the override of the section enrollment cap. Please be directed to the [department website](#) where an electronic Override Request Form may be filed.

Incomplete (I) Policy:

A student may be awarded an (I) only if,

- the student has done satisfactory work (C or above) up to the last two weeks of the semester, and
- the student is able to meet the full requirements of the course for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control (such as serious illness or injury).

Withdrawal Policy:

Students wishing to withdraw from this course must do so via Owl Express. Students who simply stop attending classes will be assigned a failing grade (F).

Writing Center:

Students may seek assistance on written assignments including grammar and proper citation of sources at the [Writing Center](#).

The ESL Study and Tutorial Center:

ESL students may seek assistance from professionally trained staff in the [ESL Study and Tutorial Center](#).

Horace W. Sturgis Library:

The [Sturgis Library](#) is a student's most useful resource when conducting research. GALILEO is an essential resource tool. Through GALILEO, students will have access to a number of databases and online journals, such as JSTOR, Project Muse, ProQuest, Lexus-Nexus, WorldCat, etc.

One of the easiest ways to locate a book is to click on "FIND A BOOK" from the library website, and choose "WORLDCAT." If the KSU library owns the book, it will indicate as such. If not, students can open the citation, and click on "REQUEST INTERLIBRARY LOAN." A new window or tab will open and ask you to logon to ILLiad. Students will be notified via e-mail once the book arrives, usually within a week or two.

If this is not soon enough, students can request to receive it via GIL Express. These books usually arrive within 24-72 hours.

You may also request journals, newspapers, magazines, etc. through ILLiad.

School Closings Due to Inclement Weather:

Students can check the University status by visiting the [KSU website](#) and clicking on “Campus Advisory” on the left side of the home page. Please note that if school has been officially closed, all assignments that were due on that date must be submitted at the beginning of the next scheduled class (this includes exams).

Waiver:

This syllabus is merely a guide to this course and is subject to change.

Communication / Updates / Changes:

All communications, especially those concerning class/syllabus updates or changes will be made via WebCT and your official KSU e-mail. Students are strongly urged to check these daily.

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CONTRACT AGREEMENT

I, _____ have read the course syllabus for the above stated class, and agree to policies contained therein.

Signature _____ Date _____