History 2111  U.S. History to 1865
Fall 2014

Dr. Keith Bohannon
Office: Room 3247, History Department, 3d Floor, Technology Learning Center
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10-11, 1:30-4:00  Friday, 10-11 and by appointment
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Email: Kbohannvo@westga.edu  Use only your MyUWG email address when corresponding with the instructor.
I do not use Course Den, so please do not leave messages for me there.

Course Meetings: This class meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00 to 11:52 in TLC, Room 1203

Learning Outcomes: History 2111 examines major developments and themes in American History from the pre-Columbian era through the end of the U.S. Civil War. The course has several learning outcomes: Students will demonstrate the ability to think historically through understanding the political, social, economic, and cultural dimensions of U.S. History; comprehend causal relationships and patterns of change and continuity over time; and demonstrate an awareness of the social significance of ethnicity, gender, race, and class in historical events and study. Classroom assignments will help students hone critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. Students will be evaluated using scheduled tests, unscheduled quizzes, a document analysis paper and classroom discussions.

Grading/Course Requirements
1st Test/Midterm- 30% of grade
2d Test/Final Exam- 30% of grade
Quizzes- 30% of grade
Primary document analysis- 10%
There is no extra credit offered in this course.

Tests- These will cover material from classroom lectures and assigned texts. The format will be announced in class.

Quizzes- Unannounced quizzes (usually five or six over the course of the semester) will be given throughout the semester on material from the assigned texts.

Makeup tests & quizzes- Makeup assignments are given only under emergency circumstances. Students who miss an assignment must provide the instructor with a written excuse from a doctor, coach, etc. explaining the absence. Students with valid excuses will have one week from the time they return to class to make up assignments, after which time they will be given a zero.

Primary document analysis- Students will turn in a three-page, typed (12 point font), double-spaced analysis of a primary document written prior to 1865 related to U.S. History. Your paper must analyze the content of the document and explain why it is significant. In addition to the primary document, students must consult two other secondary sources that help you understand and analyze the document. Prior to writing the paper, students must turn in a copy of the document and a bibliography of the two secondary sources they will consult to analyze the document.

The primary document and bibliography will be due on Friday, October 3. The three page primary document analysis will be due on Friday, Nov 7. One letter grade will be deducted per day (including weekends) for papers turned in late. Students turning in late assignments must submit to the instructor both a paper and an electronic copy (email attachment sent ONLY from your MYUWG student account).

Class participation and discussion- Students are encouraged to ask and answer questions in class. Class participation can only help your final grade in the course and will be taken into consideration at the end of the semester in the case of students with borderline grades.

Attendance- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class period. Students who enter class late will not be allowed to sign the roll at the end of class. Students who need to leave during class must provide an excuse to the instructor before the class begins. Anyone who leaves during class without providing an excuse will be marked absent and receive a zero on that day’s assignment, even if the student has completed the assignment.

Student attendance will be examined at the end of the semester in the case of students with borderline course grades. Students who are absent should get lecture notes from a classmate.

Laptops- Laptop computers are allowed for note-taking, but those using them must sit in the back row of the classroom. Texting or any other use of electronic devices in class is prohibited.
Cheating - Cheating in any form (including plagiarism - presenting someone else’s words as your own without citing them) will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive an F on that assignment and probably an F in the course.

UWG Honor Code, UWG Email Policy, Credit Hour Policy, and Americans With Disability Act - Please review these important university policies by going to: http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/CommonLanguageforCourseSyllabi.pdf

Writing Center - Students needing assistance with writing are encouraged to go to the Writing Center on the first floor of the TLC Building.

Required Texts

Ayers, Gould, Oshinsky, & Soderland, American Passages, A History of the United States Volume One: To 1877 Brief Edition


Paine, Thomas, Common Sense

Jacobs, Harriet, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Alcott, Louisa May, Hospital Sketches

Weekly Assignments  Note: All chapter references are to Ayers, et al., American Passages. All references to articles are to the 22d edition of Annual Editions.

Week 1  Aug 25-29 Introduction Chapter 1, Annual Editions, Articles 1, 2, & 3

Week 2- Sept 1-5 No class Sept 1, Labor Day Chapters 2-3, Articles 4, 5, 6

Week 3- Sept 8-12 Chapter 4 Articles 8, 9, 10

Week 4- Sept 15-19 Chapter 5 Quiz over Thomas Paine, Common Sense on Wednesday, Sept. 17 No class on Friday, Sept. 19 due to UWG Presidential inauguration

Week 5- Sept 22-26 Chapter 6, Annual Editions, Articles 13, 14

Week 6- Sept 29-Oct 3 Chapter 7 Annual Editions, Articles 15, 16, 18 Primary document and bibliography due on Friday, Oct 3

Week 7- Oct 6-10 Chapter 8, Annual Editions Articles 19, 21

Week 8- Oct 13-17 Midterm on Friday, Oct 17

Week 9- Oct 20-24 Chapters 9 and 10 Articles 22, 23, 24

Week 10 Oct 27-31 Chapter 11 Quiz on Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl

Week 11 Nov 3-7 Chapter 12 Articles 25, 26 Primary document analysis due Friday, Nov 7

Week 12 Nov 10-14 Chapter 13 Articles 28, 29, 31 No class on Friday, Nov 14

Week 13 Nov 17-21 Chapter 14 Articles 36, 38, 43

Nov 24-28 Thanksgiving Break No class

Week 14 Dec 1-5 Last day of class is Friday, Dec 5 Quiz over Alcott, Hospital Sketches on Dec 5

Final Exam is Friday, Dec. 12, 11-1:30 in TLC, Room 1203